

Countryside HOA Meeting Tuesday, April 11, 2017

The meeting was called to order by President, Jason Pryor by welcoming everyone and introducing current Board members.

Security Patrol – Detective Brent Parsons commended residents on their continued awareness and watchfulness regarding the safety of Countryside and noted that resident involvement was up from the previous year. He presented Power Point slides that reflected an increase in each of the prior 3 years with respect to residence checks, pedestrian checks and follow-up on reports of open doors. All of which included following up on suspicious activity around property concerns and reports of unknown or suspicious individuals in the neighborhood. He reiterated the importance of calling 911 if anything seemed out of the ordinary, including reporting unwanted solicitors, particularly those that may become aggressive or hostile when turned away. Remember to be a “hard” target by utilizing outdoor lighting, keeping garage doors closed, etc. Please notify a Board member if you are going to be out of town and would like the officer on duty to do a security check of your property while you’re away.

Maintenance and Landscape – The house at 5433 Wornall has finally been sold and is being renovated and all delinquent dues were collected. As some of you may recall, this property was a source of contention for many years so Countryside was very pleased to finally see some action on this property. Requests were solicited for a new company to maintain the 16 islands (including those on Main Street) in our neighborhood and Supreme Green (David Thon) was selected for this year. As a follow-up to an inquiry last year regarding Snugbro Park (bench/water fountain) located on the east side of Main Street just south of 54th Terrace and the possibility of getting the fountain working, Mitch reported that he had made some inquiries and it was determined that it is cost prohibitive at this time to get it in working order.

Treasurer’s Report – Evan Stange distributed the Balance Sheet and Income Statement. Progress is being made on collecting delinquent dues and the Board now files a lien on property when a homeowner is one year delinquent. Postage and printing costs were down due to an increase in email communication over hard copy mailings. Social activity spending has increased as a result of participation by more residents which is viewed as great news and has made Countryside the envy of some of our surrounding neighborhoods with less active associations.

Social Events/Associate Memberships – Katy Martin reported on the success of Countryside’s social events as evidenced by the increase in attendance. Some residents in nearby neighborhoods have inquired about the possibility of participating in these events by becoming associate members. The annual fee for associate membership is \$125. One family has already taken advantage of this offer.

PIAC Update - Kathy Arthur reported on completed projects and those on the horizon. The traffic calming and landscaping project at 54th/Westover/Brookside was recently completed. PIAC funding has been granted for traffic calming at 52nd and Brookside. There is an initial meeting scheduled with the city at the site on April 30th and nearby residents are encouraged to attend with ideas, suggestions and/or comments and concerns. Countryside has been working with surrounding homes associations to address traffic concerns in the 63rd/Brookside corridor in the hopes of relieving some of the congestion and vehicle/pedestrian conflicts in that area. They are also discussing similar issues along Main between Ward Parkway and 51st Street.

Other Area News – New tenants Stock Hill and Eat Fit Go in the Populous (Board of Trade) building will be joined later this year by Elly’s Brunch & Café and Black Dirt, a new restaurant by the owners of Justus Drugstore is slated to open later this year at 51Main. Community America Credit Union will be taking over the location of Salon Tu’ and of course the Whole Foods project is progressing as planned.

Bryant Elementary has been mothballed by KCPS with the hope of possibly reopening it sometime in the future based on the success of Hale Cook Elementary. The district has repaired windows and increased lighting in an effort to prevent further vandalism. Thanks to Wornall Homestead for the new trees provided by money from PIAC funds they received.

Many thanks again this year to Mark Blank for preparing dinner and including kid-friendly fare for the kiddos in attendance.

For more information about the mail-in ballot process for the proposed **Streetcar Extension** or to obtain a **FREE** tree from Heartland Tree Alliance please see the Spring newsletter sent out on April 7th.

Board Elections – The positions currently held by Kathy Arthur, Jim Krauss and Evan Stange were up for election. There were no new candidates and all three current members agreed to remain on the Board for another term.

Finally, Board meetings are held on the second Tuesday of each month at 7:00 at Nick & Jakes and all residents are invited and welcome to attend. Please contact a Board member if you wish to attend a meeting or if you have any questions, comments, concerns or suggestions.

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