

WESTWOOD PARK HOMES ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting Minutes - April 1, 2009

Board Members Present

The 87th Annual WPHA meeting took place at Pembroke Hill's cafeteria. Present were Aryn Roth, Kirby Upjohn, Ann Nixon, Carl Mahoney, Teresa Larson, Bob Pfeiffer and Ann Schleihs. Minutes: Ann Schleihs.

Dessert and Socializing

At 7:00pm the neighbors socialized with the meeting beginning shortly after. About 35 neighbors attended. Desserts, tea and coffee were provided, compliments of Pembroke.

BOARD PRESIDENT INTRODUCTION - ARYN ROTH

- Aryn welcomed everyone to the annual meeting.

APPROVAL OF 2008 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 homes associations can be found on that website.

TREASURES REPORT - KIRBY UPJOHN

- A treasurer's report handout detailed expenditures for the 2008 year.
- The WSC patrol services lasted 8 months in 2008 (14 months total). This was a voluntary payment and fewer than half the homeowners paid. After cancellation, any further checks received from homeowners were returned. The remaining amount from the separate patrol account was rolled over into the homes association account.
- Some expense items Kirby mentioned: island maintenance \$6,200, fountain upkeep \$2,600, annual picnic net loss \$500 with some money taken in from the silent auction items.
- Largest revenue collection is for other services on the annual bill, which is the \$60 voluntary fee. Base assessments, silent auction, and interest on the account bring in additional income.

BLOCK REPRESENTATIVES - JOAN GASTINGER

- Included in the handout was a map of the neighborhood with a diagram of sections listing corresponding block captains. Only a few areas remain needing a block captain. Joan spearheaded the block captain initiative four years ago.
- The role of a block captain is to gather neighbor's contact information, be a liaison between the neighbors and the board, and alert neighbors of any important information such as security. Email is the preferred way of communication.
- Joan has had much success on her block along with another block captain, Cathy, in gathering signatures for a petition regarding limited parking to one side of the street. The process with the city took about four months. Great job, Joan!

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS - ARYN

- Our newest board members are Teresa Larson, Bob Pfeiffer and Elaine Wallis. Their terms dates are 2012. Terms are three years.

NEIGHBORHOOD BEAUTIFICATION - ANN NIXON

- Soon the fountain will be running and pansies will be added to the islands for springtime. A dying shrub will be replaced on the Holly island.
- Kudos to Ann Nixon, Susan Hard, Martha Nagley and Bob Pfeiffer and all the neighbors who help with maintaining the plantings and islands throughout the year. Thanks to Susan for the lights decorating the fountain each holiday.
- Ann Nixon gave a brief real estate update on the neighborhood housing market. Ann said to "hang in there" during these tough times with the economy.

WESTWOOD PARK IMPROVEMENTS

- Jimmi Lossing, a landscape architect from the KC Parks & Recreation Department, was our designated park revitalization person when the master plan was designed three years ago. The latest is that consultants will begin analyzing the project with an expected ground breaking this summer. Neighbors are becoming impatient.
- PIAC funds were approved three years ago, with no accumulating interest, but rather paying administrative costs. It was suggested that neighbors contact the city demanding some action.

NEIGHBORHOOD SECURITY

- Neighborhood watch security signs are ready. Because Aryn and Ann S. attended a meeting at East Patrol division last year, the homes association was granted several signs. Aryn mentioned they should hopefully be posted soon around the perimeters of the neighborhood.
- Aryn mentioned the best security of all is getting to know your neighbors and looking after each other. Looking out for each other is free.
- A neighbor suggested that more homeowners keep their porch light on at night. Also have indoor lights on a timer. Many properties are completely dark.
- The next newsletter will include some helpful security tips, possible recommended security devices, as well as a reprint of the no soliciting sign.
- Visit crimereports.com for recent activity.

NEWSLETTER - BOB PFEIFFER pfeidough@att.net

- Bob is the new newsletter editor. The board is thrilled to have him on board and very much appreciate him taking the reins with the newsletter. The next newsletter will be published later in April.
- Topics will include a recap of the annual meeting, security issues and tips, yard sale, dumpster day, home of the month, etc. Articles and pictures should be in a PDF format and sent to Bob's email.
- A future issue could include topics on going green – suggestions on ways to save money and reduce one's carbon footprint. For example, Kirk mentioned the state and federal tax breaks for energy star appliances.

NEW BUSINESS

- A permit is required for pod storage bins. Aryn was uncertain how long the permit is good.
- The neighborhood yard sale will be the first Saturday in July. Aryn mentioned that Big Brothers & Big Sisters is willing to do a pickup later that day for unsold items.
- Dumpster day will be sometime this summer. An announcement will be in the newsletter when a date has been set.
- Kirby mentioned that HACCD will eventually be renamed The Homes Associations of Kansas City.
- Teresa asked about the process of getting the city involved for problem properties. Kirby explained the process and slow progress, if any, with the city's Codes Enforcement Department. Carl had to work through the Department of Dangerous Buildings to get results on another problem property. It's a tedious and slow process, if someone is willing to put in the time.
- Ricardo raised the issue about speeders in the neighborhood, particularly those on his street, Westwood Road. Joan explained the process of obtaining signatures from the homeowners for a petition. Cynthia is currently collecting signatures for 50th street for the same issue. Street calmers, such as speed bumps would be beneficial for slowing down traffic.
- Call the city's Action Help line at 311 for non-emergency city issues. It's open 7 days a week, also available online.

MEETING CLOSE

- Aryn concluded the meeting and thanked those who attended. Watch future newsletters for more neighborhood information. The board looks forward to seeing the neighbors at next year's annual meeting!

NEXT MEETING

- May's monthly board meeting TBA.