

# FAIRFIELDS-SYLVAN NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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## Minutes of the FSNA Meeting John Strange School, 7 PM March 20, 2013

### Present:

Joe Goeller, President

Tom Sturmer, Vice-President

Sherry Seiwert, Treasurer

Ken Ingle, Member Secretary

Kathie Church, Recording Secretary

Barb Hazel, Director

### Absent:

Bill Hazel, Director

Ted Hudnut, Director

### **Call To Order:**

President Joe Goeller called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. He reminded everyone of the Marsh drawing. He also urged everyone present to sign up to paint the fire hydrants and/or participate in the neighborhood clean-up on Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup>. Joe announced he had been recognized as “Ward Chairman of the Year 2013” for Washington Township at the Reagan Dinner last evening. Those present applauded his diligence and hard work.

Joe read a letter from Connie Smith thanking the board for honoring her late husband by presenting a Trail Memorial Marker in his name. Dr. Bob Lehnen also wrote a letter thanking us for the “wonderful and well-organized” 62<sup>nd</sup> St Trail Dedication ceremony.

### **Guest Speaker: Natalie Derrickson, DPW Outreach Coordinator**

- 1) 2013 plans for the Trail are still being finalized. At this time she did not believe trash baskets were in the plans. Tree plantings and final landscaping should be started soon, as weather permits. New storm inlets will have their encircling trail erosion barriers in place until grass takes hold.
- 2) Streets in the area to be resurfaced:
  - 65<sup>th</sup> St. - Between Allisonville & Binford Blvd. (Recently done?)
  - 64<sup>th</sup> St. - Allisonville to RR tracks dead-end. (Already completed)
  - Kessler - Allisonville to Emerson Way.

- 3) Culvert replacement on 62<sup>nd</sup> St.
- 4) Strange Creek bank stabilization – Allisonville to RR tracks.
- 5) 6 Roundabouts are planned in Indianapolis. None will be in our immediate area.

Discussion ensued about the need for trash containers on the trail. Members will investigate the possibility of business sponsors. Also, there was concern voiced about some low areas which hold water, confusing stop signs which have caused cars on 62<sup>nd</sup> to actually stop. Tom mentioned that there are lights out & push button malfunctions at the intersection of Olney & 62<sup>nd</sup>St. Natalie promised to report. Many present asked her to have someone look at 55<sup>th</sup> Street in front of Bacon Postal Station.

Natalie briefly touched on Sewer/storm water drainage issues. She mentioned that property owners pay a tax of \$2.26 / month to address county wide drainage problems. This is obviously a small amount to cover a big area. Swales and ditches by the road ways on city property are the responsibility of the city and Citizens energy. Property owners are responsible for any problems on private property. She was unable to discuss septic issues.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Sherry reported our starting balance was \$5, 423.17  
Expense \$ 619.95  
Income \$ 0  
New balance \$ 4,803.00

The new balance includes the donation of \$500 that we gave John Strange for their landscaping project.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

#### **Annual Membership Drive:**

The drive continues until the end of March. Sherry reported 29 renewals and 2 new memberships received. We may send renewal reminders by email to neighbors.

**Fire Hydrants Painting** – Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 9 AM. Meet at John Strange front entrance doors. Joie Woods and Joe Goeller will work with FSNA and GACC crews.

**Neighborhood Streets Cleanup** – Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. Meet at John Strange front entrance doors. Tom Sturmer and Sherry Seiwert will coordinate assignments.

### **Drainage Problem Mapping Project – Tom Sturmer:**

Tom went over the survey wording and timeline. Those in attendance agreed with both. The surveys will be due back on April 15 “tax day”.

After discussion about mailing to just members, or all residents, it was decided to ask for volunteers to distribute to all the residents by hand. This option will save approximately \$500. Many at the meeting volunteered to do the delivery. After all the surveys are turned in, Tom will produce a map and a spreadsheet that will be used to approach various entities (DPW, Citizens Energy, etc.) for solutions.

The suggestion was made to set up an e-mail account to receive both survey answers and pictures, or they may be mailed in to the PO Box.

Tom proposed a motion to appropriate funds for the printing of the survey in black & white. The motion was seconded by Barb. It passed with no dissent.

### **East 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Trail- Maintenance/Source for Trash Barrels**

There was discussion about this issue. We will wait for a definitive answer from the city. The trash barrel we like will cost (with shipping) over \$500 each. There was also the issue raised on placement. Some present thought we could find volunteers to empty the barrels. Also, as discussed above, we hope to approach businesses to sponsor a barrel.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **Business cards for Directors/New Block Captains- Tom Sturmer:**

Tabled. FSNA Logo business cards were provided to Block Captains in March 2011, but not to Directors unless they were also Block Captains.

#### **Crime Watch- Block Captain Openings-Terry Dobson:**

Unfortunately, we are having a hard time recruiting in some areas/blocks. There was a feeling that people won't volunteer unless they know what is expected of them. Maybe a “job” description for Block/Crime Watch Captain could be posted on our website.

Terry went to a recent meeting with IMPD. Their feeling is that young men, ages 15-19, are responsible for most of our break-ins. The apartments near Allisonville seem to be the epicenter for some of this activity. The IMPD statistics do not show a significant increase in crime along the trails already in existence. We will monitor our experience with the East 62<sup>nd</sup> Street Trail.

Terry mentioned that the “no soliciting” signs are unenforceable by IMPD unless we feel a person is acting suspiciously.

Finally, graffiti has been painted on the back of the strip mall and on the brick wall facing Dean by 62<sup>nd</sup> Street. This is an eyesore & should be addressed. Betsy Ingle volunteered to approach the businesses about painting over it. The FSNA may need to buy paint & cover the graffiti ourselves, if all else fails.

**Proposed “Welcome Wagon” for New Neighbors- Block Captains?**

Tabled.

**Bylaws Review, ARTICLE VIII.2 – Officers are limited to two terms.**

We may want to relax this by-law. We will vote on the proposed change at our April meeting.

**Attendees \$10 Marsh Card Drawing**

Bill Howard won.

**Adjourn:**

Kathie moved to adjourn, Tom seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 PM.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, April 17 at 7 PM