

# Pike Township Residents' Association

## Meeting Minutes 04/08/09

Susan Blair called the meeting to order at 7:04 PM.

Quorum verified – 25 total with 9 in attendance (more arrived after count).

Susan read PTRAs Mission Statement. She reminded attendees to sign-in. Sign-in form on the back table. She identified items on the table including an updated roster; community form; reviewed how to become a PTRAs member or a board member; membership form; website brochures for Lafayette Square Coalition; Eagledale Weed & Seed program; agenda. 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.

### I. GUEST – DEPUTY MAYOR OF NEIGHBORHOODS, OLGEN WILLIAMS

Just came to say Hello! He is here on behalf of Mayor Ballard. He is here to listen to our concerns and suggestions. He is here to serve the community in any way possible. He is not a political person, but just wants to help people. He just wants to serve “as best he can”. He can be reached by phone at 327-3711. Lori, his executive secretary will answer.

Q. There is concern the Mayor will raise income taxes to pay for the CIB funding shortfall.

A. He does not have an answer, but Mayor Ballard will come up with a proposal.

Q. Susan asked Rep. Hinkle if he thought the legislatures were going to assist the Mayor with funding mechanisms.

A. There is general discussion only. No raising of taxes. There is no “receptivity”. The CIB and unemployment issue may cause a meltdown and create the need for a special session.

A statement was made that the system is broken. We owed more money on the Hoosier Dome when it was torn down, then when it was built.

Q. How many appointments does Mayor Ballard have on the CIB?

A. Mr. Williams did not know.

Q. The community needs legal notices to neighbors when a business is going to environmental court for zoning infractions?

A. That would require a City-County Council directive. Mr. Williams suggested City-County Councilors be contacted.

Q. On zoning violations the fine has just become a cost of doing business. There needs to be stronger penalties.

A. Appreciates the issue.

Q. The neighborhood south of Eagle Creek has issues with Pike Soccer/Indy Parks. Meetings are taking place. The progress is minimal. It needs to be moved along. A lack of funding is a major factor. An invitation was extended to the Deputy Mayor for the next meeting on 4/22.

A. If not another commitment, he will attend.

Q. Northwestway Park has grass 5' tall. Recently, a lady fell out of it screaming for help. It is a security issue. Can we get the grass cut or burned more often?

A. They will look into it.

We all thanked Deputy Mayor Williams for attending.

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

Sam Bruner, Assistant Township Fire Marshal

Steve Jones, Township Fire Marshal

Maggie Lewis, “Lets Improve Crooked Creek” and Councilor - District 7

Katherine Ritchie, Secretary, Pike Township School Board

Mary Chalmers, Mayor’s Neighborhood Liaison-Pike Township and Eagledale

Lulu Patton, Pike Township Trustee

Phillip Hinkle, State Representative-District 92  
Janice McHenry, Councilor-District 6  
Mary Clark, President-Lafayette Square Area Coalition  
Scott Rosenburger – Weed & Seed program  
Doug Stevens – Judge, Pike Small Claims Court

**II. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES** – The March minutes were approved unanimously. Clint made the motion to approve; Ed H. seconded the motion.

**III. TREASURER'S REPORT** – No Treasurer's report this month.

**IV. REPORT FOR PIKE TOWNSHIP FROM INDIANAPOLIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT NORTHWEST DISTRICT AND PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE** – Deputy Prosecutor Drew Wignal, Northwest District, in attendance. He stated that he had e-mailed the police runs to Susan, and had a hard copy that he brought to the meeting. The last graffiti cover-up was March 27<sup>th</sup>. At Lafayette Rd. and I65, there were a couple of abandoned houses that were boarded and secured that had all 4 sides of the house tagged. There was also a cover-up at 62<sup>nd</sup> and Peterson. There was a burglary issue at the Michigan Road Shoe Repair. 4 juveniles were apprehended. They gave information that involved 10 additional burglaries with 10 additional criminals over the past year. They were all age 12 – 16 and had been cutting class and not at school. Yesterday, off of 52<sup>nd</sup> Street, 3 more kids were caught who cleared up 6 – 7 more burglaries. Over all, the number of burglaries has been reduced. The problem is that the juvenile system is full and more of these kids end up back out on the street. Some are on house arrest and other punishment measures other than incarceration.

**V. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PLAT REPORTS, AND CORRESPONDENCE** –

- 1) Ms. Patton announced a women's veteran's retreat 5/15 – 5/17 for re-entry and living in civilian life. There is a \$25 deposit to reserve a spot at St. Vincent's Martin House. Deposit is refundable. For contact information, a flyer is on the back table.
- 2) Susan attended the IMPD task force meeting. A homicide detective gave a presentation. The Discovery Channel has a show called Investigative Discovery. Indianapolis has a homicide clearance rate of 85%. We are #1 in the country; reason city was chosen for program site. Christine Minka was the detective who gave the presentation, and is one of the detectives' featured on the program. Of the six IMPD districts, IMPD Northwest was #1 in crime reduction.
- 3) Scott Rosenburger spoke about the Weed and Seed Program. Description of program -- Weed – weeds out the bad guys and negative elements. Seed – to implement strategies that are positive and decide if an idea has merit. If it is a good idea then it will be funded. The funding comes from the Department of Justice, law enforcement, and the public. The Weed meeting is the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday at 6:30 PM at the Eagle Branch Library at 34<sup>th</sup> & Lowery. The Seed meeting is the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday at 6:00 PM at Covenant Baptist Church at 4201 W. 30<sup>th</sup>. The steering committee meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday at 6:00 PM at library branch.
- 4) Katherine inquired about the status of Club Daiquiri. We were told that the owner had no success with operating an under 21 establishment. He will transform to a restaurant with plans to change the name.
- 5) Mary Clark made an announcement that the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual International Parade will be on October 24<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. You can also get free food at Taste of the World. If you are interested in volunteering, see Councilor Lewis.
- 6) Councilor Lewis told us that the traffic court and probation offices would not relocate to the Commercial Drive location they had been considering. There is a question as to whether the proposed retail locations under consideration have appropriate zoning. The traffic court's current location is zoned SU-9.
- 7) Gardens of Growth have new location; hearing for variance is scheduled for 4/21. They are to cease and desist by Mar 4<sup>th</sup> at the Guion Rd. location.

