

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association

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Minutes of the Directors Meeting

October 20, 2010

Board Member	Position	Term Expires	Present	Absent	
Susan Dobson	President	2011	X		
Joe Goeller	Vice President	2012	X		
Lynn Schaller	Treasurer	2012	X		
Ken Ingle	Secretary	2012	X		
Sherry Seiwert	Member	2012	X		
Jan Froehlich	Member	2012		X	
Barbara Hazel	Member	2011	X		
Terry Dobson	Crime Watch	2011	X		
Tom Sturmer	Member	2012	X		
Kathie Church	Member	2012	X		

Nine board members and Ten FSNA members and visitors were present at the meeting. Cider and cookies were made available, in celebration of Hallowe'en.

Call to Order

President Susan Dobson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes

Secretary Ken Ingle said the minutes of the last meeting (September) were posted on the FSNA website. Printed copies were available on the table. Reading was dispensed with and minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lynn Schaller presented the Treasurer's Report

Crime Watch

Coordinator Terry Dobson said only a few minor crimes had been reported. However in the area just to the north of FSNA (north of 65th Street) there had been several cases of people knocking on doors in the early morning hours. They probably are looking for houses with no one home. They may ask for help or money. Do not open the door to them - they may force their way in. Definitely call police.

Guest Appearance

City-County Councilor Christine Scales was present at the meeting and agreed to speak about items of current interest and answer questions. Among the items she mentioned were the following:

- Parking lot solicitors: there have been frequent incidents of people accosting patrons in popular store parking lots. Sometime they ask for money with a distress story. Sometimes they will be selling items from a car trunk. Do not patronize them. If they have a sob story, tell them to call social services or the Mayor's hotline. If they're selling something, they probably stole it.

- There have been a few complaints about people keeping chickens in our residential area. There is some fear of it spreading disease. There is no city ordinance against it, but state law apparently requires agricultural zoning for raising chickens.
- There have been rumors that Keystone Towers, at Allisonville and Binford, is to be demolished. One proposal has fallen through, but two more developers are trying to cooperate on a plan to replace the towers with low-rise condos. We wish them luck.
- Christine and the rest of the council have been working hard on the city's 2011 budget, which is now viewable on the city's web page, www.indy.gov. Also, she also solicited comments from neighbors on issues currently before the City-County Council, such as the revised parking meter lease for a shorter period of years.

There was a round of applause thanking Christine for making the 61st and 62nd Street projects happen, and thanking her for her part in making these infrastructure improvements happen.

Old Business

1. The 62nd Street Multi-Modal Path

Directors Tom Sturmer and Joe Goeller met with the Project Manager for the Path, voicing concerns and questions from the FSNA viewpoint. Tom and Joe propose to draft a letter to DPW summarizing our concerns, to be circulated to the Board Members for comment before being sent. One concern is snow removal. DPW apparently has no equipment to take care of this, and it would be outside the jurisdiction of the Parks Department, which does have the equipment needed. One suggestion was to approach local businesses for funding, which might include Glendale Town Center, plus businesses at 62nd and Allisonville. They might consider in their interest to keep the pathway open.

The contact person at DPW is Sara Holsapple, Public Information Officer (sholsapp2@indy.gov). She has provided a digital copy of the plans [as of October 2010], which Tom can forward upon request.

Susan asked whether FSNA could be a conduit for volunteer help with the Path. Sherry Seiwert thought we could team with Keep Indianapolis Beautiful to work with plantings along the path, possibly with a Beautification Grant. Betsy Ingle was appointed to contact KIB.

2. WB's Pizza promo

Sherry reported that the 20%-For-FSNA promotion on September Thursdays at WB's Pizza yielded a total of \$37.00 for FSNA's bank account. There was talk of trying this with other neighborhood businesses but it was suggested that doing it through coupons in the Jan-Feb Newsletter would be simpler for the businesses involved. Sherry volunteered to solicit for the coupons and/or ads.

3. Traffic problems at John Strange School

Bill Hazel, Joe Goeller and Tom Sturmer had an on-site meeting with City Traffic Engineer Nathan Sheets, WTMSD Safety and Security Director Brian Clouse, Christine Scales, and neighbors to discuss the congestion problems at the beginning and end of the school day which occur at 62nd and Olney Streets. At the same time, Tom has been discussing a working withh Walk-To-School advocates. Program with the John Strange School Principal, including the need for infrastructure improvements. The City Traffic Engineer agreed to make some improvements to the 62nd St./ Olney traffic signal timings in the short term, and to look into other roadway improvements in the longer term. Items discussed were crosswalks and sidewalk extensions as part of the Multi-modal Path project, a potential northbound right-turn lane serving the northernmost school driveway, parking restrictions on Olney

(discuss with School), and the potential for traffic calming measures on Olney both north and south of 62nd Street.

FSNA Director Tom Sturmer agreed to follow up on these issues.

4. FSNA Dues and Membership

Our paid membership currently comprises just under 20% of eligible households. It's been suggested that lowering the dues might induce more families to join. It was also suggested that the current newsletter mailing be extended from the 76 paid members to all 400 households in the FSNA boundaries. There was no consensus on either idea. It was resolved, however, to hold a meeting of the Block Captains, asking for their input on getting more members. This is to be followed by a brainstorming session on the topic, presumably to be attended by the Block Captains, Board Members and Association members who care to attend.

5. Newsletter

Sherry offered to solicit business advertising for the next newsletter and/or directory.

New Business

The business property on the southeast corner of 62nd Street and Allisonville Rd. is advertised for sale. This is the corner that includes WB's Pizza, Crown Liquors, the nail salon and others. No one had any details about the sale.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 17, 2010, 7pm at John Strange Elementary School.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.