

Minutes of the APCA Meeting of October 5th 2011

The meeting was held at the Schindlecker residence at 25 Green Lane and came to order at 7P.M. There were 15 residents present.

We began with the following **Old Business**:

- **Grace Church of Christ:** Members of some of the congregations are failing to comply with newly posted signs restricting parking to two handicapped spaces directly in front of the church. We will call police and ask them to ticket cars as needed. Capt. Strempek from the Quality of Life Division of the Police Dept. will contact Rev. Gamelli about setting up a meeting with Rev. Sierra to address the noise issue. Brian Sheehy will notify members when the meeting is scheduled.
- **Crime:** Sgt. Julio Toledo of the Spfld. Police Dept. reported that the individual believed responsible for a rash of recent break-ins has been apprehended.
- **End of Summer Party:** The party was enjoyed by all who attended, including several local political figures. We discussed ways to increase attendance next year by including activities that will draw in more people (especially families with children) via the inclusion of a fire truck, bounce house, etc. as well as moving some events closer to the Atwater Rd. side of the Friderici property and posting a sign there as well. A date change was also considered and will be decided upon at a Calendar Subcommittee Meeting in January.
- **Planting at the Pillars:** Thanks to Dave Bloniarz for soliciting the help of Melissa Ebbeling and her Sabis students who helped make the planting operation a successful one. We agree that Stan Zamachaj also did an excellent job preparing the beds. Brian Sheehy will contact Stan to get specific information on the cost of applying mulch as well as watering and will urge him to start in on this ASAP.
The lower gates may each need another bush in order to fill out the space but we'll monitor the current landscaping until next year and then decide if this is necessary.
Greg DeVillier will call Parks Dept. Head, Pat Sullivan to set up a meeting to discuss running electric lines to both sets of gates in order to support landscape lighting. He will also ask if the city will be raking the green spaces around the Glenwood pillars.
- **Movie Nights:** Kelli Moriarty and Dave Finn were pleased to announce that the Movie Night series which they sponsored at their home in August, provided funds for Tornado relief. Next Summer they are planning to increase the length of the series and run it throughout the months of both July and August.

At this point, we moved on to a discussion of the following **New Business**:

- **BHS Announcement:** Steve Bradley, Director of Community Relations at Baystate called our Association and agreed to investigate and remedy all construction related concerns which Melinda Phelps had brought to his attention after our September meeting. He also indicated that barring a major financial catastrophe, the hospital is making a commitment to supporting the APCA with a gift of \$10,000 a year for the next five years. He hoped that these funds would allow us to deal with recurring costs and would also assist in long range planning. The APCA is grateful to the hospital for this strong level of support.

Mr. Bradley also indicated that he would set up a meeting between members of our Association and Baystate's realtor. Our goal will be to arrange for the inclusion of Atwater in tours of properties for newly hired, executive level employees who are relocating to our area.

Also, Brian Sheehy will contact local realtors to express our desire that houses marketed in our neighborhood be described as part of "Atwater" rather than "Liberty Heights".

We will also communicate this message to our members via the website in order to make them aware of the importance of this issue in marketing their own homes.

- **Halloween:** Pumpkin Carving will be held on Sunday, Oct. 23rd at 3:30 P.M. at the Glenwood Pillars. Pumpkins will be purchased by the APCA. Linda Levinger will conduct a tour of Springfield Cemetery on Saturday, Oct. 22nd from 1-3P.M.

- **Flier:** Kelli Moriarty will draft a flier which will provide information on the following:
 1. The Cemetery Tour with an RSVP phone call to Kelli.
 2. APCA Trick or Treat Night protocols. (Dave Bloniarz will set up police presence from 5-8 P.M.)
 3. APCA Annual Food Drive: (Drop Off dates Fri. 11/ 11 & Sat. 11/12 at 25 Green Lane, 63 Atwater Terrace and 88 Cunningham Street)
Final drop off at the pillars, Sun. 11/13 from 9A.M. to noon)

- **Membership Drive:** Fifty five Households have responded thus far amounting to \$1887 in dues paid.

In relation to response patterns that are beginning to become evident, we discussed ways in which residents on the far side of Springfield St. could be encouraged to participate in the APCA. We agree that future projects enhancing the Caseland/Cunningham green space might contribute greatly to their sense of inclusion within the Atwater district. Primary among these would be the restoration of the fountain as well as signage and the inclusion of a second Christmas tree during the holiday season. Brian Sheehy and Greg DeVillier will be sure to include an examination of the fountain in any on-site meeting that is arranged with Pat Sullivan of the Parks Dept.

- **Summer Concerts:** David Neill has proposed a 2012 Summer Concert Series. Performances would occur on the same weekday evening (to be determined) for four weeks in a row and would run from mid-June to mid- July. Trudy Fernandez and Donald Farley have offered their respective properties as concert sites. While grateful to both of them for their hospitality, we feel that the Fernandez property would be a safer venue in terms of traffic.

- **General Meeting:** Brian Sheehy will contact Steve Bradley about the feasibility of holding a general meeting at Baystate's new Atwater Café when it opens in December.

- **Other Items:** Paula Schindlecker indicated that there are two Chinese exchange students from the Renaissance school who are currently in need of assistance. One is a freshman who is looking for a family with whom to reside during her stay here in Springfield. The other is a senior looking for an internship in Design. Anyone interested should contact Paula.

