

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

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, December 14th, 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 Mike McCormick.

Attendees: Georgia Cravey, Julie Devine, Doug Dilling, David Edy, Keith Holdsworth, Doug Litsey, Mike McCormick, Jeff Miller, Larry and Rhonda Pepper, Julia Phoebus, Greg Townsend.

Guests: Tonya Beeler (MNL), Mary Kate Dugan (Sustainable Library Citizens Coalition), Matthew McCardle (IPL).

Last meeting's minutes: Minutes were posted online. They were accepted unanimously.

IMPD Update: No officer.

MNL Update: There is a new Cold Line that has info on where plowing is occurring on snow days. It will also take info on emergency spots that need plowing. The number is 327-8000.

Georgia asked about a No Parking sign at the alley at Lord Street behind the new Consul. Tonya mentioned it is becoming consulate parking, but Georgia was worried about semis making that corner turn. Also, we are recommending a stop sign at the intersection at Lord and Cincinnati.

Jeff asked Tonya for any details on the new law starting January 1st regarding electronics. Tonya let us know about the fact that electronics can no longer be thrown out with the trash and need to be taken to an appropriate location for handling. Jeff will send out an email with more info on it.

Library Citizens Coalition: The Sustainable Library Citizens Coalition is a grassroots organization working to find long term public funding for our Marion County Library System. They believe the hours, jobs, and materials must be restored for our community to thrive. Mary Kate Dugan came to share with our association about what their organization is and how people can get involved. She mentioned an upcoming read-in event at the city council and state legislature. If you are interested in getting involved, you can sign up for free membership at www.myindylibrary.org or contact them at indylibraryCitizensCoalition@gmail.com or 395-4430.

IPL: Matthew McCardle from IPL came to discuss street light issues, and in particular a campaign to identify street lights that are not performing properly. Examples include lights that no longer light, are always on, or flicker on and off. Every pole in the city has a facility number and it is composed of three numbers, three more, and a letter. If you discover a light is out, you can call 261-8111 and give them the IPL pole ID. You can also visit IPLpower.com and click on "Power Outages". With everyone's help, IPL will be able to keep the street lights shining brightly in our neighborhoods.

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: No update.

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 \$8529.23. There are also restricted funds designated for several items, including the Economic Development Committee, Pine Street landscaping, and the FletcherWoods project. If anyone is interested in the detailed breakdown of the finances, it can be emailed to you by contacting Mike at mike@cpamccormick.com.

Mike pointed out that the decision was Fletcher Place would make a matching donation to the FletcherWoods project as voted upon earlier in the year even though the late donation of \$1500 to the project would have made the Fletcher Place match unnecessary. The feeling was that this new donation should go 100% to the FletcherWoods project and so the association match was still made.

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 construction timetable goals are:

- From Washington St. south to East St. - Construction complete early Sept. 2011; landscaping by mid-Nov. 2011.
- From East St. south to FS - Construction complete by end of December, 2011; landscaping will be completed after Super Bowl is done (Feb. 2012).

Update: On December 8, Hunt Paving Company emerged as the lowest, most qualified bidder for the Southeast Corridor construction through the Indiana Department of Transportation's procurement process. Construction on this segment, connecting Washington St. to Fountain Square on Virginia Ave., may begin in approximately two months or by March 2011. The contractor must complete this construction by Dec. 31, 2011. Meetings will be scheduled with the contractor and adjacent neighborhoods prior to starting construction. Next public meeting will likely be in early or mid February.

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 Annual Fletcher Place Holiday Party will be held on December 18th at 6pm. Resident Doug Dilling has offered to host the event at his home. Typically the event brings 20 of our local residents. As we have new residents moving into the neighborhood, they may not be in the email distribution list yet. Please inform any new or existing neighbors of the event and ask them to attend. This is a casual but yet fun way to get to know everyone.

This year we are making a slight modification. The event will be hosted just at one home and we will be doing a White Elephant gift exchange. Be creative and look for something around your house or if you need to make a purchase, keep it simple and small.

You are not required to bring a dish but we are looking for residents to provide desserts or appetizers. Email Julie Devine with the food item you would like to bring. If you would like to attend be sure to RSVP Julie.

Email: Devine_Julie@lilly.com

Phone: 452-3346

Party Location: Doug Dilling at 839 Noble Street.

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

Update: No update.

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.

Craig Von Deylen came to share at the October meeting the project he's been planning for awhile is now ready to get underway. The project is the old Mail of Indy building at the south end of Virginia. Craig presented on the project several months ago and the association voted to support it at that time. Craig is now proposing a change to it. In particular, the building is going down one story. Because height was the only lingering concern that some association members had with the original plans, this will likely be very well received by everyone.

The plans are to break ground for the residential portion late spring of next year and the business portion would start six months to a year later. There is a letter of intent from the IMOCA to occupy the building. We voted to write a letter of support for the revised plans. However, the new formed Holy Rosary Neighborhood Association did not receive notice of the hearing, as they were not registered with the city at the time, but Craig decided to continue the case to allow the president, Tony Simeone, to review the plans.

Update: The project received zoning approval and is awaiting Regional Center approval now.

A recent IBJ article mentioned that the IMOCA will remain in its current location at the Murphy Building. It has gotten so much traffic there that the curator would like to leave it there. This leaves the Fletcher Arts project with apartments and the plan to attract an arts-based company in a future phase. We discussed looking one last time at the project next month and asking Craig for more details on how he sees it coming together.

