

SWNA Membership meeting 3-26-2012

Membership meeting minutes were reviewed – There was a motion to approve the minutes and there was a second. They passed unanimously.

The Police Report was given - Issues in Sam Duff Park were discussed. There has been a lot more police presence at the park and there have not been many results as in arrests, but it has shown that there is a presence which has helped. There were compliments to the officers for doing a good job so far, but some stated that more presence is still needed. It was noted that those in 500 Barclay moved out. Officer Roark spoke to the Post Office and she manager had a talk with her drivers about speeding. Officer Roark asked if there were any new issues...and there were none to speak of. He then gave the stats that Burglaries are up but not so much in our neighborhood. This could be because of spring break being this past week.

We had the State of the 1st District report given by Nick Pavlis – South Doyle Middle School demolition of the stadium was discussed (a meeting was going on directly before our meeting and was continuing simultaneously). There were several options; to Demolish and rebuild, tear down one side and rehab the other or tear down and put up metal bleachers. There was talk of postponing a decision so that the community could come up with money to do the repairs. There was mention about the possibility of a put-in near Phillips Road for passive canoe and kayak entry way. Nick is working on Parks and he talked about Sam Duff. In the works in the near future is replacing the playground equipment and replacing the lights for the tennis courts. Repairing the lights would also help with the problem area too which could be beneficial to keep away mischief. There were questions about the American Disability Act and being compliant with the park. There was a request to put in a sidewalk from the entrance to the Pavilion and this might be something that is easily done. Nick also discussed a new thing that has passed which will give the ability to sell property if it is blighted at a lower property value without paying the taxes on it. The process will be quicker now. This will help with selling the blighted properties so that they might be fixed up quicker. Nick then reminded folks that he provides a time for anyone to come and talk with him at his “Coffee with the councilmen”. It is quarterly and it is Sunday April 1st at 9-11 at the Roundup.

Joanna and Debbie announced the National Wildlife Certification Program to the membership. This was received well and people had good questions. They were very enthusiastic about this and there were many who signed up to participate in certification at the meeting. The Kick-Off Party was announced and it will be on April 29, 2012 from 2-4 at Stanley’s Greenhouse with Ijams Nature Center doing a program as well as Nick Pavlis making his Blue Bird Food!

The Treasurer’s report was given. The balance began with 547.71 disbursements were 164.57 deposits of 75.00 totaling \$458.14. It was explained to the membership about the extra payment for the newsletter back in January and that the Executive committee had voted to pay the extra amount as we did not have time to ask the membership. However in the future, The Office on Neighborhoods will be doing newsletters at no charge (on a trial and hopefully permanent basis). There was a motion to approve the report for audit and it was seconded. The vote was unanimous.

We discussed that the Bylaws needed to be changed to redo our boundaries with the new area we voted to bring in last summer. We looked at re-dividing our current 3 district into 4 districts. We are going to keep 3 districts since the involvement is low in the new area and we do not have a representative at this time. District 3 is the only one to be changed and it is now larger than it had been.

There was a motion to change the By-Laws to read about the new boundary. Voted to approve the change in the by-laws, there was a motion to amend, it was seconded and it approved unanimously.

The next item up was the Elections. All members are willing to stay on the board except Jen Tippens. A new member of the board was added and it will be Valdecy DeSilva. Also new is Greg Lance running for district 2. There were several questions and several wanted to pay to become members. There was a motion to elect the slate of volunteers by acclamation, it was seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Robert gave a Sidewalks/Safe routes to school update. He reminded us about the Walk Audit with Ellen Zaviska that took place back in October of 2011. There was discussion about moving signs, getting more sidewalks, getting a sign at Gailbraith School Road and a pedestrian crosswalk. He mentioned that our group did not have enough time this year to get into the grant process. We will look at doing this next year by submitting a grant to the city. The city would need to sponsor or agree to help. It is a Multi-year program and there will be updates in the future as to what we are doing and what we are requesting. A question was asked "Where were they (sidewalks) needed?" and the reply was on Decatur Road area. We need to partner with the next neighborhood over for this as well. Suggestions were made and it was mentioned that it is also important to let the process happen and let the neighborhood decide which area get the sidewalks rather than making a decision now. That will be part of the process with public participation. Before this goes to Nick, there will be input. It will be in the newsletter, on the website, and at meetings further down the road.

SKNBC Report was given. There was an overview given about what is done and who are the representatives, Janice and Debbie. Janice mentioned some of the things that were going on at the SKNBC meetings. One of them was that they had the city come and talk about zoning issues and the current zoning plan for the South Waterfront. An update and public meeting has been requested by SKNBC of the City officials and this will hopefully be planned but after the Mayor's luncheon. There are hopes to have it at South Elementary School. When this is planned, the membership will be notified so that they may attend if they wish. The other project that SKNBC is working on is the Welcome Packets. There was a grant for \$2000 dollars given to create the packets and then the packets are to be given out to new homeowners and renters. Info on our neighborhoods, elected officials, stores, shops, etc. will be in them along with giveaways from local businesses.

Announcements were made: There are Saturday workshops at Stanley's Greenhouse 10:30 -11:30 and they are FREE. There is a listing on their website of all of the classes.

There was more discussion about the South Doyle Middle School stadium. It was estimated to cost 150,000 to tear it down. There was a suggestion that the neighborhood could raise the money to fix it. And then there was mention that the neighborhood might be given 2 months to do this. There was a discussion about looking at getting an update and seeing about getting info through the website. After some history was given, there was a suggestion that the association or neighborhood could have a group to 'friends-of' for road clean up.

The meeting was adjourned.