

Fletcher Place Neighborhood Association, Inc. (FPNA)
(www.fletcherplace.org)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, November 11th, 7:00 p.m.

Mission statement: Preservation, restoration, renovation, revitalization and the promotion of the neighborhood as a community of the City of Indianapolis known as historic Fletcher Place, with the goal of creating a total urban community while maintaining a respect for the past.

Boundaries: The FPNA represents the area east of East Street, south of Lord Street, west of I-65/I-70 and north of I-70. This encompasses two historic districts, the Fletcher Place Historic District and the Holy Rosary Danish Church District.

Meetings: The meetings are every second Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm at 325 S College (College Place).

Note: These meeting minutes are for all FPNA members. If you know of other FPNA members not on the list, we would be happy to add them. For reading convenience, a Microsoft Word version of the minutes has been attached.

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 by Greg Townsend.

Attendees: Robb Biddinger, Paul Buckley, Angie & Tori Calvert, Jennifer Cole, David Edy, Tiffany Ellefson, Keith Holdsworth, Bill Lovejoy, Jeff Miller, Greg Townsend, Craig Von Deylen

Guests: Office Tony Brown, Dennis Papenmeier (Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison)

Last meeting's minutes: Jeff Miller posted minutes online. No changes.

IMPD Update: Officer Brown mentioned that while we have had issues downtown with graffiti, we have not seen any territorial gang graffiti. So we do have graffiti, but it isn't gang related. And the sooner we get it addressed, the better. The other issue he has seen is larcenies, so remember to keep things locked up.

MNL Update: Dennis mentioned leaf pick-up started as of yesterday and goes until December 5th. You can have up to 40 bags of trash + leaves. They should be set out separately so they can be reused as compost. The leaves should be in plastic bags if possible.

At least a portion of the Fletcher Ave / I-65 exit has been moved. Special thanks to Dennis for this!

As we have found some graffiti issues around the neighborhood, Dennis recommended contacting Leah Spencer (see contact info below) when this is found.

COA/Code Compliance/Zoning

As a neighborhood, we need to monitor things happening w/o a certificate of appropriateness (COA), which is required for most work done on the exterior of the home as well as some interior work. Also, we need to watch for health code issues on older / abandoned homes.

Update: Currently there are 2 open IHPC violations and 0 open code/zoning issues.

The following properties have open or proposed requests with the IHPC and/or zoning board:

401 S College: The owner is considering work on his property. His goals are:

1. He wants to rent the building (to no one in particular...he just wants to rent it so it's not empty)
2. He wants to make the building more "rentable" by making it more attractive
3. He believes that adding storefront windows into the garage openings is what the building needs
4. He is proposing aluminum, similar to what is on the KIB building on Fletcher
5. He is proposing a window with small panes of glass so it doesn't cost a fortune to replace a big sheet of glass if it breaks.

After looking at the building, the IHPC believes that a storefront window would work in the garage openings. However, wood would probably be the best fit since the rest of the building has wood windows (with the exception of some metal sliders on the side that appear to be replacements). The storefront could have a number of configurations to it, but something more "period" would be appropriate. As the owner did not seem to be married to any one particular design, The IHPC is hopeful to come up with something that works for everyone.

At the neighborhood meeting, it was discussed that a few property owners didn't get notice, so we will check into that. It was also agreed that aluminum is not appropriate and we will ask for a different material.

Committee Reports

Finance: The neighborhood funds are raised through such events as the Home Tour, FPNA membership dues, and the Plant Sale. The funds are used for neighborhood expenses and improvements like the annual tree planting, the neighborhood Fletcher Place signs (including the wooden sign at Fletcher and Pine) and events such as the picnic. FPNA uses money from city grants to fund these items as well.

Update: Ending balance was \$11,568.16. This includes the \$2,000 grant that must be used for the project to put in planters at the end of Pine Street at College and \$500 allocated for the newly formed merchants association budget.

Newspaper: The Parchment is a bi-monthly paper that comes out six times a year. We are always looking for stories for the Parchment, so please feel free to submit them to Kathy McKimmie (kmckimmie@sbcglobal.net). Ads are \$5/column inch for a one-time ad and \$3/column inch if you run the same ad six times. If you patronize one of the people who advertise in The Parchment, please let them know where you saw their advertisement.

