



Karen Breen-Bondie, President

Carol Frederick, Vice President

Anne Williamson, Second Vice President

Darcey McLaughlin, Secretary

Phil Kauffmann, Treasurer

Minutes

Thursday, August 8, 2002

The WPIA meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Gerry Kulick Community Center in Ferndale. All officers were present with the exception of 2nd Vice President, Anne Williamson, as well as three block directors.

President Breen-Bondie briefly introduced officers and block directors in attendance. New to positions were Anne Williamson – 2nd VP (not in attendance) and Judy Garlock & Nichol Cotter were thanked for becoming the Upper Drayton Block Captains.

The Beautification Committee Report consisted of the announcement that the winners of the 2002 Beautification Award were Scott & Tamara Stone of 225 W. Drayton. President Breen-Bondie led this discussion as Anne Williamson who chairs this Committee was not in attendance. A discussion was then had regarding the purchase price of the actual physical award and the size of the actual award. President Breen-Bondie showed examples of the brass plaque chosen and the group then decided on the size—7x10". Anne Williamson will contact the winners and present them with the actual plaque that will need to be ordered and/or an example of it until it comes in. Also, when the plaque arrives, Anne should contact The Mirror for publicity.

Follow-up to the 2002 Annual Meeting regarding the resident responses to the surveys for database entry and accompanying letter to Mayor Porter had not been completed. Secretary McLaughlin had not yet been able to type in the responses to the database and President Breen-Bondie will write a letter and correspondence to Mayor Porter when that is finished.

President Breen-Bondie then brought up the Woodward Avenue Action Association (WA3) and the WPIA potentially becoming members of that organization. The Woodward Avenue Action Association is located on Woodward Avenue in Royal Oak and advocates for the businesses and neighborhoods that border along Woodward Avenue. The dues were annually \$25.00. Discussion ensued and Darcey McLaughlin made a motion to join the association, the motion was seconded by Bill Frederick, and voted unanimously.

Phil Kauffmann gave the treasurer's report. As of 8/8/02 there were \$1,365.33 in funds available. There continued a discussion of snow and membership dues collection procedures and timelines. All block directors committed to starting collections early this year and trying to improve the percentage collected. The detailed treasurer's report was reviewed and accepted. Phil also passed out a detailed sheet by block to each block captain in attendance. As a follow-up to the last meeting, a brief discussion of whether block directors and/or officers from other streets should approach homes who had not paid dues after the block director had exhausted all efforts as had been suggested. No block directors in attendance indicated that they wanted this service.

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The Snow Removal Committee presented their findings that at this time it was still not feasible for the WPIA to purchase new snow removal equipment due to the actual cost, the maintenance fees going forward, the need for storage of said equipment, as well as volunteers to operate the equipment at a moments notice due to weather. Jack Aldred, WPIA's current snow contractor, had extended an offer for the WPIA to purchase his used equipment for approximately \$4,000. A discussion ensued, however – it was decided that if Jack Aldred was still willing to perform the snow removal services from November through March, that the group would retain his services an additional year. While the group is still interested in finding a person in the neighborhood with a snow removal and/or landscape business that could give us discounted services, we will continue to explore other options throughout the year.

Under New Business, there was a discussion of the Winter Boot Drive. Anne Williamson suggested collection efforts for the association, but it was decided that the boot drive that Gilda Jacobs, state representative, holds in our school district would be utilized because the block directors were not interested in collecting the boots.

In addition, President Breen-Bondie passed out a one page document of Block Director Guidelines as a result of a discussion for this need at our previous meeting. It was discussed and well received.

The 2003 Block Party date was discussed and it was decided that although the last Block Party was extremely well run, the Saturday date may have been a hindrance to attendance. It was decided that the Block Party return to being held on the last date of school for the Ferndale School District, which in 2003 will be Thursday, June 12. Allen Liggett (Block Director – lower W. Maplehurst) discussed that without the help of many more volunteers – he may not be interested in chairing this event next year. He was to give it some extra thought and get back with President Breen-Bondie in the very near future with his decision. Allen recommended that setup begin at 4:00 on the day of the party and that it be held from 5:30 – 9:00 p.m.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15p.

Respectfully submitted by:

Darcey McLaughlin, Secretary
Woodland Park Improvement Association