

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

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 9th, 2010 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 615 Virginia Ave (Calvin Fletcher's Coffee).

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 Rhonda Pepper.

Attendees: Doug Dilling, David Edy, Doug and Judy Litsey, Bill Lovejoy, Mike McCormick, Jeff Miller, Larry and Rhonda Pepper, Deb Tate, Greg Townsend, Jennifer Wolfe

Guests: Tonya Beeler (MNL), Jim Mulholland (SEND).

Last meeting's minutes: Minutes were posted online. No changes. Minutes were accepted unanimously.

IMPD Update: No update.

MNL Update: Please make sure to shovel snow your walks and clear snow from your storm drains. It is helpful to wait for snow plows to come first, so that the sidewalk path to the street doesn't get covered again. There are big transit announcements coming from the Mayor's Office. The MPO will be meeting to get public input on transit, bike lanes, light rail transit, etc.

Jim Mulholland: Jim is now on staff with SEND as the Community Building coordinator and the Quality of Life plan administrator. Jim shared some exciting build out plans happening in Bates Henricks and Fountain Square where they are planning a total block transformation. He is also working on an abandoned neighborhood initiative. Lastly, on April 22nd we will hold the first ever "congress" for the southeast side, to try to find items that are of interest to all of the neighborhoods in the area and address their needs. We are all invited to attend.

Census: We were thanked for helping get the word out about census jobs. They are still very short of the people they need. In particular, they are looking for census takers. The only qualification is a test that must be passed. For more information, contact 1-866-861-2010 or you can check out www.2010censusjobs.gov.

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 were no open IHPC violations and no open code/zoning issues to discuss.

401 S College: At the last meeting, the owner of the gas station at this location had asked about an idea for a used car lot and the land use committee hadn't had a chance to meet prior, but the general feeling was that it was inappropriate based on the size of the lot and the zoning. Also, another car lot isn't high on the priority list for the neighborhood. After the association meeting, he attended the economic development meeting to get additional ideas for what could be done at the site. We are appreciative of his willingness to work with the association on a good usage for the property.

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: The cash balance is \$10,434.59, with about \$4,000 of that committed to various projects. If anyone is interested in the detailed breakdown of the finances, it can be emailed to you by contacting Jeff at jeff030167@indy.rr.com.

Cultural Trail: This committee has the goals of helping bring the leg of the Trail that will be coming through Fletcher Place to life. The closer we get the more final the plans get. Changes at this point are relatively minor, so it is pretty fixed. The timetable is the same, letting in April and getting started very soon after. It will take two seasons, and is targeted for being done in 2011. The parking situation has been mostly resolved. Additional parking was added on McCarty, which greatly helped. The interstate bridge is getting a very nice makeover.

Update: The groundbreaking will be in late spring. The association will be making a donation soon to the trail. Trail plans are at the 90% stage. The next meeting will be in March.

Similar to last year we will be including a letter with the membership drive offering to collect donations for the trail. It will once again be a private donation from the member to the Trail, and does not reduce the member's FPNA dues if they donate to the Trail. Last year those donations totaled nearly \$1,200.

The board has also voted to make a \$2,000 donation to the trail.

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 update.

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 Super Bowl Party was a lot of fun and we had 16 people attend to watch the game.

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

Update: Jeff gave an update on the discussions around making College Ave two-way from Virginia to Fletcher. It has support from businesses (and is highlighted in the recent economic development study) but has several concerns from residents. There was an informational article in the Parchment to make sure everyone is aware of what is being proposed and can provide input. The next step will be a public meeting where everyone interested in discussing it can attend. If you have interest in discussing College and whether to make it two-way, please contact Jeff at jeff030167@indy.rr.com.

Jeff announced that Keith Holdsworth will be the new FP Land Use Committee chairman in 2010. Keith will do a great job with all of his knowledge of zoning and how the city works. Also, Rhonda suggested merging the garden club into the FP Land Use committee.

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 second Wednesday of the month at 6:00 pm. The location is rotating, so please contact Joe Giacoletti at giacoletti@mibor.net for the location.

Update: No update.