Update: The Nov/Dec is out. Deadlines coming up are: 12/15, 2/16, 4/20, 6/15, 8/17, 10/19, 12/14. Suggestion for the next theme might be spring ideas, such as KIB adopt a block. Robb also suggested reprinting articles from the past that discuss early businesses or residents in the neighborhood. It was mentioned that the paper is also online now, which is giving it more exposure. It was suggested that we research using Google Analytics to track hits on our pages.

Membership: To become an FPNA member, it costs \$5/year for individuals and \$20 for businesses. There is a discounted price for joining after June.

Update: We had no new members since last month.

FP Land Use: This Land Use Committee represents the Fletcher Place Historic District and meets upon request.

Update: Construction is starting this week on the Fletcher Place Terrace project. A family has purchased the rentals on Lexington and is looking at possible options. Craig is looking to purchase the Mail of Indy building. He is considering bringing the Indianapolis Museum of Contemporary Art to the area.

HR/DC Land Use Committee: This Land Use Committee represents the Holy Rosary Danish Church Historic District and anyone is welcome to attend. Meetings occur on the last Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm. The location is rotating, so please contact Joe Giacoletti for the location on a given month.

Update: Jennifer is looking to get the HR/DC conservation district process started again. The next meeting will be Wednesday. We want to get as many people involved as possible.

Marketing/Econ Development: This committee's purpose is to increase the profile of FP in the Indy community. They are looking at a vision and marketing plan. They meet every third Wednesday at the Impact Group (501 Virginia) at 12:00 noon.

Update: Indianapolis Downtown Inc. has provided suggestions for our neighborhood (Terry Sweeney and Emily Mack attended our meeting last month and shared some marketing avenues to consider for our neighborhood). We are looking to see if we can put our available businesses on the SEND website. We are focusing on the Vision Plan, as this is a very important step for us. This is the vision plan drafted by Natalie Harris from Indiana Business College. There are also having ongoing discussions regarding the proposed updated Logo Design. There are some concerns about production costs for proposed signs. We will walk the neighborhood and determine where we want signage, banners, wastebaskets, etc. to get a good idea of how many signs, banners, etc we need.

Infrastructure: This committee will work with the FPNA and city govt to improve sidewalks, lighting, traffic signage, alleys, safety, etc.

Update: We continue to gather the data for the infrastructure assessment. It is happening throughout the entire SEND area and SEND received a SELP grant to do areas not covered by a specific neighborhood organization. We are monitoring the Fletcher interstate exit which is not completed, but has now been mostly mowed. Graffiti that has been found has been covered over. The illegal bench with advertising on it has been removed. Republic will do recycling at your house. It is \$6/month.

Gateways: This committee's purpose is to create gateways to frame the neighborhood, define FP boundaries, serve as a welcoming gateway, and determine internal and external identity.

Update: At the economic development committee meeting we discussed putting up banners advertising the neighborhood and helping promote our businesses.

Social Committee: This committee is tasked with coming up with and implementing ideas that would bring the neighborhood together to have fun events with the goal of promoting one big neighborhood.

Update: The desert social is on Thursday December 4th. It is located at 529 Fletcher Ave and runs from 7 – 9 pm.

Cultural Trail: This committee has the goals of helping bring the leg of the Trail that will be coming through Fletcher Place to life.

Update: No update, other than a reminder of the upcoming monthly meeting. The southeast leg will bid in 2009 with construction starting soon after. The bus shelter / poetry art is moving forward. There will be three total.

Garden Club: The Garden Club committee goals are to build community / connections among neighbors, beautify the neighborhood and education / information sharing in all things green.

Update: No tree planting this fall, but perhaps in the spring. Robb is looking for a new chairperson for this committee who has more passion for it.

Old Business

Mayor's Night Out: Monday, October 27th was the mayor's night out focusing on the Southeast side. It started with a Bus Tour of the area with the mayor's senior staff on board. Jeff represented the neighborhood on the tour. Following the tour, there was a leaders meeting with the mayor for about an hour, and Doug Dilling also attended this for Fletcher Place. Finally, at 6:00, there was an open gathering for anyone in the neighborhood with questions for the mayor. The meeting was held at the Garfield Arts Center.

Jeff mentioned the following topics:

1. Our desires for the HR/DC Historic District to gain Conservation Status (discussing the building next to Villaggio that will be lost for the swimming pool)
2. Our infrastructure assessment (discussing the Villaggio sidewalk, and the condition of Noble and Greer)
3. The McCarty heavy vehicle traffic issue
4. The upcoming project that Craig VonDeylen is doing at Fletcher and College.
5. The tall grass at the Fletcher Ave exit from I-65.

