

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

**Minutes
November 14, 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), Linda French (Riverside), Rebecca Dunkle (Normal Park), Robert Miller (Friends of the YPD), Harvey Krage (Midtown), Fred Williams, Jr. (Heritage Park), Steve Pierce (Historic Southside)

Others: Lt. Mark Angott (YPD)

Minutes from the previous meeting (Sept 5, 2006) were approved and will be posted on the website (ypsicopac.org).

Elections for 2007

The positions of Vice President & Treasurer were open for election for the 2007 – 2008 term. By unanimous vote of all persons present, Harvey Krage (of Midtown) was elected Vice President and Robert A. Miller (of the Friends of the YPD) was elected Treasurer.

Current CoPAC President, Margaret Ann Kildau, stepped down from her post and Rod Johnson (of Historical Eastside) was unanimously elected to carry out her term for the 2007 year.

President and Secretary positions will be up for election in January 2008.

Treasurer's Report

\$1592.70 total.

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)

Dues for 2007 will be due at the January 2nd meeting!

- Full Associations - \$35
- Associate Associations - \$25
- Normal Park & EMU are the only groups who have currently paid for 2007. Nice job guys!! ☺

If you are unclear which group you belong in, please contact Esther Williams.

Committees

Website – ypsicopac.org

Greg (from EMU) found a student (also named Greg) who met with Megan to go over posting a new city-wide map. He is available for other updates as needed, however, since I (Megan) am unaware of anything else that needs to be done, all we did was replace the map.

If people are interested in updating/re-working it in some way, Greg (the student) has some time and is willing. We just need to decide if anything other than the city-wide map needs to be changed.

Also, the domain name (ypsicopac.org) has expired. Steve Pierce will take care of getting it renewed and will submit a bill for the annual cost (\$20) to the treasurer for re-imbusement.

Picnic

Rod & Megan are compiling a checklist of tasks and duties that each picnic committee has to go through in order to ease hosting based on previous experiences. They'll pass on the list once completed to Judy & Peter who are hosting in 2007. Please feel free to forward your hosting experiences to Megan.

Neighborhood Reports

CHENA

- Chamber of Commerce President, Keith Peters, is coming to their next meeting.
- They want to sit down and talk with Peter (from Gerganoff), Rod (from Historical Eastside), and Chief Harshberger about how best to plan this year's picnic.

DTA

- Christmas Tree lighting will be in December. Sandee will email everyone the date.

EMU

- No report given

GATEWAY COMMUNITY COUNCIL

- Wants to know if the vacant building ordinance is being enforced? There are vacant buildings that are being used behind the Hope Center on Harriet. Lieutenant Angott has added the building to the NAT watch list.

GERGANOFF

- They want to sit down and talk with Judy (from CHENA), Rod (from Historical Eastside), and Chief Harshberger about how best to plan this year's picnic.
- Will be contacting DPW concerning the scheduled pickup of leaves. The signs that are posted by DPW notifying residents of the schedule is removed after the leaves are picked up. However, recently, the signs were removed and no leaves had been picked up.

HERITAGE PARK

- Still continue to meet, though they are still dealing with the same issues. They feel they share the same issues as neighboring associations.

HISTORIC EASTSIDE

- No report given.

HISTORICAL SOUTHSIDE

- Planning Director came and talked about Water Street.
- Dec 10, from 4p to 8p is their Holiday party. It's being hosted at Steve Pierce and Maggie Brandt's house. 118 S Washington St..
- They're dealing with vacant buildings.
 - Multiple buildings on Adams
 - St. Joe's on the corner of Woodward & Hamilton
 - It's been 2 years and St. Joe's is no longer returning phone calls from people asking what they're going to do about their property.
 - HSS is going to do a press release & document the problem.

MIDTOWN

- Interested in improving the cosmetic appearance of the business Exxotik'k' Afrik'k' on the corner of Ballard and Congress. They will try and contact the owner of the building through the city assessment records. Looking for other interested persons willing to work on this team – even outside of Midtown.
- Has any other group become a 501c (3)? Esther says that Heritage Park has done this.
- Interested in a YPD decoy car to try and deter property crimes in the area.

NORMAL PARK

- Ypsi Co-Op is interested in taking over the Little Red Store on Congress. This is good news and they're hoping there is enough of a response by the neighbors and other citizen's to make them successful.
- December 9th is the Night of Lights. It's all over the neighborhood. We sell luminary kits - proceeds to support Ypsi High School Chamber Singers, who perform throughout the evening, strolling around the neighborhood.

PROSPECT GARDENS

- Possible drug activity on Maus.

PROSPECT PARK

- No representative, no report.

RIVERSIDE

- Junk in the Trunk was a very successful fundraiser.
- They've started a website called YpsiVotes.com which helped get the November vote out. This website also has stories about Ypsilanti, community news, and other public issues concerning the city.
- Plant sale Saturday November 18th at Corner Brewery.

WOODS ROAD

- No representative, no report.

YPSILANTI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

- No representative, no report.

YPSILANTI POLICE DEPARTMENT

- Jail overcrowding is an issue. The Washtenaw County Jail is on "lock-down" and will accept only violent criminals and domestic abuse offenders. All property crime offenders are being turned away. They are also turning away parole violators.
- Luckily, parole violators are state paid, they can be transferred to Lenawee County.
- Per capita, Washtenaw County has the smallest jail in the state of Michigan.
- Overcrowding had been handled by "out boarding" prisoners to other jails. This costs Washtenaw Country \$\$, and they discontinued the practice in September 2006.
- When people are released from jail, they are returned to where they live which is commonly, where the crime took place. Ypsilanti City has the only "downtown" on the East side of the County. Superior Township, Ypsilanti Township, don't have any such area, so people tend to flow in to our city.
- Prevention is the key!!
 - Watch out for each other.
 - Lock your cars & make sure the windows are up.
 - Do not keep anything valuable in your car. If you *must* put it in the trunk. Don't try to "hide" it under something else. Also, don't put empty computer cases, empty briefcases, empty etc, in the car. The criminal doesn't know it's empty until after he's broken in.
 - Keep porch lights on.
 - Install alarms or motion sensing lights.
 - Park in your garage or driveway instead of the street.
 - Lock sheds and garages.
 - See anything suspicious? Call the YPD – 483-9510.

Old Business

YpsilantiRealEstate.org

Check out how they're doing. Is your neighborhood association represented? Send your paragraph to Brian Bunderson at brian@besthomesinannarbor.com.

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

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

Elections. See second section from the top.

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). The building owner was forced to employ a management company to try and clean up the physical area as well as screen those who apply for an apartment.

402 S. Huron – (see previous meeting notes for more on this property). This property has been sold.

Wooden Nickel is still open and operating.

An abandoned truck at Madison & 2nd was cleaned out and moved.

Andrews bar on Cross St has been noted to be tagged with graffiti.

Parkview apartments is being boarded up as people move out.

Young men have been seen hanging around in front of Hope Clinic all day. Truancy isn't enforced because the YPD does not employ a truancy officer. However, if they are spotted by the G.R.E.A.T. officer who knows they belong in school, they will take them there.

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

Next Meeting

NEXT REGULAR MEETING TUES., January 2, 2007
EXECUTIVE MEETING TUES., December 5, 2006