

**Countryside Homes Association Monthly Meeting Minutes** for 4/9/08, 7:05pm CST

Meeting took place at Minsky's on Main.

**Those in attendance:**

Terry Rodeghier

Kevin Vaughn

Mario Vasquez

Joe Grego

Mary Kay Morrow

Jim Kraus

Darryl Hawkins

Neighbors Dan Sun and Kathy Arthur

Officers Caron and McGregor

**7:05pm**

**Oxford House** – In attendance and kicking off our monthly meeting for April 2008 were Officers McGregor and Caron from KCPD Metro Patrol who were in attendance to discuss the topic of the Oxford House specifically and area crime in general. While there have been only a few formal complaints to the KCPD regarding the adverse situation at Oxford House during the past 12 months we all recognize the potential threat of having rehabbing addicts and former criminals living in our midst, especially for those of us that have children. It has been discovered that a recent domestic disturbance that took place at Oxford House stemmed from dispute over mismanaged rent money.

When Officer Carin was informed by the residents of E. Concorde tonight of the goings on, he pledged to personally keep a very close eye on Oxford House. He is encouraging the residents of East Concorde, where Oxford House is located, to call the police for any and every reason as it pertains to Oxford House with the hope that eventually with enough police visits they will go away. If nothing else, we now have a police task force watching things very closely, and that can't hurt. Additionally we discussed the possibility of identifying any residents of the neighborhood whom are in the legal profession. If we can find someone that will work for us pro bono, it might be a good idea to send legal or official looking correspondence to the owner of the home each and every time there is any form of disturbance or issue with Oxford House and its tenants. The intent is that the home owner might eventually get tired of dealing with us and our threats and will not renew the lease to Oxford House.

At this point, we are in a "wait and see" mode as we monitor the results of the increased police surveillance.

**Arlene Whitacre's Beautification Proposal** - Arlene and her husband have done a wonderful job of renovating the monument located on West 52<sup>nd</sup> Street and Wyandotte and made an appearance at the meeting to offer her services exclusively to our Homes Association in conducting similar renovations/updates to the other monuments and common green areas throughout the neighborhood. While don't have specifics at this time, in general terms her efforts would involve visiting, photographing, cataloging, and updating each monument or green area, one by one. We all agree that it would be great to have one central figure to oversee and manage the entire project, however we'll first have to get an idea of how much it would cost for us to "employ" Arlene and utilize her services. Due to the magnitude of overseeing a project like this, she feels that it will be

necessary for her to receive compensation for her time. The Board will discuss this further upon receipt of some tangible dollar figures from Arlene. Thanks Arlene!

**52<sup>nd</sup> Street Monument Update** – As of this meeting, the stone mason is approximately 3 weeks from beginning the project which puts us at an estimated start date of May 1. Upon completion we will reconnect with Kevin Yates, the Muddy Gardener in order to move to the next phase of the renovation, the landscaping.

**Board Election** - The annual meeting scheduled to take place on April 22<sup>nd</sup> will include the election of three Board members. Bill Robertson and Kevin Vaughn will not run for re-election while Jim Kraus whose term is also expiring does intend to run for another term. On the ballot at this point for election would be potential two new Board members Dan Sun and Kathy Arthur

**Committee Update** – No new news regarding Committees. This subject will be covered at greater length at the Annual Meeting in order to remind those in attendance that if they are interested in participating in activities beneficial to the neighborhood, situations are available for volunteers to unite and make a difference.

**Centennial Celebration** – The T-Shirts have been ordered and will be available for sale at the Annual Meeting. Darryl will oversee the effort and provide sales statistics. We're all very excited to see the finished product.

**Dumpster Day** – We will be holding our annual spring Dumpster Day at St. Theresa's in the south parking lot on May 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:00am – 11:30pm. Volunteers are needed to man the dumpsters and assist neighbors with their items. We'll have both a lawn waste dumpster and a trash dumpster.

**DST Update** – Tom McGee with DST will be in attendance at the Annual Meeting and will provide us with an update on the development taking place on Main Street.

**Annual Meeting Issues** – A tentative agenda includes a food and drink mixer, Treasurer's Report, Proposed Dues Initiatives to procure increased police patrol for the neighborhood as well as an effort to beautify the neighborhood, new board member elections, and a State of the Neighborhood Address to be provided by Terry.

**Lights on 52<sup>nd</sup> and Wyandotte Monument** – The lights have been replaced by electrician Frank McCabe and it's back up and running.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, May 14, 2008 @ 7:00pm, Minsky's on Main.  
Annual Meeting Tuesday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. Mixer starts at 6pm, meeting starts at 7pm.  
Joe Grego, Loyal Secretary, Countryside Homes Association