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: At the last Econ Dev meeting the Unsung Indy program was discussed. We'll see whether the program is funded for next year and if Fletcher Place is able to be included. In particular, the focus would be on the Virginia Ave business corridor and bringing attention to it. Also, the economic development plan is still being completed, but can be viewed on the website under News.

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 next Parchment is March/April. It has a deadline is the February 14th for articles. Kathy will be stepping down as editor of the Parchment when two years for her rolls around, which is after the March/April issue. Thus, we are looking for a new volunteer as our editor. Kathy is hopeful to find one by Feb, which would allow her to work on the March/April issue together with the new editor, to see how it is done. Thanks, Kathy, for two great years with the Parchment!

If we don't find an editor from within the neighborhood, it was suggested that we could think outside the box and look to someone else to edit from outside the neighborhood, such as SEND which edits for the Southeast Square News or perhaps someone else.

For our Urban Times article, we are using an abridged article from the Parchment on the Buchanan tree planting. It was an excellent story of residents making a big difference in the neighborhood.

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: This month is the annual membership drive. We spent the meeting stuffing envelopes and attaching stamps and address labels. Thanks Keith for kicking off another great membership drive!

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

Update: Jeff worked with the city to get a "Not a thoroughfare" sign at Fletcher and Pine. This will hopefully reduce the traffic that comes off the interstate and attempts to use Pine to navigate through the neighborhood.

Jeff is also working with community courts to have the Fletcher interstate exit area mowed this year. It got really bad last year, as INDOT only mows a few times a year.

Old Business

Dog Park: Doug Dilling is leading a committee to research the potential for a neighborhood Dog Park and is checking into locations. Once the committee decides on a recommendation to the association, it will be presented at an association meeting for discussion. If you are interested in discussing this topic at a committee meeting, please contact Doug at doug@dougdilling.com. There were concerns raised about this increasing traffic and parking at the bark park as well as the concern that dogs might wear it down, so these are items that the committee is looking into.

Update: There was a meeting on January 30th for anyone interested in discussing the idea of a dog park.

The group discussed three specific location possibilities for the present time:

1. Lacy Park
2. Buchanan Lot
3. Farm Bureau lot north of Lord Street

The triangle lot by McCarty and Virginia was thought to be too small. It was discussed whether to explore the neighborhood specifically to see if there are other options that have not been thought of. They also discussed the possibility of the vacant lot bounded by Virginia, South and New Jersey streets across from Anthem. It was also discussed that there could be locations near the neighborhood but not necessarily in the neighborhood.

The group discussed opening up the location search to the greater downtown area and involving other associations and groups. That option could be reserved as a fall-back position if they are unable to get something done here in FP, as they would prefer to have something within the FP boundaries.

New Business

IMOCA building: A question came up about the IMOCA location plans. The temporary location of the IMOCA building has opened in the Murphy building in Fountain Square. Plans are still to have it located at the old Mail of Indy site on Virginia Ave once that project starts up.

Parking for ItalianFest: We discussed an idea we've had in the past which is to manage a parking area during the ItalianFest as a fund raiser for the association. One idea is the BMV lot, if we work out a plan that is profitable for us. Another option is to use the Buchanan street green space, but that seems like it isn't an option any longer. We wouldn't want to affect the beautiful tree planting that was done in the fall.

Meeting adjourned at 8:05.

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	Glenn Blackwood	636-0419	glennblackwood@gmail.com
Secretary	Doug Dilling	965-1001	doug@dougdilling.com
	David Edy	638-6802	davidkeith89@sbcglobal.net
	Bill Lovejoy	491-1985	lovejoy123@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Mike McCormick	263-0192	mike@cpamccormick.com
President	Jeff Miller	917-0545	Jeff030167@indy.rr.com
	Rhonda Peffer	632-3728	rlpeffer@sbcglobal.net
Vice President	Greg Townsend	423-0581	iiiimpress@aol.com
	Jennifer Wolfe		wolfe_jennifer@lilly.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	cfrye1@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 Liaison	Tonya Beeler	327-5564	tbeeler@indy.gov
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