

Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Steering Committee

Wednesday, December 12th, 2012

On the infamous date of December 12th, 2012 (12-12-12), not to be confused with the other infamous date of the impending end of the world on the coming of the Solstice (12-21-12), members, friends and guests of the Emerson-Garfield Neighborhood Committee gathered at the Corbin Senior Center for the Holiday Potluck Dinner and meeting. The food got dished out starting at 6PM, with a fabulous selection of hearty casseroles, tasty treats and lots of desserts representing many of the food groups.

Chairman Liorah Wichser tried to get the meeting going shortly after 7 but it didn't really take off until 7:25 with introductions. There should have been an approval of the minutes from the previous meeting but the secretary is unable to find a note suggesting that they were indeed approved. Perhaps we will discuss that at the next meeting.

Liorah began the meeting with an announcement about the newsletter that must be out by the end of the year. A few suggestions were made about what it should contain and the committee already assembled to create it agreed to meet by Interweb to make it so.

We got a brief report about the business climate in the neighborhood from Chris Nichols and Mitch Moczulski who own Chair, a coffee shop at 113 W. Indiana. They both said it is tough to be in business and they put in lots of hours and please come visit them often.

We brief report from the Parks Committee explained stuff we already knew. Namely, the equipment the Parks Department promised to install this past Fall will be installed in the Spring. Of which year remains the question.

Liorah reported that she has discovered that CD funds can be used towards street paving. It would only contribute a portion to a project and residents immediately affected by paving would also contribute.

This meeting was the first opportunity to use projection equipment that Corbin has provided for our use. She took advantage of the mostly working technology to show our websites. www.emersongarfield.org and www.spokaneneighborhoods.org. She set one of the goals for the year to improve and publicize our websites.

Lt. Dean Sprague of the Spokane Police Department reported that thefts are up, vehicle prowling is up and burglaries are up. Lock your cars. Light your yard. Be vigilant of those in your neighborhood, including yourself. (*I often wonder if I would want me in my neighborhood...as do my neighbors.*) The city has entered into a lease program for use of AirSheriffOne, the helicopter operated by the Sheriff's Department. They will use it for patrols and pinpointing problem areas...and watching me in my backyard. By the way, that wasn't me with the open burn barrel. And if it was me, we were cooking dinner.

Community Assembly: Jay Cousins has stepped down from the Public Safety committee in order to devote more time to the E-G Planning Committee. He announced that Heather Trautman is the new director of Neighborhood Services.

New Business: Jay Cousins, who I'm sure was the kid in school who reminded the teacher that she had not assigned any homework, suggested that we have a meeting in January rather than defer as planned. Everyone grudgingly agreed to the idea so we will see you all on Wednesday, January 9th at 7PM.

The Steering Committee portion of the meeting was convened. Liorah reported that she submitted our proposal for the bus stop at Monroe and Montgomery but there is an easement problem on that corner that would have to be dealt with. So, no proposal from E-G for this year concerning the supplemental grant.

Concerning the Community Development funds and the groups we supported last month, there was a proposal from Growing Hope Garden that Liorah had missed, who requested \$2,900.00 for fencing and garden beds. A motion was made and seconded to divert \$2,900.00 from home rehab to Growing Hope. The motion was approved 11 to 1.

Reports:

C.O.P.S. NC: The COPS Shop is having a fund raiser, selling some cool stuff (Rings, semi-precious stones, etc.) for \$2.50 a piece. The shop is offering Neighborhood Observation Patrol Training. Anyone interested can call Claudia at the C.O.P.S. NC. 625-3348.

Corbin Senior Center: Once again, nobody showed up from Corbin to report to...what?...oh someone was there? It was Laura...the one who shows up EVERY TIME.

Um...Laura Schlengen, who professionally represents Corbin Senior Center reported that the Thanksgiving Day luncheon served 60 diners. They had a Christmas Party for their volunteers on December 7th and the event was enjoyed by the many people who attended. The "White Christmas" event is sold out. Call to get on the loooong waiting list. They will be having a Travel Fair on January 18th and a Luau on February 15th with prizes for the best costume. Finally, the concrete for Corbin's new sign has been poured. It's a good thing they didn't hire the Parks Department to do it.

With that, the meeting was adjourned at 8:27PM and everyone was excused to go out and make merry.