

**Community Policing Action Council (CoPAC)  
Ypsilanti, Michigan**

**Minutes  
September 5, 2006  
6pm, Haab Building**

**In Attendance:**

CoPAC Members: Peter Hubbard (Gerganoff), Judy Williston (CHENA), Esther Williams (Gateway Community Council), Megan Turf (Prospect Gardens), Rod Johnson (Historical Eastside), Matt Harshberger (YPD), Greg Peoples (EMU), Sandee French (DTA)

Others: Lt. Mark Angott (YPD), PJ Moffett (Real Estate One), Brian Bunderson (Real Estate One)

Minutes from the previous meeting (July 7, 2006) were approved and will be posted on the website (ypsicopac.org).

**Treasurers Report**

\$1591.80 total.

**Committees**

Marketing Committee

Three CoPAC members showed up for the Heritage Parade. We want to try to get more to show up next year.

Also, we did not have any volunteers for the CoPAC tent. We need to try to get some next year!!

Website

Greg found a student who might be willing to take on the website. He will try and meet with him before the next meeting (November 7<sup>th</sup>)

**Neighborhood Reports**

CHENA

- Decision was made to notify people living in the University Estates area through newsletters and fliers that if they wanted to join CHENA they were welcome to fill out a membership form. They decided not to go door to door due to lack of manpower and the number of houses.

DTA

- Grant for Riverside park. New lights, landscaping, playground equipment, etc. Matching funds were donations from the festivals that use the park.

EMU

- Faculty & staff are currently on strike.

- EMU wants to close College Place to vehicles to make a walking campus. The following is what they are attempting:
  - City will lose 60 parking spots, but EMU will “flip” a parking lot, so the same # of spaces will be available.
  - Perrin will become a two-way
- MDOT will pay for 80% of the cost, but the city does not have the other 20% (which is about \$100,000). DDA has about \$45,000 but that’s not enough.

#### GATEWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

- There was a Re-Entry program trying to get started in the neighborhood, but the residents turned it down. They felt they would be importing more problems into an already vulnerable neighborhood.

#### GERGANOFF

- Request for combined meeting of the candidates for Councilman Ward 2. Want to schedule something prior to the November election. Possibly combine with another group and do it at the Senior Center?
- There is possible development on Huron River Drive. Two houses, but multiple acreage.’
- Can the YPD do anything about the bass-stereos that go by? Chief H. says if an officer hears it, they can pull them over for a misdemeanor noise violation. If they don’t hear it, they can still act based on the complainant, but then the complainant needs to go to court to testify to it.
- Fall picnic is being held Sunday September 17<sup>th</sup> at the corner of Mark & Gregory.

#### HERITAGE PARK

- No report.

#### HISTORIC EASTSIDE

- There is evidence of new prostitution along North Grove & the alleyway between Prospect and High streets.

#### HISTORICAL SOUTHSIDE

- No representative, no report.

#### MIDTOWN

- No representative, no report.

#### NORMAL PARK

- No representative, email proxy report.
- Item 1 -- Women's Football: There is a new women's football team (full-contact), in the Ann Arbor/Ypsilanti area, and we have been asked to spread the word through the Ypsilanti neighborhood to alert people to tryouts and other details. The website is <http://www.treetownspitfire.com/>. This is part of the National Women's Football League.

- Item 2 -- Peace and Unity March: Attached is a an informational press release, a flyer suitable for posting, and an Agenda, about a series of Unity in the Community marches and celebrations to be held in Ypsilanti and Ypsilanti Township. The first is a 'Peace March & Candle Light Ceremony' this Saturday, Sept 9, in the West Willow neighborhood. As noted in the press release, the New West Willow Neighborhood Association, the Ministerial Alliance, Parkridge Community Center, and the NAACP in conjunction with Ypsilanti Township, Willow Run Community Schools, Van Buren and Ypsilanti Public Schools, proudly announce a "Peace & Unity in the Community" march and rally. Please read the attached and distribute them if possible. If your neighborhood association is interested in participating (there are three other marches planned) please contact Nathaniel Norman, Coordinator, at 734-480-4257. There are a lot of volunteers from the township already, and they hope to get a lot of people from the city as well. (NPNA neighbor Krisilyn Frazier was one of the principal organizers of the march, and as you can see from the agenda, many, many people, including Mayor Farmer, are participating.)

