

PIKE TOWNSHIP RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

Meeting Minutes 01/13/10

Susan Blair called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM.

We were missing 1 for a quorum. Shortly after the meeting started others arrived and we had enough for a quorum.

Susan welcomed all. Susan did not read the mission statement as attendance was light. She reminded attendees to sign-in. Sign-in form on the back table. She identified items on the table, i.e., board roster, membership form, agenda, reviewed how to become a PTRA member or a board member. Ray had notified her that his new email address was not on the roster. Roster will be revised. Advised attendees that our positions are identified by support, oppose, or no position. PTRA's positions are recommendations only, but are highly regarded by the various governmental entities.

I. PRESENTATION – TREE CANOPY ORDINANCE

KEITH HOLDSWORTH, MARION COUNTY TREE BOARD – Keith is the chairperson of the tree board. The board started in 2006. We were provided with a handout related to the benefits of trees. What is being proposed is the planting of more trees in Metropolitan Indianapolis. Trees assist with lowering summertime temperatures. They hold moisture in the canopy and root system. There are proposals currently to amend the landscaping section of each zoning ordinance. They will affect community, personal, subdivision and parking lots. Effort and intent is to expand the urban canopy to 40%. The current coverage is 23%. Pike currently has 29% coverage. They want to preserve existing trees. The existing trees currently count as 1-½ trees in the calculations. They want to increase the tree coverage in existing and new parking lots. There will be a major change in what the requirements will be. Permits will be required for the removal of certain trees. They are trying to establish a good ordinance. The approval process: Metropolitan Development Commission then City County Council. There is hope of being able to submit it in the next 3 months.

II. PRESENTATION – OFFICE OF CODE ENFORCEMENT

PROPOSAL TO INCREASE PERMIT AND LICENSE FEES FOR MARION COUNTY – EMILY MACK, DEPUTY DIRECTOR; NICOLE RANDOL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR – The department proposes to increase the permit and license fees. The fee structure is designed to be equitable. Those who require more service will pay more. Their presentation was a brief overview of code enforcement and how it will work. A handout was provided. The consolidation of services will be a large benefit to the city. The consensus from the group was that this would be of great benefit for the city. There will be a realignment of costs. There will be better enforcement of codes. The costs will be shifted from the taxpayer to the user. Business licensing will be more strictly enforced. There will be a decrease in the number of days to inspect in zoning cases. The OCE will see an increase in the number of inspectors. Office will be a self-sustaining entity with no money needed from taxpayers to fund as in the past. Overall, efficiency will be greatly increased.

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

Janice McHenry, Councilor-District 6
Mary Chalmers, Northwest Outer Region Neighborhood Liaison
Phil Hinkle, State Representative-District 92
Sam Brunner, Assistant Fire Marshal
Katherine Ritchie, Secretary, Pike Township School Board

Rep. Hinkle made a short statement regarding the current legislative session that started 2 weeks ago. The proposed property tax caps were passed out of the house. The expectation was to have it on the Governor's desk Tuesday morning, and signed by Tuesday evening. The ethics reform passed out of the house and on to the Senate. They want to try to be out of session by the end of February. Sunday alcohol sales are to be talked about next week.

III. APPROVAL OF BOARD MINUTES – The motion was made by Katherine Ritchie to approve the minutes as written. Paul seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT – Fran provided the Treasurer's report. The beginning balance was \$3624.03 on 11/11/09. There was 1 deposit for \$295.00. There were 2 withdrawals totaling \$419.94. The ending balance as of 12/31/09 was \$3499.09.

V. **REPORT FOR PIKE TOWNSHIP FROM INDIANAPOLIS METROPOLITAN POLICE DEPARTMENT NORTHWEST DISTRICT AND PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE** – No report this month.

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

- There is a revised agenda. Nu Corinthian Church proposal will not be heard this evening. The church has decided to retain Judy Hawley Conley, Attorney. Staff is requesting setbacks. Issues will be difficult to resolve prior to tomorrow's hearing. Ms. Conley suggested a continuance to the February 11th hearing date. The continuance will be requested at tomorrow's hearing.
- Susan has been appointed to the Department of Code Enforcement Board. It is an appointment made by the Mayor. The first board meeting is tomorrow.
- Mary Chalmers commented on the Great Indy Cleanup, which will be held on April 17th. It is part of the 38th Street Beautification Project. Potential plans include painting of murals on boarded structures and clean up of vacant buildings. There are trash and rodent issues. Several hundred Boy Scouts will be helping with the project. The purpose of the event is to uplift the area with community and business involvement. Mary is asking for suggestions from the public. The main question to the public, what would you like to see done?
- The 96th Street and Township line Rd. roundabout proposal has been continued until January 21st. Hamilton County will meet with the North Point Bay and North Willow Woods residents tomorrow. Susan plans to attend meeting.

VII. **ALCOHOL PERMITS** – The Alcohol Board agendas were not available. Some known permit requests are:

- International Convention Center 6851 Michigan Rd. Seeking a 3-way permit they currently have a catering permit.
- 02/01 – 86th Street Pub transfer of ownership
- Bombay Garden 4150 Lafayette Road (correct address?) 3-way permit
- Jacks Liquors 5524 Georgetown transfer from Rockville Rd.

VIII. **LAND USE – AMENDED PETITION**

- 1) **7220 Woodland Dr. – 2009-VAR-803 (Amended)** Indy Northwest Hotel Limited Partnership requests a variance of development standards of the sign regulations to provide for a 75-ft. tall, 630.2 sq. ft. pole sign, consisting of a 189.7 sq. ft. on-premise sign cabinet, a 215.9 sq. ft. off-premise sign cabinet, and a 224.5 sq. ft. off-premise sign cabinet, with a 15-ft. setback from Interstate 465, located approximately 167.7 feet from an existing nonconforming off-premises sign and approximately 520 feet from an existing off-premise advertising sign, and within 167.7 feet of an existing freestanding on-premise sign. a) Maximum 50-foot tall on-premise sign permitted (40 feet, plus the ten-ft. grade differential between the sign and the adjacent freeway surface). b) Minimum 300-ft. separation required between freestanding on-premise signs within an integrated center. c) Maximum 40-ft. tall off-premise sign permitted. d) Minimum 60-ft. setback for off-premises signs from a freeway right-of-way. e) Minimum 1000-ft. radial separation required between off-premise signs. f) Minimum 1500-ft. linear separation required between off-premise signs along a freeway. Hearing date is 2/3/10, MDC. Council District 1. Presenter is Tim Ochs; Greg Ewing. Chairperson is Kevin Durcholz, Vice-President, District III. – *They want to reduce the area that the sign takes up to 382 square feet. The MDC will rehear the petition. They have addressed the concerns of Staff. The sign will consist of 1 pole with 3 panels. 1 panel for McDonalds and 2 panels for the hotels (Holiday Inn Express and Hampton Inn). With I-465 improvements including a new sound abatement wall and addition of the 73rd Street fly over, the wall obscures the existing McDonald's sign. A sign company was commissioned to determine the best location for the signs. If approved, the existing McDonald's sign will be removed, thus eliminating a sign within the area. The motion to support with commitments stated was made by Kevin. Clint seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.*

Other Business -- *In the matter of the code enforcement proposal for increased permit and license fees, we voted to support. Don made motion; Ray seconded. Motion carried unanimously.*

The meeting adjourned at 9:25 PM.