

PIKE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION, INC.

Meeting Minutes 04/14/10

Susan Blair called the meeting to order at 7:12 PM.

Susan welcomed all. PTRAs mission statement was read. She reminded attendees to sign-in. Sign-in sheets on the back table. She identified items on the table, i.e., board roster, membership form, agenda. Reviewed how to become a PTRAs member or a board member. She informed attendees that in addition to operating expenses that membership dues provide, the board of directors over the past couple of years have approved supporting IMPDs Northwest District Officer of the Month program and recently approved purchasing paint for the Prosecutor's Office graffiti cover-up program. Membership dues benefiting the Pike community at large. Advised attendees that our positions are identified by support, oppose, or no position. PTRAs positions are recommendations only, but are highly regarded by the various governmental entities.

We initially did not have a quorum, but ultimately a quorum was verified with 12 of 24 members present.

At this time Susan recognized elected officials, city personnel, community representatives, and candidates in attendance.

Maggie Lewis, Councilor - District 7

Phil Hinkle, State Representative-District 92

Mary Chalmers, Mayor's Neighborhood Liaison-Northwest Outer Region

Lulu Patton – Pike Township Trustee

Larry Metzler – Pike Township School Board Member

Nancy Poor - Pike Township School District Board Member

Katherine Ritchie – Pike Township School Board Member

Raul Rivas – Pike School Facilities Director

Paul Ogden – candidate for school board

Tammy Moon – candidate for school board

Regina Randolph – candidate for school board

Robin Shackelford – candidate for state senate

Mark Brown - candidate

Allison McGuire – candidate for school board

Janice McHenry, Councilor-District 6

- I. REPORT FOR PIKE TOWNSHIP FROM INDIANAPOLIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT NORTHWEST DISTRICT AND PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE**– Heather Kistler was presented for the Prosecutor's office. Her phone number is 327-6675. Heather indicated that there was a newsletter on the back table available called, "Night Beat". Heather briefly touched on the "TAG" (Take Away Graffiti) program. She thanked PTRAs for the donation of 10 gallons of paint for the Graffiti Cover-up program. Heather spoke about a graffiti criminal that had been prosecuted. His name was Manuel Gueva, "STS". He was convicted of 9 counts of criminal mischief. He was sentenced to 1 year of work release, 4 years of probation, and 1000 hours of community service. Heather indicated that she would e-mail the crime report to Susan for distribution. Susan recognized Drew Wignal and Heather for repainting the bridges themselves (graffiti had been covered with gray paint; not attractive on the new bridges).
- II. PRESENTATION – METROPOLITAN SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PIKE TOWNSHIP REFERENDUM FOR CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW GUION CREEK ELEMENTARY SCHOOL – OPPONENTS AND PROPONENTS TO DISCUSS NEED OF NEW CONSTRUCTION** – Dr. Tim Koponen was the proponent that spoke first. He indicated that we would always need new schools. He indicated there should always be equal opportunity for everyone in all schools. The cost of the new Guion Creek Elementary will be \$21.4 million. The cost for renovation would be \$21.9 million. The new school being considered will be an environmental conscious school; reported energy cost savings. The new school will protect Pike Township property values. There will be no property tax increase. There were two student presentations. One student from Guion Creek Elementary and one student from Pike High School. Questions asked include:
- Q.** If there is no tax increase, how will it be funded?
- A.** The bond for the construction of the Pike Freshman Center will expire soon; it will be renewed for Guion Elementary.
- Q.** When will construction begin?
- A.** The students will attend Eastbrook Elementary next year, and the new school will open the year after that.

- Q.** Property taxes will not increase or decrease with a yes vote?
A. Correct.

Susan asked Representative Hinkle to clarify the property tax reform bill that required school districts to place a referendum on the election ballot. He indicated that if the project was more than \$10 million for elementary school expenses, a referendum is required. If the referendum is within the tax caps, then they are not permitted to raise taxes, but the possibility still exists that taxes can be raised. He indicated that taxes “should” not increase. (Referendum is outside the 1% cap and can potentially raise taxes.)

Paul Ogden and Allison McGuire spoke as opponents. The December school board minutes indicate there will be a property tax increase. Nancy Poore, current school board member, indicated Paul had found an error within the minutes. The minutes have since been corrected. Paul countered the cost will be above the 1% cap, therefore, there will be a tax increase. People need property tax relief. (At this point there were many interruptions from the floor. Susan requested decorum.) Money will be needed for operational expenses. Capital project funds cannot be used for operational expenses. A statement was made that “any 39 year old building needs maintenance.” Paul mentioned he had substituted at Guion Creek Elementary.

Questions asked include:

- Q.** How many years ago did Paul substitute teach at Guion Creek Elementary?
A. 1997, but the last time he was in the school was 2000.
Q. We all live in Pike...Why are we disagreeing? The kids deserve a new building.
A. No definitive response.

New construction seems to be increasing. Cost overruns are infinitely more than with a renovation.

Susan had some comments and thoughts. We seem to be building one school after another. A 40-year old building shouldn't need replacement. Was it improperly constructed? There needs to be oversight. Why can't we build a school that will last? Over the years, has routine maintenance been performed? According to the December 2009 school board minutes, College Park Elementary is next. College Park was constructed in 1987, opening in the fall of 1988.

