

Fairfields-Sylvan Neighborhood Association

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Minutes of the Directors Meeting

January 19, 2011

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	Transportation	2012	X		
Kathie Church	Member	2012	X		

Call to Order

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

Minutes

The November minutes, as posted by Secretary Ken Ingle on the FSNA website, were approved (m. Terry, s. Joe)

The December Special Meeting minutes were also approved. (m. Terry, s. Kathie)

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Lynn Schaller was absent so the treasurer's report was postponed.

Crime Watch - Terry Dobson

- Not much activity to report within FSNA. A neighbor on 65th St said a suspicious person knocked on his door and other, seeing if anyone was home.
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The 62nd Street Multi-Modal Path - Tom Sturmer

- No news, assume that construction will begin in early Spring as planned.
- In February, Tom will ask Long Nguyen for an update on the project.
- Tom will invite Mr. Nguyen to speak at F-SNA's March meeting at that time.

62nd & Allisonville Intersection - Betsy Ingle

Betsy Ingle reported that there was some landscaping on all four corners. The lawn on the SW corner could not have shrubs for visibility reasons, but there were some in front the Speedway store further to the south. The large parking area in front of the Dollar General/CVS strip was the part most in need of

more shrubs. She will seek out the landlord and suggest it. Terry asked whether the guard rail at the north end of that lot was still damaged.

School Traffic - Bill Hazel

Bill said cars going by John Strange School driving south on Olney during school hours have trouble getting through the Olney/62nd intersection. This is partly because of large pavement holes on the right side which prevent cars from turning right on 62nd or proceeding straight ahead on Olney. They cannot get past cars waiting to turn left on 62nd St. When school is letting out, this can bring traffic to a standstill.

Tom reported on several possible improvements along the school frontage. Tom will write a letter to the school as a follow up to the meeting held in October and Tom's professional observations.

Newsletter and Website Sponsors - Sherry Seiwert

Sherry has sent out a letter to nearby businesses soliciting sponsored ads in the Newsletter (1/4page for \$50, business card ad for \$20, name listing for \$5) and website ads (3 months for \$125). It was suggested that when the new website is up, the businesses be sent a flyer announcing it and giving rates for sponsor ads.

Speakers

February - Principal Beas from John Strange School

March – Long Nguyen, Indianapolis DPW - Multi-modal path update

April - Director of Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Inc? - Betsy Ingle will request

May - Annual Meeting - no speaker. Susan noted that there would be three board members going off the board. She requested a special effort to find new members to replace them.

Website - Joe Goeller

Joe showed printouts of the pages on Jerry Sullivan's new FSNA website.

Homepage - Six large photos from around the neighborhood will show up in a random rotation each time the page is accessed. Also there is a scrolling banner announcing the next meeting, and an info section with map.

Board page - Directors' names and bios, with email links to individual directors. Like other websites, blue text indicates a link to another page.

Minutes page - Links to pdf's of meeting minutes since 2007, plus a members' comments section - to be posted monthly.

Newsletters page - Access to several years' newsletters in pdf form.

Events page - photos and video/sound from FSNA events. Announcements of upcoming events.

Membership page - A form for joining the Association or renewing membership, with a link to send dues through PayPal. The form can be filled out on-screen, then sent in by email or printed out for mailing, using the additional links provided. The form also contains a box for users' comments to the board.

There was a discussion at this point concerning protocol for handling dues payments and keeping up the membership database. Susan said an officers' meeting would be needed to lay out these procedures.

Neighborhood Watch page - containing Crime Watch information, with links to Crime Watch Chairman Terry Dobson's email, to the Block Captains, and to a Block Captains Information Form to be completed by neighbors. Also contains a current crime activities section.

By-laws page - contains a link to our bylaws in pdf form.

Joe announced that Jerry Sullivan is now finished with the website and waiting for our corrections. All directors need to make final comments and suggestions before the Go-Live. Four director bios are needed, plus the PayPal account.

Dues

There was a discussion of whether to leave the dues at \$25 per year or lower them to \$20 or \$15. It was expressed that, with the new website, special events and improved crime watch, we are giving members greater value at the same dues level. There was no motion to change the dues.

Annual Neighborhood Cleanup / Easter Egg Hunt

The board had decided in December to have both these events the same day, with the Cleanup from 10am to noon and the Egg Hunt starting at 12:30 and proceeding until most eggs are found.

Joe will lead the Cleanup and Sherry will organize the Egg Hunt. Board member and other attendees will put quarters, etc in the Easter eggs at the April board meeting.

Walkability Assesment - Tom Sturmer

Tom proposed the idea of F-SNA conducting a "Walkability Assessment" of our neighborhood in the Spring. There are boilerplate survey checklists that can be used for this purpose. Tom will talk with AARP about this tomorrow and will bring information about the activity to the February meeting.

Tom noted that this inventory of existing conditions can be used to petition the City for additional sidewalk and other safety improvements, as well as to support a potential Safe Routes To School grant application prepared by the Washington Township School Corporation. This activity has the additional benefit of uniting neighborhood volunteers around a project of interest and demonstrating how a neighborhood association initiative can bring positive results.

Abandoned Houses - Sherry Seiwert

Sherry said it had been proposed that some funds from the sale of Indianapolis Water Company to Citizens Gas be used for clearing abandoned houses. Sherry reported three houses nearby for this listing, including the two ruined houses on 62nd between Eastwood School and the rail tracks. There was a discussion of other abandoned properties in the neighborhood.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 16, 2011, 7pm at John Strange Elementary School.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.