New Business

Nominating Committee: We suggested people for the Nominating Committee, which is tasked with providing names for the new board slate each year. Names proposed for the committee included Georgia Cravey, Joe Giacoletti, Leah Smith, and Jennifer Cole. The committee will check with current board members to see who is interested in returning next year, as well as suggest new names. The names will be presented at the next meeting. Jennifer is willing to lead the committee.

SE Works: Robb mentioned checking out www.southeastworks.ning.com. It is a great way to communicate with folks living on the southeast side. Also, <http://southeastindy.blogspot.com/> is a southeast side blog and you can keep up on all of the events going on, such as Splash which is a monthly get-together at different restaurants each month.

IPS Magnet Fair: The magnet fairs are the best opportunity for folks to learn about all the magnet and option programs K-12 throughout IPS. They are helpful for parents with young children to better understand the full range of educational options in IPS. The shared goal is to help more families realize that it is not only possible but wonderful to raise children in the heart of the city.

The fairs will be the first opportunity for many parents and students to learn about the new Shortridge Magnet High School for Law and Public Policy and the new Broad Ripple Magnet High School for Arts and Humanities. Both launch in Fall 2009.

The application deadline to apply for a magnet program is Friday, Dec. 12.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00.

Always On Tap

- **MEMBERSHIP:** To become a FPNA member, it costs \$5/year for individuals and \$15/for businesses. Discounted price for joining after June. Contact David Edy (see below) or look for a form in an issue of the Parchment or on the website to join.
- **SIGNS:** Anyone can purchase a Fletcher Place sign to hang in their window. It is \$5 for FPNA members and \$10 for non-members. Contact David Edy to purchase one (contact info below).
- **DIRECTORIES:** Neighborhood directories are available from David Edy (contact info below) at the cost of \$1.50. Call for them at 638-6802.
- **MERCHANTS ASSOCIATION:** The Merchants Association meets every third Wednesday at 12:00 at 501 Virginia. Please contact Cynthia Buswell at cbuswell@impactgroup.org for more info.

Miscellaneous

- Heavy trash pick-up day is the 4th Thursday.
- As a neighborhood, we need to police things happening w/o a certificate of appropriateness.
- Please let us know if you are aware of any new members to the neighborhood, so we can give them a warm welcome.

Key Contact Information

<i>Title</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Phone</i>	<i>E-mail</i>
Fletcher Place Board	Robb Biddinger	631-2775	biz-on-fletcher@sbcglobal.net
	Jennifer Cole	372-2450	jmwcole@yahoo.com
	Carl Davis	634-8253	cdavisjr06@sbcglobal.net
	Doug Dilling	965-1001	doug@dougdilling.com
	David Edy	638-6802	davidkeith89@sbcglobal.net
	Bill Lovejoy	491-1985	blvejoy123@yahoo.com
	Tiffany Ellefson	917-0153	tiffanyellefson@yahoo.com
	Jeff Miller	917-0545	Jeff030167@indy.rr.com
	Greg Townsend	423-0581	iiiimpress@aol.com
IHPC Contact	Meg Purnsley	327-4408	mpurnsle@indygov.org
Community Prosecutor	Jan Lesniak	327-6333	jlesniak@indygov.org
Paralegal	Leah Spencer	327-6304	lspencer@indygov.org
Health & Hospital	Ben Miner	221-3081	bminer@hhcorp.org
Mosquito Control		221-7440	
Zoning inspector	Carmen Frye	327-5543	cfrye@indygov.org
Police Contacts	Major Darryl Pierce	327-6500	P7078@indygov.org
	Tony Brown	327-6515	B7086@indygov.org
	Non-injury	327-3811	
City County Councilor	Dane Mahern	506-2707	dmmahern@hotmail.com
Mayor's Neighborhood Liason	Dennis Papenmeier	327-5595	dpapenme@indygov.org
Community Outreach	Nicole Wilttrout	327-6397	nwilttrou@indygov.org
Crime Watch	Shirley Purvitis	327-3781	P1527@indygov.org
	Tony Brown	327-6515	B7086@indygov.org
SEND	Mark Stewart	634-5079	mark@sendcdc.org
Mayor's Action Center		327-4MAC	
Lilly Comm. Relations	Jalana Eash		jceash@lilly.com
Community Dev Law Center	Bruce Kleinschmidt	921-8806	bklein@colap.org