

Chatham Arch Neighborhood Association Minutes  
Tuesday, April 24, 2012   
Firefighters Union Hall  
748 Massachusetts Avenue

Present: Liisi Brien; Linda Hughes; Coleen and Gary Agee; Lynn and Gary Pike; Mike Harrill and Jennifer Kahn; Barb Tegarden; Mark and Teresa Harvey; John Kinsella and Meg Storrow; Paul Levy and Amy Goad; Liz Rice; Greg Peck and Larry Cleaver; Blake Jeffery; Steve Thornton; Peggy Cranfill; Kathy Curtis; Charles Turner; Mark Palmenter and Doug Steen; Brian Carter; Shaun Miller?; Carole Damin; Bill Price; Dan Johnson; Daniel Lillard and Jay Denhart; Cherry Kay Smith, Ryan Zumbahlen; Gwen Chastain; Dave Heekm; Richard Sullivan; Brad Luther; Laura Ann Arnold; Tyson and Gwen Chastain; Mary Beth and Greg Fehribach; Clay Miller; Tom Elkas; R. A. Hiemston; Sandra Fontanin; Willian Tarr; Jen Clady

Vice President Mike Harrill called the meeting to order following a program from Unseen Press and an announcement from North Meridian Hardware. Gary Pike moved and Steve Thornton seconded to accept the minutes of the March meeting. The minutes were approved as presented.

There was no old business other than the following standing committee reports.

**Membership Report**

Dan Bertram, membership chair, reported a total of 91 members, five of which are business memberships.

**Finance Report**

Steven Thornton, treasurer, reported that year to date expenses have exceeded income by $169. The current asset balance is $36,188.72.

**Foundation Report**

Teresa Harvey reported that the MOU has been signed with DPW to restore the alley behind the Phoenix Theater. The next steps are DPW’s to move forward with the work, i.e. engineering, design and soliciting bids. The foundation has ordered the plaque for the Terry O’Neil garden, to be installed some time in May. The Foundation is submitting a grant proposal to CICF to furnish Chatham Commons. Next month, the CANA Board with meet jointly with the CANA Foundation Board.

**Urban Design Committee (UDC)**

Steve Thornton, UDC chair, introduced architect Dave Gibson to present plans on a new residence at 513 E 11th just east of Central Ave, which is between two vacant lots. He reported that the UDC did not have a quorum when the plans were recently submitted to the UDC, but that committee members in attendance were generally supportive. The architects are seeking CANA approval as they will meet with IHPC in May. Dave Gibson, architect presented the plans, which seeks two variances. One is a variance in the required open space in the lot, also seeking variance on border fence height. The current plans yield 40% open space in the lot, compared with the required 55%, which is somewhat typical in an urban environment. They also seek approval for a wall along the property line. The plans include 8’ wall with stone or concrete foundation, brick wall with stone cap. They have spoken with neighbors about the wall on property line, which requires neighbors’ approval. Neighbors clarified that the proposed wall is parallel to the drive area to access the lot, rather than the parking area. There was concern about the space between the wall and the pavement, which appears to be 33”, though not an official measure. The construction is a three bedroom home currently valued at approximately $500,000, though planned upgrades would likely increase the value. Gary Agee made a motion to accept the proposal as presented. Barb Tegarden seconded and the motion was approved with one abstention.

**IMPD**

A formal neighborhood crime watch program requires a meeting with IMPD. Those interested in pursuing this further are encouraged to investigate and bring back at a later time.

**Upcoming Events**

Spring Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 28. A flyer will be distributed urging folks to pull cars off the curb so that they may be cleared in the clean up. This year will require a morning shift (9-noon) and afternoon shift (1-4 pm) of volunteers. Breakfast and lunch will be available. Neighbors may leave bagged items, yard brush, and other items outside routine collection on the curb. This year will also focus on common areas such as Chatham Commons and the corner of 10th and College Ave. Volunteers are encouraged to bring gloves and any tools they may have.

Gwen Chastain reminded the group that the block party is scheduled for May 19, beginning at 5:30 pm. This is a neighborhood pitch in, come meet your neighbors, but also a major fundraising opportunity via the silent auction. Marsh is donating the meat and others should bring side dishes.

2012 Home Tour is scheduled October 13-14 from 1-5 pm. Barb Tegarden reported that we are still seeking an additional 3 homes. Three businesses, including the church mentioned in the evening program, have already committed.

**New Business**

Under New Business was a proposal from the Beautification Committee. Jennifer Kahn reminded members of the creation of the Beautification committee, the idea gathering phase, the feedback gathered through the survey in late 2011. The proposal was designed to create an attractive way of branding the neighborhood.

Phase One proposed to be completed in spring 2012 at a cost of $16,000 would provide a primary gateway in three locations: Central near I-70 SW corner, North and College on Southwest corner, College south of I-65 on the west side. The cost does not include maintenance or insurance.

Phase Two would provide primary gateways in two more locations at a cost of $11,000. Those locations are College & 10th Street on the southwest corner and the southeast corner of Central & 10th.

The following concerns were expressed and addressed:

* maintenance of the florals and foliage - The committee has investigated maintenance contracts, but prefers to first enlist the assistance of a garden club to maintain the foliage and florals. Dan volunteered to chair the garden club;
* site clearance – Designers have shared the plans with the Department of Public Works and will continue if approved.
* Clamshell basket in winter - The clamshell flower basket and liner would be metal in the winter.
* Insurance – CANA hopes that the city will take responsibility, however if not, we will seek a rider through the CANA Foundation insurance. The coverage would be consistent with the existing coverage of special street lighting. Upon approval, the board will report the location of the gateway structures to the Foundation.

Tyson Chastain moved to support the Beautification Committee proposal. Blake Jeffrey seconded the motion. Following brief discussion regarding a desire for broadened RFP, and reiterated concern about maintenance and replacement costs, the motion carried by a vote of 29-4.

**Board Position**

Larry Gregerson resigned from the CANA Board. Saundra Fontanin, nail technician at Mary’s and Friends, was introduced and welcomed to replace Larry’s position on the board.

**Parking Plan**

Steve Thornton will begin working on a Chatham Arch parking plan. Volunteers interested in helping Steve should contact him directly.

**Neighborhood Inventory**

The possibility of conducting an audit of curbs, sidewalks, sewer covers, etc. was introduced. Such an audit, with pictures including address of location, assists DPW in prioritizing the work that needs to be done. The neighborhood clean up would be an ideal time to start the audit. Clean up volunteers are encouraged to document areas for improvement via photo with documented addresses. Volunteers may be needed to follow up.

The meeting was adjourned with refreshments provided by Lynn & Gary Agee.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June, 2011; 6:30 pm Social; 7:00 pm Business Meeting

Program – Energizing Indiana Program (not confirmed)

Firefighters Union Hall