

UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS OF EVANSVILLE GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES

September 25th, 2009

Neighborhoods and organizations present were: Akin Park, Ballard, CCIA, CHAIN, Culver, Eastview, GBC, Goosetown, Hilltop, Jacobsville, Lamasco, Lorraine Park, Mt. Auburn, North Country Club, Oak Hill, Poplar Grove, South Lincoln Park Drive, STAR, Vogel-Spring Park, Westside Improvement and Willamette Village

The meeting in the Red Cross Building was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by President Elect Chris Cooke. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jim Morgan.

Minutes – Linda Jones

Minutes of the August 27, 2009 meeting were approved as written. The motion was made by Jim Morgan and the second by Janet James, motion carried.

Financial Report – Dick Tredway

August financial statements were distributed. Fred Padget reported there was an increase in the Leadership Training because they sent 2 people to the RNNC (Regional Neighborhood Network Conference). The Phone/Internet was higher due to the Website Hosting charge. He explained that we get reimbursed by the neighborhoods for printing and purchasing office supplies for them. So those line items may be higher but if you look in Income you will see where we get paid back for those services. Any questions can be directed to Lori and she would be able to answer them. The report will be filed for review.

Old Business

Sparkplug Banquet Update – Chris Cooke

The Dinner will be on November 6th at 6pm at the Scottish Rite. They are still taking ads for the banquet program and are still collecting door prizes. Chris has the forms available if you would like them. Jeff Lyons will be the speaker for the evening. Don't forget to send your pictures and/or videos to Lori for the slideshow. The next meeting will be Tuesday, October 13th at 5pm at the UNOE office.

CPR and First Aid Classes – Chris Cooke

There is a flyer in your packet; you can make copies and distribute them or put in your newsletter. The classes will be held on October 17th from 8am – 5pm at the Red Cross on Stockwell Rd or on October 20th and 22nd from 6pm–10pm (you must attend both of these in order to get certified). Call the UNOE office to register.

New Business

By-Law Revision/Regional Vice-President Election Procedure – Paul Farmer

Last month you were given a copy of the old and the new by-laws to look over and make any suggestions or corrections. No one called him with any questions, concerns, or comments so Paul made a motion to accept the By-Laws as written, Jim Morgan seconded and motion passed. The biggest change being the creation of 3 Regional Vice-Presidents. It was decided since the city is broken up into Sectors that would probably be the best way to divide the Regional Vice-Presidents. At the October UNOE General Meeting we will break up into sectors and vote for our Regional Vice-President.

“Spunky” Award – Marlin Beck

Marlin explained a little about the Spunky Award. Marlin and Mary Beck would like UNOE to work with them on a new project they are planning. The “Spunky” Award will be a yearly award given in remembrance of an American Eskimo dog named “Spunky” rescued from a life of physical abuse and neglect by Mary and Marlin Beck. The purpose of the award is to foster, promote, and recognize those responsible dog owners and their neighborhood association that are working towards making the world a better place for dogs and neighborhoods by humanely improving on the human/animal bond and animal welfare. There would be a \$200 reward that would be split between the neighborhood and the winner. More info will follow.

Other from the Floor

Bev Kempf announced that on October 27th at 6:30pm at St. Anthony's Center for Family Life Dr. Ahmed will be presenting a program called “Journeying through Breast Cancer”. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Chris Cook announced on Wednesday, October 7th at 5:30pm there will be an Informational Regulatory meeting on Tree Trimming with a hearing following at 6:00 pm at Harrison High School.

Program: A Year in Review with the Candidates

Gail Riecken – Fair Taxes and Good Jobs – State Representative District 77

- Good cooperation from Southern Indiana – Bi-Partisan elected officials
- Fair Property Taxes (common sense property tax reform)
- Affordable Healthcare (a meeting tomorrow at Purdue)

Steve Melcher – County Commissioner District 3

- Working together across party lines
- Sometimes the agenda changes just before the meeting – hopefully next year the agenda will stay as printed unless it is an emergency
- Sheriff's contract finally complete and approved

Bix Branson – School Board Member

- Just oversees the big picture, keeps in contact with the administration and the superintendent
- Every 2 weeks there is a school board meeting (attendance is low at the meetings)
- Oversees a budget of \$250 million
- Early Childhood Education and Technology are very important

Susan Kirk – County Clerk

- 54 staff members in the Clerk's office
- \$100,000 a year for storage of records from the Clerk's Office
- Court records will be open to the public in 2010
- Goal is to get rid of ESS (Election Systems Software) from handling the elections – when she started they were charging \$120 for a cardboard box to hold the election supplies for each polling place. She put a stop to that right away

Z Tuley – County Recorder

- A major project she is working on is to get things that are used the most on DVD.
- The books are old and some are in very bad condition so she is getting bids to preserve the books. She is trying to get a grant for this
- Trying to get everything fixed so they will be available from the internet – but per the State there is a fee that has to be charged so there will be a user fee. Probably by the month. It will cost \$241,000 to load everything on the computer

Annie Eickhoff Groves – County Coroner

- 3 goals for 2010 is 1) Suicide prevention 2) To endorse the use of motorcycle helmets 3) The abuse of Xanax – there have been 20 overdoses this year
- continue promoting Safe Sleep for babies – on the back, no blanket and nothing else in the crib with them

Mike Goebel – County Council at Large

- passed the 2010 budget for the County – no pay raises for county employees in 2010/didn't cut benefits
- speaks his mind and is a true voice of residents – they work in a bi-partisan fashion
- goals would be to operate within their means – with the limited amount of dollars – great department heads

Russ Lloyd – County Council at Large

- proud of the accomplishments of the neighborhoods – told a story about the RNNC when we hosted it in 2003
- Goals for 2010 would be to run an efficient government – work with elected office holders- early voting is good
- Held the budget for 2010 to \$63,500,000 the same as 2009 – there is more e-mail communication now

Rick Davis – County Treasurer – He said this was the longest year of his life

- Goal would be to print the tax bills in house in 2010, put investments online for everyone to see - \$900,000 this year for our county – everything is long term investing and no short term
- Adjusted homestead credits are complete
- Evansville was the 13th city in the State to bill this year and was 1 of 6 cities in the State to collect money and pay bills by the deadline
- He said the biggest challenge for our neighborhoods are vacant homes – he is working on a lifetime estate exemption if the owner agrees to give their property to a 501(c)3 organization. More info later.

Jim Morgan made motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:15 pm, Beverly Kempf seconded, motion passed.

Linda Jones

UNOE Secretary