While on Pike School subject, Mark Patty, President of New Augusta Village Association, announced there will be a school board candidate forum on Tuesday, April 20, 7:15 pm, Salem Lutheran Church.

III. APPROVAL OF MARCH 2010 BOARD MINUTES – No March minutes.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT – Fran was not in attendance -- no report.

V. REPORT FROM MAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD LIAISON-NORTHWEST OUTER REGION

Mary provided her contact information, 327-5157. Spoke on Mayor's priority; public safety is “Job One.” The Department of Code Enforcement did a sweep of massage parlors. There were 6 arrests. In addition there was a smaller sweep of mobile restaurants that resulted in shutting down 3. Thanks were given to PTRR for their help in promoting the “Great Indy Cleanup.” Planning, organizing and help with painting of the mural and food service. For those who did not attend, the clean up was held in the Gateway, Lafayette Square, and Eagledale area.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PLAT REPORTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE – Last month one of the announcements concerned St. Nicholas Serbian Orthodox Church. It was determined they do not need zoning or variances to build a school through grade 12. Commitments on current zoning do not prohibit such.

The paint expenditure for the graffiti cover-up was \$163.07. It was indicated that a lot of cover-up couldn't be done without donations. In the past the graffiti cover-up program obtained paint from the Tox-Drop program. For some reason this has been eliminated.

Nu Corinthian Church senior housing zoning petition was approved.

VII. ALCOHOL PERMITS –

- 05/03/10 The Jumbo Chinese Restaurant – 5700 Georgetown Road – New
Homewood Suites – Renewal
Istanbul Restaurant – 1450 W 86th Street – Renewal
Meijer – Renewal
05/17/10 Speedway Super America – Renewal

The Hooka Lounge at 86th & Michigan was denied an alcohol license by the Marion County Alcohol Board. To date, no appeal has been filed with the State ATC.

VIII. LAND USE – CONTINUED PETITION

IX. LAND USE – NEW PETITION

1) 7511 New Augusta Rd. – 2010-ZON-009 MWCC, Inc. requests rezoning of 36.092 acres from the DP district to the SU-16 classification to provide for recreational facilities including eight additional volleyball courts, a swimming pool, four unlighted high school-sized soccer fields and four championship soccer fields. Council District 1. Hearing date continued by PTRA to 4/29/10, Hearing Examiner. Presenter is Ray Good, Attorney. Chairperson is Clint Fultz, Vice-President, District IV. – *In 1980 the ball fields were rezoned with 24 acres for softball. At that time there was limited residential in the area. In 1990 homes and the golf course were built. Over time, the golf course became unsuccessful. All golf course property was rezoned. In 2007 Centrex owned the golf course property. In 2008 it was sold. In 2009 it closed completely. What is actually before the zoning board right now is to add a private driveway on the North side, 4 volleyball courts, 4 soccer fields, and a swimming pool. On the south side will be 4 additional soccer fields. Commitments include: Sunday – Thursday there will be lighting till midnight. The longest play will be midnight on any night; no game to begin after 10:30 p.m. No lights for night play for anything new, no new speaker systems. 3rd Saturday of July there will be 1 all-nighter for charity. Grass mowing to occur prior to 8:00 p.m. There will be no music over the PA system after 10:30 p.m. There will be no music over the PA system during non-game times, 7 days/week with the exception of the one all-night charity event. There are many complaints regarding the volume of the PA system. The hearing will be April 29th at 1:00PM. Clint made the motion to support with the commitments discussed at the committee meeting and the additions/revisions this evening. Don seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.*

X. PRELIMINARY PROPOSALS – (No legal filings to date)

1) Woodland Business Park – Pitman Partners desires to construct office and laboratory building within Woodland Business Park. Zoning commitments require PTRA review. Presenter is Nick Hershel. – *AIT Laboratories desires to relocate to Woodland Business Park. Presentation on business model. Forensic science. Petition will be filed soon. Will return next month. Initial reaction is favorable.*

2) 5561 W. 56th St. – church desires to rezone residential property for religious use. Presenter is Dave Tunis. – *Several Monica Drive residents in attendance. Church has small congregation. Been in existence for several years; have looked for a long time to purchase property. Church does not plan to add additions to existing dwelling. Addition and extended hard surface drive/parking area added by previous owner. Neighbors expressed concerns about traffic and parking. No mention of intent to file for a zoning change.*

3) I-65 and Lafayette Rd. – Eagle Creek Shoppes – proposal for auto sales within integrated center. Center zoned C-4; commitments prohibit automobile related uses. Presenter is Kevin Piper. – *Not in attendance; no presentation.*

4) 4765 W. 71st St. – proposal for a doggy daycare and boarding facility. Presenter is Jack Topham. – *Mr. Topham desires to open a doggy daycare and boarding facility. Plans are to construct a tall solid privacy fence to keep dogs in during outside play and provide visual barrier. Question was raised if a zoning change or variance was needed. Initial reaction was favorable with possible commitments. PTRA would prefer variance as opposed to zoning change. No mention of intent to file.*

Meeting adjourned 11:40 p.m.