

Minutes: Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Association Meeting
Sunday, February 2nd, 2003, 7PM, Charles French House--529 Western St.

Present: Bucksbaum, Rogers, Willaredt, Dodds, S. Bartholomew, S. Bartholomew, Slobojan, K. Miranda, D. LaRogue, PJ LaRoque, J. Smith, Haberman, A. Hayes, S. Ryan, B. Smith, T. Smith, Harry Thoman, T. Tuck, T. Genz, Redmond Jones, Meginnis
The meeting began at 7:07PM. The minutes from November were approved.

2. Financial Report. Treasurer Bucksbaum reported we have \$6,069 in checking and \$80.37 in savings.

3. Introduction of special guest: Tara Barney, Sr. VP, Davenport One

Ms. Barney was unable to attend. Marion reported that she met with her several weeks ago to discuss issues surrounding the neighborhood, including the Ripley St. steps, the 5th St. houses, and the Gaines corridor. Ms. Barney is very interested in housing near downtown and expressed her belief that the neighborhoods around downtown will play a big role in the revitalization of the city.

4. Committee Reports

-Beautification: PJ reported that the committee is planning a Clean Sweep in the spring and also doing more plantings. We will need to do this on top of the new wall in the park. The committee is looking for volunteers to do various tasks rather than the scheduled Saturday cleanings. Dennis said he had talked to the gentleman at Koehler regarding lamps that are out. Dennis will pick up a case of bulbs. Terry Tuck mentioned that the several bulbs are blinking on and off and recommended that the wiring be checked.

-Home Tour: Dennis LaRoque mentioned that the committee is looking for homes to be open during the home tour. The date is September 7th. If anyone would like to have their home open, please contact Dennis LaRoque or Terry Genz. President Smith said the entertainment was great last year and hoped we could do that again.

5. New Business

-New Police Facility: Dee Bremmer, Assist. City Administrator asked for a representative from the neighborhood to build a new police facility. They are looking for someone who could put in a little bit of time in the next few months to help work with the consultant. Harry Thoman offered to represent the neighborhood. A request was made that Harry keep the group informed. We don't have a lot of information on what is happening. Harry will get the information and let us know what is happening. The committee will be reviewing designs for the planned facility. Special meetings of the Association will be called as necessary.

-2003 Budget

A budget for 2003 was proposed at \$4,750. All figures were estimated, and included funding for utilities, insurance, postage, printing, advertising, home tour and beautification. This year, the budget designates a certain amount for each committee.

President Smith explained that the liability insurance includes coverage on the land we own and the home tour. The insurance we have now covers lights and gazebo replacements. Alan asked if the insurance also covers any accidents to visitors or tour participants during the home tour and if it covers the home owners.

The budget was approved.

2003 Budget

Assets*		Liabilities	
Membership Dues	\$400	Electricity	\$600
Tour Income	\$5000	Water	\$200
Beautification Grants	\$1000	Liability Insurance	\$700
		PO Box	\$50
		Postage	\$200
		Printing	\$200
		Signs	\$200
		Advertising	\$600
		Home Tour	\$500
		Program Committee	\$200
		Beautification Comm	\$1200
Total	\$6400	Total	\$4750

*Projected

-Update on Crimewatch meeting

A meeting was held January 23th at United Neighbors with the police department. We only had 15 people there. There were also some people from the Central Community Circle. This group has been very successful. There have been 55 Neighborhood Watch groups in

the city. We have an overlap between Vine and Warren with the Central Community Circle, so we agreed not to include that block. We agreed to concentrate on 6th, 7th, and 8th because most of our active members on those streets.

John Dodd said that they have not received mailings from the Central Community Circle. He says they have no input from them. That is about three homes. John said he would like to check out what they are doing before deciding which group they would like to be a part of.

Within our neighborhood, we had 300 police reports in our neighborhood. 1/3 was for traffic, 30 were for theft, 50 were for extra patrols. 25 or so were calls of a suspicious. 25 were for domestic disturbance. In contrast, a four block area by Emias Park in a three month period, they have 2,000 police calls. We average 25 calls a month in our 60 city blocks of area. We have 300 dwellings; we were unclear of how many calls there were in the other comparative area. 9 assault, 13 burglary, 12 damage, 1 sex crime, 3 shots fired, 3 cause for vice.

