

**Countryside Homes Association Monthly Meeting Minutes** for 10/15/08, 7:05pm CST

Meeting took place at Minsky's on Main.

Those in attendance:

Terry Rodeghier

Joe Grego

Mario Vasquez

Jim Kraus

Kathy Arthur

Mary Kay Morrow

Darryl Hawkins – Neighbor

**7:05pm**

**Park and Beautification Update** – Kathy and Mario met with the Kansas City Parks and Rec Planning Committee to pitch our plan to add sprinkler and electricity as well as landscaping to the island located at 52<sup>nd</sup> and Brookside. Without specific bids though, a decision cannot be made. They have enlisted the help of our City Counsel Person to help push our effort. We hope to have a full proposal to present shortly. In addition and in the meantime, Kathy Arthur has received a bid of \$500 from Ryan Lawn and Tree to aerate and seed the remaining islands prior to winter, however, we've been told that it is too late in the year to seed so we plan on having Ryan provide a pre-winter fertilization.

**Movie Night Recap** - Movie Night was a great success. Mario reports that approximately 25 people attended and fun was had by all. In the future, we agree that we should try to make a couple of changes. First, to have this event be earlier in the year when the weather isn't as big a factor and next, to have the event not be so close in date to other events, thus making it "special". Good work by Mario for handling virtually all of the planning and implementation.

**PIAC Request Update** – Thanks go out to Mary Kay for all of her work in pursuing a PIAC grant to further beautify Countryside. At the last PIAC meeting, Mary Kay was told that her plan was too minimal to present to PIAC but they did offer a suggestion that we "beef up" our plan and resubmit it. We discussed the concept of including in the revised proposal to reconstruct the monuments throughout the neighborhood and even to add monuments where they once existed but are no longer. The next meeting with PIAC is in the spring, specifically April, 2009, so we will retool our plan and present it at that time.

**Treasurer's Report/Dues Update** - As we discussed last month, our expenses are up significantly over years past and this is due to a large portion of our monthly expense recently being directed towards the Security Measure and the cost of that additional security. Along with that, our deposits are up significantly over years past. Of critical importance is that our ability to continue to receive and pay for the Security Service Measure without tapping in to our reserve funds is predicated upon receiving dues from the remaining Home Owners in Countryside whom have yet to pay. To date, approximately 75% of all neighbors have paid their annual dues thanks in part to a second mailer that was sent in August, reminding those that were delinquent that we need their contributions. Outside of the security issue and paying for it, we are on budget and have been able to function without having to tap our reserves thanks in part to reduced plowing needs last winter.

**Dumpster Day/Neighborhood Clean Up -**

Dumpster Day has been confirmed for Saturday, October 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008 from 8am-12pm in the St. Theresa's parking lot. Joe, Mary Kay and Mario will work from 8am-10am and Terry and Kathy will work from 10am-12pm. Mario is working to arrange delivery and pick up of the dumpsters. Also taking place will be a neighborhood clean up effort organized by Kathy and Mary Kay. We hope to make this an annual event. A voicemail message will go out to the neighbors informing them of this effort and encouraging all to meet at St. Theresa's at 10am on Saturday. Donuts and trash bags will be provided for those that volunteer to participate. The thought is that groups of volunteers will blanket the neighborhood and remove any and all waste from streets, parkways, and common areas and we'll use the dumpsters to eliminate the trash.

**Security Update** – It's been brought to our attention that there continues to be a rash of Breaking and Entering crimes taking place within our neighborhood. It is recommended by KCPD that we keep our properties well lit, locked at night, and all valuables out of sight. On the positive side, our contracted security patrol has continued to conduct car checks, making warrant arrests, issuing moving violations, deterring suspicious parties from soliciting, and fighting to identify any individuals that may be casing our neighborhood. The officers continue to patrol our streets during off hours, typically 4 hours per day, three days per week.

**Oxford House Update** – No new news on this subject this month.

**Neighborhood Directory** – We continue to debate the idea of completing and producing the directory. Terry has arrived at a cost of approximately \$600 for the entire job and so we've got to make a decision about whether to go forward and if so, do we sell them or give them away to dues paying neighbors? And maybe we give one copy to each dues paying household and if a second copy is desired, we sell them for \$5ea.

**Historic District Expansion** – Still no decision on this matter except that we now know that it can be quite expensive to hire a service to conduct the necessary due diligence to achieve a potential expansion of the Historic District. Mario will continue to work on this effort with Darryl Hawkins' help.

**Setting up a charitable fund** – It's been decided that this effort would not provide a measurable advantage sufficient to justify taking on the task.

**NEXT MEETING:** Wednesday, November 5, 2008 @ 7:00pm, Minsky's on Main.  
Joe Grego, Loyal Secretary, Countryside Homes Association