#### PROSPECT GARDENS

- PGNA had their summer picnic. Not too many residents participated, but those that did had fun!

#### PROSPECT PARK

- No representative, no report.

#### RIVERSIDE

- No representative, no report.

#### WOODS ROAD

- No representative, no report.

#### YPSILANTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- No representative, no report.

#### YPSILANTI POLICE DEPARTMENT

- No report, Chief had to leave early for City Council.

## Old Business

### Summer Picnic

- Congratulations to Rod for a successful summer picnic!!!
  - People thought it was ok with no live entertainment.
  - Children's play area was very successful.
  - YDL Bookmobile was a good idea.
- How do we advertise better next year?
- Next year: CHENA & Gerganoff in Candy Cane Park.

### Website update

Megan is listing individual NA meeting dates and times on the events page. If you are interested in having your group's meetings listed, send her the info:

[mturf@isr.umich.edu](mailto:mturf@isr.umich.edu)

### DNA Letter

Margaret Ann announced that she had received the information for this and will be passing it on to Megan Turf to start the letter to our State Legislature. (Obviously, this still hasn't been started yet. Will keep you informed).

## New Business

PJ Moffett and Brian Bunderson from Real Estate One made a presentation about a new website they are trying to promote and paint Ypsilanti in a "Neighborhood" light. YpsilantiRealEstate.org is the website.

On this website they will focus on homes for sale in the area but promote the neighborhood association they are located in as well as other positive things about our community. Other ideas they have are listing school information, links to NA's websites, a short blurb about each NA for the front page, rotating each week, linking to the YpsiCoPAC.org website, posting pictures of the city, etc.

### **What they need from us for this:**

They need the NA's website if one exists.

A short paragraph about your NA that can be made into audio and be posted.

Special features about your NA.

Schools or other landmarks that you are close to.

Anything else positive that you can think about!

**Send your paragraph to Brian Bunderson at [brian@besthomesinannarbor.com](mailto:brian@besthomesinannarbor.com)**

The "soft" launch is Friday September 15<sup>th</sup>. The Grand Opening is Saturday September 30<sup>th</sup>.

See the last three pages of these notes, for the notes from them on FAQs and a description of the front page.

## **Nuisance Abatement Team Update**

Lt. Angott gave us an update of what the NAT team has been working on lately.

Mr. B's restaurant on Harriet. Was closed down, but they have since re-opened. They didn't follow the guidelines needed to re-open, so the YPD shut them down again. They're currently trying to open again.

148 – 160 S. Prospect – (see previous meeting notes for more on this property). A second meeting with the owner to track progress was scheduled for August. Owner did not listen to what the city told him. There is a possibility of applying for a nuisance lawsuit against the owner which would close up the building for a year.

402 S. Huron. This is currently a vacant home that is dilapidated. The bank foreclosed on the owner, so the bank is the current owner. The city is working with them to fix the house up or tear it down completely.

Thompson building – Kircher will have to pay Beal & the city the \$\$ they have put into the Thompson building if he wants it back, but his deadline is October. Stuart Beal wants to turn it into a mix of commercial and condominiums.

Feel free to email Lieutenant Mark Angott if you have any questions or want an update on a property – [mangott@cityofypsilanti.com](mailto:mangott@cityofypsilanti.com).

## **Outstanding Dues Owed**

The following groups are currently unable to vote until they become current with their dues. Please see Esther Williams (Eeswms@aol.com) to make your group current:

- Miles Area – 2005 and 2006. \$70 total (\$35/year)
- Worden Gardens – 2005 and 2006. \$70 total (\$35/year)
- Ypsilanti Housing Commission – 2005 and 2006. \$50 total (\$25/year)

## **Next Meeting**

NEXT REGULAR MEETING TUES., November 7, 2006

EXECUTIVE MEETING TUES., October 3, 2006

## **YpsilantiRealEstate.org**

**Introduction:** The creation of a website, any website, begins with an idea (or concept), and usually a specific purpose – what do we want visitors to know or do after visiting the site?

Most “traditional” websites are information repositories, and not much more. They are helpful, but do not really achieve the objectives of the site creators. With the evolution of the internet, new, interactive, and multi-media sites have developed and are more effectively achieving the desired results.