There are groups all around us starting Crimewatch groups. If we want to go forward, we would develop block captains, set up a phone directory. Are we interested? If so, we can get some grants for signs, up to \$1500 from United Neighbors. If we want to do this, we would need to apply formally. We have 95% of what we have in place already. We would need a captain and co-captain chair. The police are setting up the software in place where people can send in electronic reports soon, and the police can see everything at once. John Dodd mentioned that the paper had said that this system would be in place soon. Troy explained that the system is still on paper. Harry said eventually we will be able to get aggregate reports on a quarterly basis.

The Crimewatch would be sponsored by the Association, but people would not have to be members of the Association to get involved. There would be no cost to the Association. Dennis moved that the Association sponsor a Neighborhood Watch Group whose members need not be members of the Association. PJ Slobojan seconded the motion and it passed. Harry offered to organize the program.

Cat Spay/Neuter program

Marion proposed a neighborhood spay and neuter program that would be funded by donations to the Association. Cristina Bucksbaum has recently been trapping, spay and neutering, and releasing neighborhood feral cats. She explained that once a spay/neutered feral population is established, their tendency to be very territorial should discourage other cats from coming into the area. Cristina has been taking the cats to the Milan Animal Shelter. Sarah Bartholomew said she would be willing to talk to her veterinarian sister about getting a better deal. Cristina said that these animals require several days of care after their operation, and she has offered to assist anyone interested in the program. Marion Meginnis and Jack Haberman offered to kick off the fund with \$300, and to match other donations up to \$300. Linda Willaredt made a motion that the fund be established. The motion was seconded and passed. The motion passed.

6. Other

Marion Meginnis mentioned that we had received a letter from the Rock Island Preservation Society soliciting information on the Association to be included in a 2003 directory. Meginnis will pass the information on to

Next business meeting: will be Sunday, May 4th 7PM

Next Social Program: Vince and Sarah Ryan have offered their home for our March social. The social will be Saturday, March 15, beginning at 5PM at 504 W. 7th St. Sarah and Vince will be cooking corned beef and cabbage and invite everyone to bring a dish to share and WEAR GREEN.

Terry said that, in April, we visit the Hegeler Carus home in LaSalle. Terry will be getting out details of the tour.

Pam introduced a new resident--Redmond Jones. He recently bought the house at the corner of 7th and Warren. Everyone introduced themselves and welcomed Redmond to the neighborhood.

Secretary Meginnis reminded the group that dues are due for the year.

The business meeting adjourned at 8:15PM and was followed by a social hour.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Meginnis

Secretary October 5, 2003

Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Association Emergency Meeting **Sunday, October 9, 2003, 4 pm**

Present: Karen Miranda*, Marion Meginnis*, Jack Haberman*, John Dodd*, Dennis LaRoque*, Monica Smith*, Steve Andrews*, PJ Slobojan*, William Rogers* Cristina Bucksbaum*, John Smith*, Sara Bartholomew*, Steve Bartholomew*, Terry Genz*, Mike Tollenaer*, Elmer Tuck, Sue Schroeder, John Freuh*, Harold Jestel, Kyle Beals

*Voting Members

Executive Committee Member-At-Large Dennis LaRoque chaired the meeting.

The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the response of the neighborhood to the fire at Debbie Chaney's home.

A motion was made to establish the Historic Mueller Mansion Fund with the purpose of stabilizing and saving the historic home. The motion was seconded. The group discussed the background of events of the past week and a half and the urgency expressed by the neighborhood at last week's meeting at Mike and Sue Schroeder's home that action should be taken to close up the home against approaching winter weather and potential vandalism. After discussion, the motion passed.

A motion was made that the Association donate \$2500 of its general operating funds to the Historic Mueller Mansion Fund. It was seconded by PJ Slobojan. There was discussion regarding the amount of the donation. Treasurer Cristina Bucksbaum noted that there is currently \$10,000 in the general funds of the organization. The motion passed.

The group took a few minutes to update follow up from the fire.

- Fritz Miller looked at the house last week and estimated it would cost \$22,000 to remove the roof. This does not include any repairs.
- Debbie will be getting appraiser estimates of the value of the home this week.
- A proposed news release was read to the group. Plans call for a news conference with media sometime next week. Marion Meginnis is coordinating the news conference.

