

Capitol View-Stift Station Neighborhood Association Meeting
March 8th, 2010
2715 W. 7th Street – 7:00 p.m.
Minutes

- 1) Cara Chapman called the meeting to order and called for approval of the January and February meeting minutes. She stated that she will not be printing many copies of the minutes for subsequent meetings to be green. The association minutes go back to 2007 on the CVSSNA website and can be viewed on the website. 40 people were present at the meeting.

Maggie Smith moved to approve the minutes, Ralph Wilcox seconded.

- 2) **Treasurer's report:**
- a. Sophie Mitchell reported that there was \$3646.80 in the account. There were 21 paid residential memberships, 1 business membership and 12 yard sale entries.
 - b. Cara reported that money for social events came out of the general account.

- 3) **Featured Speaker Mark Kennady, Vice Chancellor of Public Safety at University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences**

Mark Kennady addressed parking issues related to UAMS students and employees in the Stift Station neighborhood.

Regarding parking issues he felt the first job was to figure out borders of the university and define and secure them.

UAMS has no intention to move east of Pine Street but they want to improve the Pine/Cedar streets corridor. They feel there are blind spots that currently make it unsafe.

Hugh Thomford reported that he talked to Bicycle Advocacy of Central Arkansas regarding the Complete Streets program in order to slow down traffic.

He said that about 5-8 years ago he made a presentation to Dr. Ward at UAMS. He felt that the flow of traffic on Pine and Cedar is unbalanced compared to Woodrow as more people come to Woodrow to get to the freeway. He suggested that UAMS take over Pine and Cedar and make them 2-way to take traffic off the freeway to Hillcrest.

Rebecca Kilmer suggested that they include a bicycle lane on one side and sidewalks.

Kennady felt that Little Rock is not a good bicycling area but he felt the neighborhoods might support bicycle trails through the campus. Bob Hamilton informed Kennady of the Rose Creek Trail proposal being organized by the neighborhood.

Regarding parking in the neighborhood Kennady reported that the police chief on the campus reports to him. He offered to network with the city to double security and crime prevention through visibility. He proposed more police cars and diligence in punishing and managing crime.

In answer to questions about parking in the neighborhood he said that the city of Little Rock needs to deal with giving out tickets because some streets to the east are out of his jurisdiction. UAMS could pull autoist's tags and see who they are but they can't boot or tow them if the car is not on campus. They can notify them of where to park as they provide parking campus and they offer shuttle busses.

Henri said he lived at Oak and Plateau. He has talked to students about blocking drives and parking in front of trash cans because he can't get his trash picked up.

Cara Chapman reminded the association that every 3rd Tuesday there is a public safety meeting to discuss crime and parking. She suggested that they come to the meeting to get issues followed up on.

Gary Clay suggested that more "No Parking" signs were needed and said they should keep calling the city regarding the parking problem.

Kathleen Countryman stated that the students had a right to park on public streets unless they are illegally parked. She suggested that residents could go to the downtown patrol meeting on Thursday nights to talk to police about giving out tickets.

Lance Levi said they should take photographs if they felt the students were blocking drives or illegally parked. He said it would take a group effort to get it done.

Mark Kennady suggested the neighborhood get about 10 people together and get on the agenda for the City Board meeting regarding the problem.

Kennady said that they have sent out e-mails about students parking in designated areas at War Memorial, the zoo but they can't do anything about parking on city streets.

4) Alert Center Report:

- a. Kathleen Countryman reported that CVSSNA will be a counting site for the census bureau and that census workers would be in the neighborhood through March 19th. If anyone is skipped they should come to the Alert Center to provide information.
- b. She said Codes is working on graffiti in the area by painting over it.
- c. The Little Rock Police Department will get a grant for 20 new officers who will be on patrol. They are looking for experienced officers for community-oriented police program and CVSSNA might get COPP officers.
- d. Little Rock passed an ordinance to not allow parking in front or side yards without a parking pad by June 1st.
The pad must be a certain size, it can't be dusty or have water or mud on it. The city will allow a variance if it is proved that alternative parking needs are required.
- e. Kathleen needs volunteers for the Neighborhoods USA conference. They have 260 volunteers now but they need 400-500.

5) Committee Reports:

- a. Cara Chapman reported that CVSSNA has renewed our status as Partners in Education with Woodruff Early Childhood Center . She said they need mentors and volunteters. Karen Tackett is the first volunteer from the neighborhood.

6) PR and Media committee

- a. Cara requested neighbor of the month entries for the newsletter and suggested that there be a yard of the month as well.
- b. The association will run business ads in the newsletter for a fee.
- c. She reminded people to go to the website to see the calendar of events.

7) Public Safety Committee

- a. Chairperson Steve Chapman was not present but Cara reported that Dwight Davis will reschedule the Citizens on Patrol meeting for March 24th at 6:30 PM at the Alert Center for training in patrolling.

8) Hospitality Committee

- a. The committee still needs a chairperson to stuff baskets and talk up neighborhood organizations to new residents.
- b. Cara thanked Nancy Sheehan and Cheryl Bates for providing the food at the meeting.

9) Property Standards Committee

- a. Cara requested a chairperson for island clean up.
- b. April 24th, 8:00-12:00 there will be a neighborhood cleanup for the NUSA conference. Participants will meet at the White Water Tavern.

- 10) Cara Chapman reported on upcoming neighborhood events:**
- a. March 9th, from 6:00 to 9:00 PM the association would sponsor Good Neighbor Night at the Oyster Bar.
 - b. March 16th, Public Safety meeting
 - c. March 12th, Cara Chapman will host a National Night Out meeting at her house at 5:30.
 - d. March 24th, COPP training meeting, 6:30 PM at the Alert Center.
 - e. April 3rd, the first annual Easter Egg Hunt and picnic at the Northeast corner of the School for the Deaf from 11:00 to 1:00.
 - f. March 1st, the first CVSSNA yard sale. Large neighborhood ad will be placed in the paper for \$5.00 fee and neighbors keep the profits of their individual sale. CVSSNA will take care of all signs too.
 - g. Cara reported that Capitol View was featured on Channel 4 and in the *Arkansas Democrat Gazette* because of the article in *This Old House* naming the neighborhood as the best place to buy an old house.
- 11)** Jay Barth introduced himself and reminded the association that he is running for State Senate, District 34.
- 12)** Lance Levi introduced himself as a property owner and landlord in the neighborhood. He felt the *This Old House* article was helpful in enabling him to sell his houses in the neighborhood. He appealed to meeting attendees for buyers. Levi announced he was running as an Independent in Congress and he had filed March 8th.
- 13)** Rebecca Kilmer reported that the Rose Creek Trail Committee needs supporters. She announced that the committee was hosting a creek hike March at 2:00.
- 14)** Bob Hamilton reported that plots were available in the community garden.

Meeting adjourned.