

ODWNA Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday September 21, 2011

Place: Winchell Elementary Library

Board Members-

Present: Barb McCrea, Co-President; Larry Ross, Co-President; Peter Kushner, Secretary; Diana Morton-Thompson, Treasurer; Cynthia Addison, Chris Shook, Deb Klug.

Absent: Tom Keyser, Pat Klein



- I. **Call to Order:** Barb McCrea, Co-President 7:03pm
- II. **Secretary's Report**
 - Postcard mailing; almost 1,700 neighborhood residences reached. This resulted in almost 40 people signing up for the ODWNA eNews and a number of new members. Now just under 400 people receiving the eNews.
- III. **Treasurer's Report**
 - Postcard mailing cost was \$661. Association account balance stands at \$1,153.
- IV. **Guest Speaker:** Ann Rohrbaugh, KPL Director, "What's New at the Kalamazoo Public Library?"
 - Ann's presentation covered three topics: KPL strategic planning, KPL goals and current events at KPL. She passed out numerous handouts and brochures to highlight her talking points. Highlights of her presentation included: The 8 strategic goals of KPL as well as the strategies employed to achieve them. The main categories of KPL goals: Create young readers, Stimulate imagination, Connect to the online world, and Build successful enterprises.
 - KPL usage: 1.2 -1.3 million circulation/year; over 1 million visitors/year
 - KPL funding: 97% from local property taxes, 3.4% drop in last few years, personal property taxes (businesses) account for 10% of KPL budget, KPL receives no direct federal funding, KPL staff has decreased 10% in last few years via retirement and attrition.
 - After her presentation, Ann took questions regarding eBooks (where will they take libraries?) and the internet (is it a resource taking the place of the library?)
- V. **Presentation:** Mike Hughes, Winchell Elementary Principal, "Is there a Track in the Winchell School's Future?"
 - The KPS Wellness Initiative, according to Mike, encompasses two parts: 1) Putting healthier school breakfasts in front of students, and 2) Getting kids more exercise.
 - In response to the more exercise goal, the school is looking into the feasibility of constructing an approximately 1/3 mile asphalt track around the school grounds. Although no formal school committee has been formed yet, it has been estimated that the cost would be between \$30-50K. The track would not be lighted and, like the rest of the school grounds, it is anticipated that the track would be available for public use when school is not in session.
 - Mike stated that the purpose of his presentation this evening was to inform the neighborhood and gather our feedback.
- VI. **Old Business**
 - **Traffic Concerns:** Peter Kushner reported that on behalf of the ODWNA Board, he presented a case for installing permanent all-way stop signs at Winchell/Rambling and Broadway/Lorraine to the Traffic Board in August. The City had placed temporary all-way stops in those places during Parkview construction over the spring and summer. The City agreed to conduct a traffic study to determine if those stops were warranted. The results were received August 17 and it was determined, based on the study, that neither intersection met the Michigan Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MMUTCD) criteria. There are four warrants that are used to determine the placement of stop signs and neither intersection met any of them.
- VII. **New Business:** None
- VIII. **Public Comments:** No Parking Signs: It was reported by a neighbor that the City was prompt in placing "no parking to curb" signage at the intersection of Winchell/Aberdeen in response to keeping the intersection sightlines clear, as parents dropping off/picking up their children at the school park too close to the intersection. It was also pointed out that enforcement of the no parking area was virtually nonexistent.
- IX. **Adjournment:** 8:30pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Peter Kushner, ODWNA Secretary