Articles can be found at:

<http://www.ibj.com/property-lines/2010/12/03/groundbreaking-nears-for-75m-fletcher-arts-project/PARAMS/post/23806>

<http://www.ibj.com/imoca-settles-in-at-murphy-arts-calls-off-planned-move/PARAMS/article/23842>

<http://www.ibj.com/75m-fletcher-arts-project-gets-back-on-track/PARAMS/article/23937>

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: Cynthia sent an email out to the merchants sharing that the committee has been meeting for a couple of years now (started in late 2008). We've had a monthly meeting every month since the committee's inception, recently with an average of 2-3 people attending each meeting (numbers were larger when it began).

Through the committee and only with the persistence from Harrison College (formerly Indiana Business College) a Vision and Action Plan for Fletcher Place neighborhood was created to guide development and redevelopment for the neighborhood. In addition, the association paid DCI (and with the financial assistance from SEND) to write a Redevelopment Work Plan for Virginia Ave. that focuses on the redevelopment and reinvestment opportunities along Virginia Ave in Fletcher Place. Both plans outline tactical actions that our neighborhood can take to improve the visibility of our neighborhood to the rest of the city and its visitors. Copies of both can be found on the Fletcher Place website:

Redevelopment Plan: <http://www.fletcherplace.org/Files/Virgina%20Avenue%20Redevelopment%20Work%20Plan.pdf>

Vision Plan: http://www.fletcherplace.org/Files/Fletcher_Place_Vision_Plan.pdf

While we have had many discussions about a variety of ways to bring interest to our neighborhood businesses, we have not successfully implemented any marketing actions or initiatives to date. Some possible reasons may be due to the small number of participating business owners in the committee, and then for those who do participate - to have extra time to commit to these projects beyond their own business responsibilities. Cynthia admits she doesn't have the energy right now either to initiate projects beyond her own business obligations.

So, Cynthia is proposing that the Economic Development Committee cease to meet every month, and perhaps re-group when construction begins on the Cultural Trail. Also, she asks that if there is someone else who would like to head up this committee, don't hesitate to volunteer! She will be happy to pass on the email contact lists, and any information from past meetings that might be helpful in re-grouping those individuals and businesses that have shown interest in this particular committee and its initiatives.

While we are waiting for the group to start meeting again, we want to thank Cynthia for all that she has done over the last three years to prepare the Fletcher Place Business District to enter a new era!

Newspaper: The Parchment is a bi-monthly paper that comes out six times a year. We are always looking for stories for the Parchment. 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.

We do need to search for a new editor. If anyone is interested, we would love to have the Parchment back up and running again. It is our preferred means of communication with the association. Please contact David Edy (davidkeith89@sbcglobal.net) if you are interested.

If we can't get the Parchment going again, we should start discussing the Urban Times as an option for being our official means of communication with the association. This has responsibilities as well, such as home delivery like the Parchment, but we don't need a formal editor (we just need to send a monthly submission) and we don't need to do the graphic arts layout work. However, we are hopeful we can find a Parchment editor.

Update: No update.

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: Membership drive is in February.

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

Update: No update.

Old Business

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, Gerold Schmid, Linda Perdue, Doug Litsey and Larry Pepper. Georgia will head up the committee. The slate is voted upon at the annual meeting in January.

Update: Board member Doug Dilling is stepping down after six years. Thanks Doug for all you have done over the years! You have made quite an impact during your time on the board.

The nominating committee therefore submitted the remaining eight board members and added Ron Reichel (435 Virginia Ave) as the slate of nine board members. They submitted the following officer's slate:

Greg Townsend--President
Rhonda Pepper--Vice President
Mike McCormick--Treasurer
Jennifer Wolfe--Secretary

The committee also expressed strong feelings about establishing term limits for board members & officers. Jeff recommended that the nominating committee become a bylaws committee and perform a full review of the bylaws. They would then make recommendations on proposed updates/alterations. Also, the committee recommended that it might be a good idea to start thinking about and developing board candidates & officers earlier in the year.

After the slate was presented, Jeff recommended nominating Brian Stewart from the floor. However, there was mention of the fact that he hasn't had the ability to be able to regularly attend meetings this year and perhaps could use next year to be more involved. Jeff agreed to remove his nomination but Keith again nominated him. We do need to check and be sure that floor nominations are allowed in December versus in January.

New Business

FletcherWoods Donation: We discussed that Calvin Fletcher Coffee made FletcherWoods the charity to receive tips for the month of November and collected nearly \$1000 (which Doug will round off to \$1000). Doug would like to have that added to the existing FletcherWoods restricted fund, bringing that total to \$2500. Jeff also mentioned that Louise Alexander is interested in being the contact person for finances on the project, and will be working closely with Priscilla on future stages of the project. Louise will approach the board for approval in advance of spending funds, similar to how Priscilla managed the first portion of the project. Similar to other projects in the neighborhood, no one from the project team has the ability to represent Fletcher Place or the funds.

Meeting adjourned at 8:10pm.

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>
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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	blovejoy123@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	iiiimpres@aol.com
	Jennifer Wolfe		wolfe_jennifer@lilly.com
IHPC Contact	Meg Purnsley	327-4408	Meg.purnsley@indy.gov
Community Prosecutor	Jan Lesniak	327-6333	jlesniak@indy.gov
Paralegal	Leah Spencer	327-6304	lspencer@indy.gov
Health & Hospital	Ben Miner	221-3081	bminer@hhcorp.org
Mosquito Control		221-7440	
Zoning inspector	Carmen Frye	327-5543	cfrye1@indy.gov
Police Contacts	Tony Brown	327-6515	B7086@indy.gov
	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@indy.gov
Crime Watch	Shirley Purvitis	327-3781	P1527@indy.gov
	Tony Brown	327-6515	B7086@indy.gov
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