Chatham Arch Neighborhood Association Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2011 – Firefighters Union Hall

Present: Gary Agee, Coleen Agee, Jon Berg, Kevin Brown, Jen Clady, Larry Cleaver, Curt Louckes, Clay Miller, Jason Myers, Emily Myers, Troy Myers, Greg Peck, Gary Pike, Christa Thacker, Mark Porteous, Steve Thornton, Sally Spiers, Cherry K. Smith, Charles Turner, Karyn Wagner, Martin Wagner

Refreshments were provided by Lynn and Gary Pike.

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by President Sally Spiers.

Minutes from the last meeting were approved.

Reports:

Membership: Cherry Kay Smith reported there are currently 71 members, which includes 7 business members.

Finance: Steve Thornton reported that the association has a balance of $38,110 in savings.

Foundation: It was reported that work continues on Chatham Commons.

Mass Ave Merchants Association: Sally reported that new parking meters will be installed starting in March. The meters will accept credit cards, and Mass. Ave. is one of the first places in town for the new meters. The Trail Side Project has a groundbreaking scheduled for later this week. Mardi Gras Mambo will take place on Friday, March 4th, in conjunction with First Friday events.

Urban Design Committee: Mark Porteous reported that the committee supports plans for Pella wood windows in properties at 851 and 855 North Park Avenue. The Central Products building (located between Chatham Arch and St. Joseph neighborhoods) has filed plans to renovate and build new condos which would include 36 units in the 4 story structure. Plans also include tearing down the loading dock. Mark reported that the developer is going through all the right steps with IHPC and the St. Joseph neighborhood. It was also reported that the Cultural Trail includes funding for bus shelters that have poetry etched in glass, and that there will be 3 on Mass. Ave and 1 in Chatham Arch.

IHPC: No report

IMPD: Sally reported that the association is looking for someone to volunteer to be the liaison between IMPD and Chatham Arch.

Old Business:

Lemonade Day: The organization encourages entrepreneurship in youth through lemonade stands. Additional information will be included in an upcoming issue of the Urban Times.

Mark Porteous reported that this spring there will be additional construction on the roads of downtown. He encouraged neighbors to be careful when traveling.

New Business:

2011 Budget: Steve Thornton presented the 2011 budget, and it was approved.

Other:

Clay Miller talked about concerns about the historic lights in the neighborhood and the possibility that the neighborhood is being overcharged by IPL. Clay requested that neighbors email him (cmiller@bamberger.com) the location and number on each of the lights so that an inventory can be created. The importance of looking at the original map of the neighborhood to see if we are still being charged for some that were removed was discussed. Clay agreed to draft an email to be sent out on the Yahoo Listserv to publicize the effort.

Out to Dinner Club: Emily Myers reported that the group continues to meet with first Tuesday of the month at 7:30 pm, although the March 1st outing will be at 6:30 pm at Sisters’ Place (South Madison and Terrace). A reminder will be sent out on the Yahoo Listserv.

The business meeting was adjourned at 7:32 pm. Following the business meeting, those in attendance participated in the program – Let the Games Begin! Gary Pike facilitated a wine tasting game.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 29, 2011. There will be social time at 6:30 pm and a business meeting at 7 pm. The program will be What’s Up Downtown?

Minutes submitted by Emily Stage Myers.