A task force consisting of Elmer Tuck, Mike Ryan, Cristina Bucksbaum and Jack Haberman was appointed to develop the workplan for the home. Elmer Tuck volunteered to sit down with Mike Ryan next week to develop a work plan for next steps. The group discussed the need for this group to be able to make decisions to move the project forward.

Sarah Bartholomew made a motion that move that the Task Force also be empowered to administer the fund. The motion was seconded by Terry Genz.

The meeting was adjourned.

Marion Meginnis, Secretary

Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Neighborhood Association

November 10, 2003

Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Annual Meeting

Present: Troy Smith, John Dodd, Terry Genz, Michael Tollenaer, Harold Jestel, Pam LaRoque, Dennis LaRoque, Steve Bartholomew, Sara Bartholomew, John Smith, Monica Smith, Jack Haberman, Marion Meginnis, Cristina Bucksbaum

President Smith called the meeting to order at 7:06PM.

Financial Statement Treasurer Bucksbaum reviewed the financial statement. The spay/neuter fund can only be used for feral cats. We have had a big response to this and money in this account. It is available to anyone at the neighborhood. Our home tour expenses are getting very cost efficient. The money to go toward the Mueller Mansion is included in the expense line, but there is a total separate accounting for that fund. Cristina said that the press release did not generate the kind of funding that we had hoped. We raised \$137.00 in donations from people in the community. So we are around \$2,700 in the fund.

D LaRoque moved that we accept the statement and Steve Bartholomew seconded it.

6th Street House Jack Haberman reported that Fritz Mueller had an estimate of in the neighborhood of \$160,000 to remove and put a new room on. Schwartz came in with a bid of about \$20,000 to remove the roof and install rolled roof. Cristina pointed out that a "Temporary" roof would actually be able to stay up for a number of years. White Roofing made a bid this week. Debbie hasn't committed to what she can do. Cristina pointed out that Mike Ryan and Elmer have been working diligently behind the scenes to get bids for the project.

Dennis pointed out that one reason for the publicity is to make sure the city understands our interest in preserving the home. They have been helpful. Debbie also still doesn't have an appraisal. John Freuh is pursuing the grant from the Iowa Historical Society.

Issues on 8th Street. The tenant is out of jail. There have been two calls on unattended fires. Marion and Jack did a conference call with Jackie at United Neighbors and the landlord who lives in Blue Grass. The city was unable to use the nuisance abatement law to get him out of the neighborhood after he was jailed for handcuffing children south of the neighborhood. Supposedly, the landlord was going to deliver an eviction notice for November. Jack said he will call Jackie about following up with the landlord.

Social. We will hold the Neighborhood Social on Monday, December 15th. It will end up at the Beiderbecke Inn at 7:30PM. Terry and Michael and Steve and Sara volunteered to open their homes also. The Social will begin at 6PM at Terry and Michael's and move on to Sara and Steve's. The people opening their homes will decide what they will serve. They should feel free to let others in the neighborhood know what they can bring. Pam suggested that we send out flyers for the holiday party. It was suggested that we send out postcards to neighborhood. John Dodd will update the list than Marion has.

Other Business

Cristina is missing a tiger neutered male, white chest and four white feet. A third of his tail is missing.

Monica Smith suggested that we let Keith Meyer, our new alderman, know about our association and our meetings.

A question was asked about the update on the barrier at the top of the Western Street Steps. The bid is in and PJ has plans for it.

Marion Meginnis suggested that plans for the barrier be presented at the next Association meeting in January for a vote by the membership.

Dennis mentioned that he still has free leaf bags and there is free pickup through November. He estimates that he has 150-200 left.

Elections

We are electing four positions tonight. The nominating committee proposed Monica Smith and Dennis LaRoque for the At Large positions. Sara Bartholomew volunteered to serve as secretary. Marion Meginnis was nominated for President. Dennis Laroque. made a motion to accept the slate; it was seconded by Steve Bartholomew. The motion passed unanimously.

The Association thanked Troy and Steve for their service. Steve Bartholomew made a motion that the meeting be adjourned. It was seconded and passed. The meeting ended at 7:52PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marion Meginnis

Secretary

Gold Coast & Hamburg Historic District Association