

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

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 8th, 2009 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: Paul Buckley, Georgia Cravey, Julie Devine, David Edy, Keith Holdsworth, Doug Litsey, Bill Lovejoy, Mike McCormick, Jeff Miller, Larry and Rhonda Pepper, Ron and Sylvia Reichel, Gerold Schmid, Peggy Spohr, Greg Townsend, Priscilla Tucker.

Guests: None.

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

IMPD Update: None.

MNL Update: None.

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.

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 \$11,164.84 with about \$2,000 of that committed to various projects.

We discussed doing snow plowing again, as we did last year. We also discussed needing an article in the Parchment to remind folks to move cars if they can so that the plowing can occur. We only plow when it is 6" or more, due to the large cost of plowing (it was \$600 last year). Jeff mentioned he can't reach the vendor from last year and the new one that approached us gave an estimate of over \$1,000 and he asked what we should counter offer. It was suggested that a good price would be \$700-\$800. It was also recommended that we find someone that doesn't have a wide plow, as this prevented plowing on streets like Noble, due to the fact that residents were parking on both sides of the street.

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: The latest meeting was Wednesday, December 2nd at 6:00 at the Fountain Square Theatre building. The closer we get the more final the plans get, and they are almost at the 90% finished phase. 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 partially resolved. Additional parking was added on McCarty, which greatly helped. The interstate bridge is getting a very nice makeover. There will likely be one last meeting before the contract is awarded, probably in January or February.

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. We are also working with KIB to do a significant daffodil planting at the top of the Fletcher Street exit from I65/70 the last weekend of October.

Update: It was reported that Christmas trees will be added to the planters on Pine and Elm.

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 Progressive Dinner is on December 12th and there will be three stops. The dinner begins at the Peffer home, continues to the Edy/Holdworth home, and then ends at Calvin Fletcher Coffee. There will be two appetizer stops and two dessert stop stops (the middle stop is a combination of the two). We have 18 people so far, so it looks to be a fun night.

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

Update: We discussed the recent request regarding making College Ave two-way from Virginia to Fletcher. It has strong support from businesses (and is highlighted in the recent economic development study) but has concerns from residents. The fear is that traffic will use Pine to go south from the Fletcher interstate exit and then onto Lexington or Elm and then left onto College (to dodge the Fletcher/College light). We want to avoid this becoming a polarizing issue so we will continue to talk to residents about it and see where things fall. No action will be taken unless a decision can be reached that addresses the majority of the residential issues. It has been suggested that we put a "residential thoroughfare only" sign at Fletcher and Pine. Another idea was making Pine go one way north and was received well by some residents, but not by the Union Laundry Lofts board. We are working with Nathan Sheets from DPW on studies of the area to explore different options. If you have interest in discussing College and making it two-way, please contact Jeff at jeff030167@indy.rr.com.

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: Over Thanksgiving, a letter was delivered to the HR/DC historic district from an entity identifying itself as “The Gadfly” and it focused on the conservation district efforts in the district. It contained a lot of misinformation and the board and the HR/DC land use committee worked on a response to the letter which will be delivered soon.

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. 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: Deadline is the 14th for articles. As mention last month, 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 early 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!

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: No update.

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

Update: We have seen an uptick in graffiti along College Ave and need to keep an eye out on it. Also the sign at Lexington and College has graffiti on it. It was reported that the sidewalk was replaced on Harrison from College East to the dead end. This year only the north side is being replaced, but hopefully the south side will be replaced at some point in the future. This has been a great year for Fletcher Place, with East Street getting redone as well as the Harrison Sidewalk and portions of College in front of the new Fletcher Place Terrace project.

Old Business

Community Garden: Robb gave an update on the garden, which will get moving in 2010. We are going to stress to the owner that we need all references to the association removed from the release form, as it is not an association project, but does have the support of the association.

Dog Park: Doug Dilling is leading the effort for a neighborhood Dog Park and is checking into locations. The buffer by the interstate near Buchanan is the most logical spot. The area needs to be large or the dogs will wear it down. If you are interested in a dog park in the neighborhood, please contact Doug at doug@dougdilling.com. There were concerns raised about this increasing traffic and parking along the south end of the neighborhood, but hopefully these can be mitigated.

Update: No update.

Nominating Committee: Each November a nominating committee is chosen to help find new members for

the next year's board slate. The nominating committee presents their suggested slate at the December meeting. Nominations can also be taken from the floor at that meeting. The committee is composed of Georgia Cravey, Glen Blackwood, Gerold Schmid, and Larry Pepper. Georgia will head up the committee. The slate is then voted upon at the annual meeting in January.

Update: Board member Jennifer Cole is moving next year and thus is stepping down. Board member Robb Biddinger is taking over as the Fountain Square Merchants Association president and thus is stepping down as well. The nominating committee therefore submitted the remaining seven board members and added Glenn Blackwood (555 Lord Street) and Mike McCormick (729 Noble) as the slate of nine board members. Officers were presented with Jeff as President, Greg as Vice President, Doug as Secretary and Mike as Treasurer. David is stepping down as treasurer this year, having done it for many years. Huge thanks to David for his service to the association!

New Business

Health Code Issues: It was reported that there is trash at the Fletcher Pointe building. It was also reported that there may be dumping behind the homes on Park. Jeff will follow-up on both items.

Break-ins: It was mentioned that we have had some garage break-ins recently. Jeff said that he would publish info on the Google Crime Watch group. For Fletcher Place, this group is managed by Robb Biddinger. If you have a crime issue you can email the crime watch site and it will be sent out immediately to members of the group. This is a passive way to have a crime watch. If you are interested in joining the group, please send your email address to Robb at biz-on-fletcher@sbcglobal.net.

Hoosier History Live: "Hoosier History Live!" is broadcast weekly on WICR-FM (88.7), which is a classical and jazz station, essentially the No. 2 public radio station here in the metro area, based at the University of Indianapolis. It covers all aspects of Indiana history, from sports, art and music to true crime and rotating series about ethnic immigration and the histories of towns and neighborhoods. On December 19th at 11:30 am, Jeff Miller and Mary Jo Showley will be on the show which will be devoted to Fletcher Place History.

First Friday booth: On Friday, December 4th, Doug Dilling and Jeff Miller took part in an Urban Times Neighborhood event that allowed neighborhoods to set up a booth with information. It was a fun event and Fletcher Place was well represented.

Buchanan Street Tree Planting: Priscilla Tucker mentioned that adding more trees during tree plantings along the Buchanan greenspace would be a huge benefit for the neighborhood. She mentioned a great sale price on trees and a willingness to lead a second tree planting (an earlier one was done in October), adding at least three more trees. Priscilla is willing to get the trees and asked the board for approval to purchase them. A vote was taken to support the purchase and support this worthy cause.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30.

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 |
| Secretary | Doug Dilling | 965-1001 | doug@dougdilling.com |
| Treasurer | David Edy | 638-6802 | davidkeith89@sbcglobal.net |
| | Bill Lovejoy | 491-1985 | blovejoy123@yahoo.com |
| President | Jeff Miller | 917-0545 | Jeff030167@indy.rr.com |
| | Rhonda Pepper | 632-3728 | rlpeffer@sbcglobal.net |
| Vice President | Greg Townsend | 423-0581 | iiiimpres@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 | 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 |