

WESTWOOD PARK HOMES ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the April 6th, 2006 Annual Meeting

Board Members Present

The 84th Annual WPHA meeting took place at Pembroke Hill's cafeteria. Present were Chuck Stewart, Ann Nixon, Susan Hard and Ann Schleih.

Minutes:

Ann Schleih.

Dessert and Socializing

Westwood Park neighbors enjoyed some conversation prior to the start of the meeting at 7:00pm. About 30 neighbors attended. Desserts, coffee and sodas were available.

OPENING COMMENTS - CHUCK STEWART

- Unfortunately the day before this meeting, our board President Kirby Upjohn, broke her leg. She will soon have surgery and spend time recovering at St. Lukes Hospital. Our hearts go out to Kirby for a speedy recovery. We really missed her presence at the meeting.
- In Kirby's absence, Chuck graciously moderated the meeting.
- Some highlighted issues over the past year include the rat house, rising property values, the jump in taxes and the construction on the West side of the Plaza by JJ's restaurant.

APPROVAL OF 2005 MINUTES

- The minutes from last year's meeting were included with the meeting agenda. A motion was passed for the minutes.
- Monthly board meeting minutes are available online at www.haccd.org, along with the Westwood Park board roster, newsletter, bylaws and treasurer's report. Information regarding the Homes Association of the Country Club District (HACCD) and any of the other 32 homes associations can be found on that website.

TREASURES REPORT

- The treasurer's report from last year's meeting was also included with the meeting agenda. A motion was passed for the treasurer's report. Chuck covered the expenditures listed on the treasurer's report. This information can be found on www.haccd.org.

WESTWOOD PARK FUTURE IMPROVEMENTS - JIMMI LOSSING

- Jimmi Lossing, a landscape architect from the KC Parks & Recreation Department, has dedicated several months to the Westwood Park project. Since the summer of 2005, many small meetings, a charrette, and a couple of public meetings have taken place. Jimmi has gathered, prioritized and developed a preliminary master plan. With a large drawing and handouts, Jimmi presented the plan to the neighbors with a favorable response.
- Improvements include shelters, new path routes and paving, park benches, a garden area, signage, additional landscaping, etc. The baseball diamond is being phased out. The majority of baseball users are not from the neighborhood.

- The aspect of the park being used for dogs is highly encouraged. However, there is a greater need for dog owners to pick up after their pets. The current bag dispensers were installed by the Parks & Recreation department. West Plaza Homes Association has been maintaining them. This could and should be a shared expense and responsibility for both associations and possibly Kansas, too.
- Jimmi plans to have an arborist take inventory of the park's trees and do an assessment for a maintenance program.
- There were several submissions to PIAC (Public Investment Advisory Committee) for funding certain aspects of the plan. Jimmi is confident that money will soon be available in May 2006. Construction on the first phase may begin as soon as spring 2007!
- Chuck commended Jimmi on her excellent work and dedication to a project that is very important to the beautification of our neighborhood.
- On a side note, if anyone notices any undesirable activity in the park, please call the police. If the police do not show call the Action Center at 513-1313 or contact Kirby. The Chief of Police has been notified of the lack of police response.

BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES - TERESA LARSON

- Last fall, Joan and Kirk Gastinger spearheaded and organized a neighborhood block representatives meeting. With Joan's leadership, the neighborhood now has several block representatives who are dedicated to gathering neighbor's contact information. Getting to know neighbors helps build a safer, friendlier and more desirable neighborhood.
- Board member, Glennis Walker is going to compile the information for a neighborhood directory.
- Some blocks still need representatives. Volunteers are needed.
- Teresa reviewed the block representative's top two priorities. The first is to reduce the number of delinquent looking properties. The second priority is the improvement of Westwood Park. Block reps will periodically attend board meeting to help keep the communication open between the board and the block representatives.

ISLANDS AND STONE MARKERS - ANN NIXON

- Nearly all of the full size stone markers have been built. Modified markers will be installed in corners that have limited space. Kirk Gastinger has done some concept sketches of these signs, which look attractive. Ann Nixon will look into an estimate for the smaller signs.
- Over the years, Ann Nixon has personally paid for many of the island flowers, which is in the hundreds of dollars. The neighborhood has certainly enjoyed the lovely flowers. Thanks to Ann N. for her very generous contributions!
- Kudos to Ann Nixon and Susan Hard and all the neighbors who help with maintaining the plantings and islands throughout the year.

ELECTION OF BOARD MEMBERS - CHUCK STEWART

- Motions were passed for Chuck Stewart, Dave Hardin and Glennis Walker to maintain positions on the board for another term. Terms are three years. No new neighbors volunteered to join the board. Even if the board does not have new members, there is always a need for people to volunteer with neighborhood projects and events.

AWARDS PRESENTATION - SUSAN HARD

- WPHA takes pride in the beautiful houses and the well maintained properties. Susan presented Home of the Month winners with a frameable document listing the homeowners names. None of the award winners were present for the annual meeting.

EXTENDING THE ANNUAL DUES AMOUNT - ANN NIXON

- The past few years the annual dues have included additional voluntary payments to help fund capital improvements. The motion was passed to keep the \$20 amount the same and extend it for 3 more years - from 2007 until 2009. Participation has increased over the years.

NEW BUSINESS

- Neighbors have asked for a clean up event either in the spring or fall. The board will look into this.

- After several break-ins on properties on and near Liberty, an observant neighbor has concluded that the burglars are men who appear to be a "crew" waiting in their truck. They actually are watching homeowners. They work in areas where there is construction or renovation so not to appear suspicious. All neighbors are asked to be on the watch and are strongly encouraged to call 911 for any suspicious activities. And, also notify a board member so the board is aware of any activity. It is critical to call the police. The more calls the police receive, the more likely they will patrol the area.

MEETING CLOSE

Chuck concluded the meeting and thanked those who attended. Watch the newsletters for more information. The board looks forward to seeing you next year!