**VI. LIQUOR PERMITS** – No Alcohol Board hearing agendas this month. Mary Chalmers will check into why we are no longer receiving notices. There was the mention of 3 locations without specifics.

- El Ray Del Taco 4040 Highschool Rd. beer & wine
- Passage to India 4225 Lafayette Rd.
- 86<sup>th</sup> & Michigan Shell Station - continued to 4/27.

**VII. LAND USE – NEW PETITIONS**

- 1) **7220 Woodland Dr. – 2009-APP-803 & 2009-VAR-803** Indy Northwest Hotel Limited Partnership, requests 1) approval to modify commitments related to petition 87-Z-247A to terminate commitment five, which requires administrative approval of site plans for all non I-2-S uses. 2) Variance of development standards of the sign regulations to provide for a 55-ft. tall (40-ft max. permitted), 648.3-sq. ft. pole sign, consisting of a 318.75-sq. ft. on-premise sign cabinet and a 329.88-sq. ft. off-premise sign cabinet, with a 3.8-ft front setback from Interstate 465 (min. 60-ft front setback required), located approximately 130.7 feet and 176.1 feet from two existing nonconforming off-premises signs and approximately 520 feet from an existing off-premise advertising sign (min. 1,000-ft. separation distance required), and within 176.1 feet of an existing freestanding on-premises sign (min. 300-ft separation required between freestanding on-premises signs within an integrated center). Council District 1. Hearing, 4/23/09, Hearing Examiner. Presenter is Tim Ochs/Greg Ewing. Chairperson is Kevin Durcholz, Vice President-District III. *After a brief discussion, Don motioned to support with the stated commitments (copy in file). Catherine seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*
- 2) **8456 and 8500 Michigan Rd. – 2009-APP-033** GDI Construction, Inc., requests a modification of site plan, related to petition 93-Z-88A to provide for the relocation of an existing secondhand retailer (Goodwill Store) to the rear of the lot and the creation of a new out lot in the front. Modification of commitments, related to petition 93-Z-88A as previously modified by 94-AP-97, to amend commitments eight, seventeen, nineteen, and twenty to provide for an outdoor drive-through speaker, eliminate any requirement to allow vehicular access from the abutting property to the north, and to allow for development and landscaping consistent with an amended site plan. Current zoning is C-S. Council District 1. Hearing is 4/15/09, MDC. Presenter is Joe Calderon. Chairperson is Ed Harper, Vice President-District II. *Current Goodwill store will be demolished; new store proposed toward the back (west) of the parcel. There will then be space for retail outlot at front (east) of parcel. The Sunbelt petition has been withdrawn. Crooked Creek Community Council (C4) continued petition, not certain of new hearing date. Hearing could be 5/6 or 5/20. If 5/6 and prior to our next meeting, sub committee will be formed. If 5/20, petition will be on May's agenda. Committee volunteers are Jan, Don, Tim and Susan. Clint motioned that the committee be empowered to vote on our position. Catherine seconded it. The position carried unanimously.*
- 3) **7440 Michigan Rd. – 2009-UV3-003** Robert D. Martin dba Pacoma, LLC, requests a variance of use and development standards to: a) provide for a daycare (not permitted) in a 7,200-sq. ft. tenant space in an integrated center; b) with an approximately 5,400-sq. ft. outdoor play area (max. 200-sq. feet of outdoor operations permitted), with a zero-ft. setback within the required west transitional side yard (not permitted); c) and to legally establish a 19.83 –ft. tall, 120-sq. ft. pole sign with a six-ft. front setback from the existing right-of-way of Michigan Rd. (min. fifteen-ft. front setback required). Current zoning is C-4 and D-5. Council District 2. Hearing is 4/28/09, BZA III. Presenter is Bob Martin. Chairperson is Clint Fultz, Vice President-District IV. *Daycare proposed for back portion of building; Edwards Transmission located in front portion. Different daycare had been in building to the west; initially petitioner inquired about that location, property owner would not rent to another daycare due to previous tenant damage. Clint made the motion to support with commitments of no nightclub, adult entertainment, or tattoo parlor. Ed seconded. The motion carried unanimously.*

## VIII. LAND USE – PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

- 1) **Freyn Dr. – no filing Jeff Taylor, Executor of Trust, desires to discuss situation regarding residential properties that are in violation of Heath & Hospital codes. *Mr. Taylor's aunt owned property; she has passed away. He is trying to settle the estate. Next Health & Hospital hearing is April 27<sup>th</sup> (correct date?). Mr. Taylor has limited funds to become compliant. He is attempting to sell property; new owner will purchase as is and address violations. Negotiations are taking place – possibility of selling by May 31<sup>st</sup>. He suggested a letter from PTRA to Health & Hospital hearing Judge indicating we have no objection to another continuance. Clint recommended that we write a letter supporting a continuance. Fire Marshal Steve Jones offered that we could be establishing a precedent. PTRA complains that code violation infractions take a long time to settle. Clint concurred. We then suggested, in the event the sell doesn't come to fruition, Mr. Taylor return for a preliminary proposal if he desires to rezone the property.***

Meeting duly adjourned at 9:52 PM