



Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes June 20, 2007

President Anita Beavers called the meeting to order. Board members Anne Wilson, Thelma Dempsey, Michael Morofsky, Mary Bechtol and Willie Vinson were present. Thirty-five members and guests were in attendance.

Lansing Police Department Report — Officer Kim distributed the crime map and reported that it has been very quiet in our area, however, he still suggested proper safety measures be taken. There has been one burglary and a few larceny reports in the CVNA area.

Program — Guest speaker Lori Lanspeary, Leisure Marketing Manager, Greater Lansing Convention and Visitors Bureau (GLCVB) said the GLCVB is responsible for marketing the greater Lansing area to leisure markets. The goal is to attract travelers/tourists, conventions, concerts, festivals, and more of the leisure market. The Capitol building, Luginut stadium, Zoo, Farmer's Market, and its four museums attract travelers along with free concerts on Washington Square, concerts in the parks, First Sunday Art Gallery Walk in North Town and The Walk of Fame downtown honors twelve of Michigan's famous (Stevie Wonder, Helen Thomas, Henry Ford, President Ford, Rosa Parks, Ernie Harwell, Thomas Edison) with bronze plaques on the streets. Ms Lanspeary was asked if someone in her office could check on the condition of the R.E. Olds Memorial located on Cherry Street at Kalamazoo in Lansing.

The GLCVB publishes a List of Free Concerts, The Greater Lansing Visitor Guide and the 24/7 Life in Greater Lansing publication, which is your guide to nightlife, dining, shopping and more in Lansing. Touch Screen Kiosks can be found in Airports, some rest areas and visitors centers.

Minutes—the minutes of the May 16 meeting were accepted as presented.

Treasurer's Report—Thelma Dempsey presented the monthly report. The current balance is \$302.48.

President's Report **President** — Beavers thanked the garden committee (Eve Bush, Karen Charley, and Janet Anderson) for making the traffic circles and boulevard areas beautiful and the best in the city. Thank you to all the neighbors who have been watering the circles. Volunteers and donations of mulch are still needed. Contact Anita Beavers (517) 882-0015 to make a donation. The Board is also seeking suggestions for speakers, articles for the newsletter and additional activities the Association could coordinate. The following activities are currently being organized: Holiday Lighting Contest, Garage Sale, Picnic, Garden Project and Candidates Night. CVNA still need volunteers to help welcome new neighbors. Also, a letter, on CVNA letterhead, will be mailed to the owners of the Colonial Village Plaza to ask them to do a little more about upkeep of the strip mall.

United Methodist Church is coordinating two new activities. 1. Making Shawls for the sick and shut-in. They meet in the evening between 4:00 & 6:00 p.m. 2. The Pastor is having an art and prayer circle.

Vice President's Report — Anne Wilson thanked every one for participating in another successful neighborhood garage sale on June 16, 2007. She received a request to have the sale at an earlier date to avoid conflict with graduation open houses. Elmhurst School PTA volunteers raised \$13,000 to purchase computers for Elmhurst School. The new principal is also looking for volunteers to help with a day of cleaning. The State Library will hold a ceremony to adopt a Civil War flag at 1 p.m. on July 3. Colonial Village Baptist Church held its first vintage car festival and will hold another in the near future. If you have a garden and wish to contribute to the Food Bank's Grow a Row, contact Anne Wilson.

Area Representatives Reports — Area 1 Representative Michael Morofsky thanked Greg Scrimger, Code Compliance Officer, for doing an excellent job for the neighborhood. According to a newspaper article, the U.S. Department of Agriculture plans to release wasp from China as a bio-control measure for Emerald Ash Borer. Contact Michael if you want to read the complete report. Michael also said he personally, not on behalf of CVNA, reported to the City Council several Railroad crossings in the city that are hazardous to cars.

Mary Bechtol Area 2 Representative gave Greg Scrimger kudos for a job well done and for the help in getting a boat moved. He is a wonderful asset to the City of Lansing.

Greg Kozak, Area 3 Representative, resigned from the board. He extended his regrets to the membership. Due to the demands of his career, as a single homeowner, and other activities he no longer can fulfill his Area Representative duties.

Ingham County Commission — Victor Celentino and Dale Copedge reported that the transition of Potter Park Zoo will take place on July 1, 2007 with a Rededication Ceremony at 1 P.M. There will be free parking, free camel and pony rides, prizes, games and refreshments. Potential members of the Zoo Advisory Board are being interviewed. The Commission is reviewing the possibility of forming a cooperative agreement between the airport and the Michigan Flyer Transportation buses and a consolidation plan for 911 Centers.

Lansing City Council & Mayor's Office — **Carol Wood** reported that the Council and the Mayor continue to work on the budget. In addition: CSO work continues in the downtown area making travel difficult. Grass and weed cutting problems exist due to changes in policy. She asked everyone to bear with them as problems are being resolved. Changes to the Public Safety ordinance involving overnight parking on City streets and the Housing Code are being discussed. CSO postcards received from residents in the area are still being discussed and plans are being made to resolve issues.

Bill Matt, Lansing City Council, added that the overnight parking ordinance has been in effect for decades. Currently, no parking is allowed on City streets between 2:00 a.m. and 5:00 a.m. The fine is \$7.00 with step increases with each offense. After four offenses in one month the car will be towed. Residents with overnight guests should alert the police to avoid fines. He asked for a show of hands to indicate who feels the ordinance should be changed. The majority in attendance wanted to retain the ordinance. The Housing Code, targeting landlords, is being considered for changes. Contact him ((517-410-1826) if you have concerns. Bill is inviting all fourth ward neighborhood association members to walk in the July 4 parade on July 3.

Josh Hoby, Mayor's Office, reported that the Annual Senior Activity Fair was a success. Over 500 people attended and enjoyed the vendors, musical entertainment, dancing, breakfast and lunch. Blues on the square began last week. The event is held in the 200 block of S. Washington Square between Washtenaw and Allegan. Also, look for the City Farmer's Market open house coming soon. Energy resources – bio-degradable energy sources are being explored and the City expects to begin using a vegetable-based additive with oil in city vehicles. The company is looking at starting a manufacturing facility in the area which will bring jobs to the city.

Announcements

A'Lynn Robinson, Lewton-Rich Neighborhood Association board member, introduced herself and announced she was running for Lansing City Council Third Ward. She announced that the Lewton/Rich Association will hold its neighborhood-wide garage sale this weekend.

Carol Wood is running for re-election to the council. She introduced her campaign manager, Loren Glasscock who said yard signs are available by calling 517 410 1826.

Code Compliance Officer - Greg Schrimger reported he continues to work with CVNA Area Representatives on complaints pertaining to grass and weeds cutting issues and Railroad crossing repairs.

Old Business/New Business

Picnic – Tuesday, August 7, 2007 – (6 – 8 p.m.) at Elmhurst School on Pattengill and Gordon Ave.

Contact June Kenfield (517) 882-2983 or Anita Beavers (517) 882-0015 for Additional information and to volunteer:

- Picnic is free; however, donations will be accepted. Approximately 200 – 250 attended in the past.
- Need volunteers to help set up, clean up, provide dishes to pass or make donations to cover expenses
- New this year will be the City's Obstacle Course

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.