With that in mind, two dedicated real estate professionals from Real Estate One, the largest real estate company in Michigan, have decided to work together to create a valuable and interactive website. This will be achieved by bringing together a dynamic group of contributors to provide you with a constant stream of updates and valuable information about the Ypsilanti real estate market and its neighborhoods. Unlike other sites that are simply focused on giving you data, the team at YpsilantiRealEstate.org have organized around a “blog” in order to provide context to the vast amount of neighborhood and real estate information that is available!

### **Q: What the heck is a “Blog?”**

A: Blog is short for weblog. A weblog is a journal (or newsletter) that is frequently updated and intended for general public consumption. Blogs generally represent the personality of the contributors or the Web site. It is one of our goals that this site will represent the personality of Ypsilanti and its neighborhoods.

### **Q: What is the site for?**

A: The primary goal is to enhance and facilitate community development. The secondary goal to be the best resource for real estate information in the Ypsilanti area.

The Ypsilanti Chamber of Commerce does a great job of providing the “10,000 foot Overview” of the area, and individual neighborhood sites provide great information on events, activities, and news impacting their neighborhoods. We plan to fill a need by providing a wealth of valuable, practical, and useful information with a real estate focus, but provided in a way that gives you the personality of the area.

### **Q: What should the site achieve?**

A: The site will portray Ypsilanti and its neighborhoods in their true, honest light. We want to dispel the common misconceptions about the area, and demonstrate the pure potential of the area, and provide real life, real time reasons why Ypsilanti is a great place to live, work, and play. It is designed to attract current residents,

potential residents, and any others (including other Agents) who want to learn more about Ypsi neighborhoods, rather than just the “bricks and mortar” of Ypsilanti properties.

**Q: Who are we, and what do we want out of the site?**

A: P.J. Moffett is an agent with Real Estate One who specializes in the Ypsilanti market. As an Ypsilanti resident, she is active in many community organizations and has a strong passion for the area. She has helped many people buy and sell property in the Ypsilanti area, and is one of the true area experts.

Brian Bundesen is an agent with Real Estate One, and although he currently lives in Ann Arbor, a growing segment of his business is in Ypsilanti. Brian sees the area as one of great potential, and has helped investors purchase foreclosures in order to rehabilitate them, improving the quality of the neighborhoods in which they are located.

By creating this site, we are interested in providing a valuable community service, which leads to relationships, which, in turn, will lead to helping people buy and sell real estate in Ypsilanti.

**Our Mission**

Our mission at YpsilantiRealEstate.org is simple. We want to enhance community development by being the best resource for neighborhood and real estate information in the Ypsilanti area.

**What we need: The three “C’s”**

Contacts, Contributors, and Content

**Target Dates:**

Soft Launch: Friday, Sep. 15

Grand Open: Saturday, Sep 30

## **Tabs Across the top of the site:**

**Home Page:** Contains the most recent Blog Postings, in reverse chronological order, with the most recent posts first.

**About YpsilantiRealEstate.org:** What the site is about, our Mission Statement, and why we use the “Blog” format

**Contributors:** Brief Bios with contact information on our contributors. In addition to PJ and Brian, contributors will be: Mortgage Person, Attorney, Insurance, Home Remodeler, Neighborhood Association Leaders, Organization Leaders, Police Rep, Fire & Safety Rep, School Reps, etc.

**Market Statistics:** Reports from The Board of Realtors and other sources which highlight trends in the real estate market.

**Wiki:** A newer Internet term, which will link to ideas for articles to be created on the site. Will also link to other interesting real estate related sites.

**Linkation:** This tab will provide links to the ever growing and changing websites related to all things Ypsilanti.

**Home Search:** Will link to the feed of the Ann Arbor Multiple List Service so visitors can search every home or property on the market.

**For Buyers:** Specific information for those looking to purchase a home or investment property in Ypsilanti

**For Sellers:** Specific information for those looking to sell residential or commercial property in Ypsilanti.

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## **Featured Boxes/ Links down right side of Home Page**

**Recent Posts:** Provides easy access to the most recent articles via Hyperlink.

**Neighborhoods:** THE Focus of the site, that is why the links will appear in the most prominent section of the home page. Each entry will hyperlink to a separate page for each neighborhood. There will be space for multiple “Blog” contributions, and links to the individual neighborhood sites.

**Archives:** Full access to all articles which have been published.

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**Phase II** will come soon, but will include “Podcasts” and Audio CD’s which will highlight the area and its neighborhood.