

COLLEGE COMMONS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Meeting: Annual Meeting
Date: March 29, 2007

Location: First Baptist Church
Time: 7:00 PM

Call to Order: Given by Mr. Oaks, President, at 7:02 PM.

In lieu of the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Oaks asked that a moment of silent prayer be said in each person's own faith. He asked we remember the leaders of all nations, national, international, and local, and pray they all make wise decisions and also keep our armed forces in our prayers.

Attendance: Thirty-two neighbors and special guests attended.

Minutes: An abbreviated version was read by Ms. Rust and approved.

Treasurer's Report: Given by Mr. Danz and filed subject to audit

Expenses:	\$1,795.81
Income	1,495.00
Balance as of 3/28/07	\$4,161.18

Snow removal for 2007 was \$1500.00 for 5 separate plowings, which Mr. Danz reported is a real bargain for plowing. As of 3/28/07, 83 out of 322 residents have turned in their dues. Mr. Oaks jokingly asked the snow-maker to make more so everyone would pay their dues. We need to work hard to encourage more people to pay for services received.

Committee Reports:

Land Use: Mr. Cox reported Kroger had closed at 96th & Meridian. There has been no proposal as yet for the space. The lot in the 9300 block of Park Ave. has been bought and the swale relocated to the north side of the lot. It is a low lot and too wet to grade and fill. A fence is being installed in the 9500 block of Broadway. Ms. Horrigan said that the Landmark Condos, etc. west of McDonalds and south of 96th Street is being built by Ryan Homes.

Health & Hospital: Ms. Risk explained that if grass is not mowed, sticks and debris are not cleaned up, cars without licenses are parked, and etc. the person responsible will receive a visit from Health & Hospital. She introduced Mr. Gary Williams who is serving as her partner. They go to meetings with officials, meet with NCC, etc. They meet the last Friday every month.

Crime Watch: Nothing new to report in our neighborhood, but in the 8900 block of Washington Blvd, West Drive, someone broke in the front door of a house and stole jewelry and other valuables in the morning hours. Mr. Oaks reminded everyone to keep doors and windows closed/locked.

Special Recognitions:

Ms. Risk thanked Sandy Marsella, Vice President, for her contributions to the CCNA, specifically the hard work she did on the By-laws and aiding the President. A thank you letter and gift certificate was given to her on behalf of the Association. She thanked Tom Stephans for his many contributions over the years, including Block Captain, Safety Committee, and Crime Watch Chairman. He received a thank you letter and gift certificate. She thanked Nancy Rust for her years as Secretary. She also received a gift certificate. Mr. Oaks presented a plaque thanking Ms. Rust for being an “uncommonly” good secretary and a mini typewriter to remind her of her duties. All three are resigning their posts.

Election of Officers:

Ms. Newman introduced the members of the Nominating Committee, Ms. Atkinson and Ms. Danz. She then presented the slate of officers as follows:

Matt Winston – President
John Vernon Oaks – Vice President
Lara Neal – Secretary
Crime Watch Committee – Gary Williams
Treasurer – Tim Danz
Health & Hospital – Karen Risk
Land Use – Maynard Cox
Newsletter Editor – Heidi Newman
Newsletter Publisher – Karen Kennedy
Nominating Committee – Heidi Newman

It was moved and seconded to elect the officers and Committee Chairs by a complete majority.

Guest Speaker

Mr. Oaks introduced Ryan Vaughn, our new Representative City Councilman for District 3, and asked if he would speak since the scheduled speaker was not in attendance. Mr. Vaughn gave his background in the law field and that he’s lived at 82nd & College for 6 years. He replaced Mr. Bradford who stepped down with 1 year remaining in his term. Mr. Vaughn explained some of the inner workings of the City Council and how things like road paving and pothole fixing are decided. Public Works is in charge of sidewalks, signs, etc. They present their needs to a committee, which evaluates the needs and presents it to the Council who votes on it for funding. Budgets are never large enough. He felt the biggest concern is Public Safety. The city is allotted 1640 Officers and currently is 45 short. He said the police force needs to be upgraded and community policing is also very important. The community no longer knows who responds to problems and officers no longer are patrolling neighborhoods. Officers are overwhelmed with the prosecution process and the associated paperwork required. He congratulated our area as being someplace everyone wants to be due to lower crime rates, sidewalks, sewers, etc. He indicated less than 3% of the projects we’ll call him about will be funded. His goal is to restore a sense of priority with what the community needs versus

what the news media puts out there. He gave his work, cellular, and email information as follows: Work – 639-5444; Cell – 340-8627; Email – vaughnforcouncil@gmail.com. Responding to audience questions he explained local street repairs are less an issue than thoroughfares and need to be justified before money is budgeted. He indicated writing to the Mayor and calling the Mayor’s Action Center are good processes, however he can deal better with those in charge than we can. The best way to reprioritize is every way. He’ll go to bat for us, we should write letters, and call people. The Council has a plan 15 years deep that addresses projects. Public Works and City Council priorities must be the same to get on the agenda. The business community is aggressive for economic development and currently it is heavily motivated to grow downtown versus focus on communities. Crime currently dominates the media, but infrastructure will come to their attention eventually. The Washington Township Fire Department has already merged. Warren Township is getting attention now. Firehouses will not be lost and firemen should receive raises. The Department of Metropolitan Development may have a listing of all the Neighborhood Associations in the city. Perhaps an effort to have the Associations lobby the Mayor would help.

Mr. Oaks thanked Mr. Vaughn and said it was encouraging to have him represent us.

Adjournment: Declared by Mr. Oaks at 7:55 PM.

After the meeting, Ms. Diana Vanarsdall from the Marion County Sheriff’s Department approached the Secretary, giving out her card and information about who to contact about the merger as follows: Metro North: Commander: Major John Conley (327-6100). Crime Watch Specialist: Catherine Moore (327-6168). Neighborhood Resource Officer: Sgt George Burge (327-6100 or 327-6167 [private number]). She suggested the Command Staff come to our meeting along with the Sheriff’s Office Representative, Deputy Diana Vanarsdall (327-4934; email shv3128@indygov.org). Ms. Vanarsdall also talked at length with incoming president Matt Winston.