

## **ACNA Meeting Minutes January 24, 2012**

The meeting of the Allen County Neighborhood Association was held on January 24, 2012 at 7:00pm in the Omni Room in the Garden Level of the Citizen Square Building. The meeting was called to order at 7:00pm by Dan McCrea, Co-Coordinator. 48 residents were in attendance.

### **Carrie Hawk Gutman Attorney**

- Present to answer legal questions pertaining to associations.
- Enforcement of the collection of dues: Collection of past dues can be enforced by placing a lien on the property and will be collected at the time of selling the house. Can't file to enforce the lien for one year from the date it is filed but must enforce the lien within five years of filing. Other option would be to file a suit in Small Claims Court
- How to update covenants: Contact any lawyer who handles Real Estate law and they can assist in the process.
- Large subdivision with multiple sections: each section probably has one Article of Incorporation and By-Laws but may have a different set of Restrictive Covenants for each section.
- Address improperly assessed dues – any statute of limitations: Sub has a deficiency at the end of the year. Long drawn out process to address. Need to look at entire accounting for the subdivision. Too long to answer in time frame of this meeting.
- What notice needs to be given to raise dues: Spelled out in the covenants. It may say how much can be authorized to increase without any notice. If more than the allowed increase is needed, check for covenants and by-laws. It should be specifically spelled out for steps required for the increase.

### **Bill Hartman Allen County Highway Department Director**

- Three hand outs given out. 2030 II Transportation Plan; Directory of Allen County Highway Department; Current Federal Aid Project update.
- Phone number to Highway Department: 260-449-7369
- Phone number to Carroll Road Barn: 260-449-4781
- Phone number to South Barn: 260-449-4791
- Explanation on how tax money for roads collected and disbursed
- Collect approximately \$6000 / mile from gas taxes.
- Update on Maplecrest project. \$30 million project due to be completed by the end of 2012
- Fort to Port Project – working to complete road expansion from Toledo to Fort Wayne.

- Update on Union Chapel and Auburn Road projects. Four roundabouts planned around I-69 interchange: one at Diebold; one at Union Chapel and Auburn; two at I-69. Project partially funded by Parkview Hospital for access to new hospital.
- Explained the 40/60 program: Contact Mike McCulloch for details. If funding is available, the county picks up 60% of the tab and the association picks up the remaining 40%. Minor repairs are handled by the Highway Department without cost to association. Major re-work would fall under the 40/60 Program.
- Update on the delay to the Gump Road project. Drainage issues between Hometown and County need to be addressed first.
- New interchange still planned at I-69 and Hursh Road.

### **Ken Fries**

#### **Allen County Sheriff**

- Explained what functions the sheriff department handles.
- Discussed the December death of the young girl in the trailer park and the location of sex offenders.
- Handout: Sex and Violent Offender Registry – [www.insor.org](http://www.insor.org) to register to receive email updates on location of registered sex offenders within a certain radius of your home. Free service all residents should use.
- Know your neighbor: [www.whitepages.com](http://www.whitepages.com) and click on neighbors to know who your neighbors are. Best way to know if someone doesn't belong is to know who does belong.
- Department reviews COMSTATS each Thursday. These show when and where incidents occur.
- Can have the Public Information Officer attend association meetings.
- Neighbors must be the eyes and ears. Remember: be vigilant! Get involved to know your neighbors.
- Neighborhood Watch Groups – usually formed after something bad has happened and remain strong for about three months and then they tend to fall off.
- Discussed the Citizens Academy: Contact Laura Braun at 260-449-7415 to get more details. Twelve week program, usually 6-10pm Wednesday nights. Details the ins and outs of the police with real world applications. Free to any citizen who wants to learn more of what the police do.
- Become an advocate for the police!

### **Karl Niblick**

#### **Assistant Chief Fort Wayne Police Department**

- Perception is that crime is increasing but in reality it is down for each of the past eleven years.
- Discussed the Neighborhood Response Teams and that they address neighborhood hot spots.
- Talked about sex offender registry and that due to a legal challenge, Wallace Case, a large number of sex offenders were removed from the registry. This was due to time of the offense and the type of crime that they committed.

- Discussed who to contact for issues inside the city – call the city first. Joint dispatch now so if a sheriff is available, they may be sent to the scene first. The county has jurisdiction everywhere but still should call the city first.
- Woman's Bureau is sponsoring Elizabeth Smart speech on March 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Discussed meth and spice use. Meth users will do anything to get money to get more meth. Very addictive and controlling. Beware of strong odors. Do not hesitate to call police if concerned of strong odor smell.
- Discussed crime in the associations and the fact that the victim must report the crime to the police. They can't tell the president and have him report it.
- In the county, the Monthly Report of Incidents may be obtained by contacting the Public Information Officer Jeremy Tinkle at 260-449-7535. Can also get Report of Crimes from the City via [www.fwpd.org](http://www.fwpd.org).
- In the city, an individual officer is assigned an association as the Neighborhood Liaison Officer.
- Strong odor – suspected drug activity – contact County Narcotics Department (260-449-7554). Cars that drive up slowly and drive away after only a few minutes could be the sign of drug activity. Contact the Narcotics Department and they will address it. Might be discrete, but if you don't think action is being taken, call again.
- Neighborhood Watch Groups – contact [www.sheriffs.org](http://www.sheriffs.org) for info on how to set one up. Pay attention to what is going on around your home!!
- Home security systems – Sign and loud horn or loud barking dog are two of your best deterrents. A house with neither is more prone to be the target of a break in.
- Speeding and stop sign running – call to report. Sometime there are limited resources to address but all calls are recorded and reviewed. Call 260-449-7419 for the Traffic Division.
- Cars parked and not moving – can be tagged and if not moved, then can be towed.

### **Open Discussion:**

- A home was purchased with the promise that a pool was going to be installed in the Association. The pool was never installed. A refund is now being offered. Question will be forwarded to Carrie for legal opinion.
- Who handles Association pool maintenance – hired source – references given from other neighborhoods.
- Are rental properties allowed – need to review covenants and By Laws.
- What should future meetings address?

The meeting was closed at 8:20pm. The next meeting is scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm in the Omni Room in the Garden Level of the Citizen Square Building, 200 E. Berry at 7:00pm.