

PINCKNEY NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
March 15, 2014
Lawrence Memorial Hospital – Auditorium

People present: Pat Miller, presiding; Linda Bush, Brad Anderson, Maureen Anderson, Paul Liechti, Melinda Toumi, Mary Ann Tindell, Paul Jefferson, Don Pierce, Norma Pierce.

Meeting called to order approximately 10 a.m.

Review/Approval of Agenda: Under “New Business,” the group voted to add two items, Community Village Lawrence and Safety / Police Issues.

Review/Approval of Minutes: Minutes approved as published.

Treasurer’s Report: Linda Bush reported a balance of approximately \$2,450 plus a small amount of petty cash. The increase from the February total was the result of two new memberships, each with a donated amount in addition to dues. These came as the result of address corrections sent following the newsletter mailing.

LAN Report: Linda Bush reported that the March meeting of Lawrence Area Neighborhoods included presentations on the proposed downtown grocery store similar to the one PNA heard in February and a city report on proposed regulation of rental properties. LAN has scheduled its annual planning/goal setting meeting for March 29, 1-4:30 p.m., at the Carnegie Building. Bush will attend; she would like an additional Pinckney representative. Bush is chair of LAN as well as Pinckney’s delegate.

Old/Continuing Business

- Outside for a Better Inside Trail: Melinda Toumi reported that the ground has been broken for the trail around the pond on the former VFW property destined to be a city park. There will be two entrances, one at the end of Maine Street near Woody Park and the other in Burcham Park. The trail will connect around the pond. The organizers and contractor are planning for a May 3 opening, weather permitting completion of the construction. Toumi, who wrote the Sunflower Trails grant that is financing the construction, said there is a need for a volunteer clean-up effort sometime before the opening, but it cannot be scheduled yet. Plans include preserving several large trees and planting six to eight varieties of native trees. She is working with a Boy Scout troop to identify and mark the trees.
- Pedestrian Coalition/Sidewalks: Pat Miller reported that this group is moving forward and the PNA may wish to plug in because the coalition seems to have identified some areas in Pinckney for construction/improvement of sidewalks.

New Business

- Fundraising / Advertising Strategy: A committee formed to plan and coordinate this effort, which targets the business community, and promised to meet before the next PNA meeting on April 19. Members are Miller, Toumi, Bush and Brad Anderson. Meeting date TBD.
- Community Village Lawrence: Few details are known about this new grassroots volunteer organization with the mission of helping to enable elderly people to stay longer in their homes. A speaker will be requested for the April or May meeting. Bush will make contact.
- Safety / Police Issues: Sparked by publication of a letter to the editor of the Lawrence Journal-World March 15 (<http://www2.ljworld.com/news/2014/mar/15/letter-patrols-needed/>), a lively discussion regarding police response to non-emergency calls and Lawrence resources in support of mental patients in crisis. PNA will request a meeting in April or May with the director of Bert Nash and a representative of City Police.

The business meeting was adjourned shortly after 11 a.m.

Guest Speaker: Jillian Rodrigue of the Douglas County Emergency Management Department spoke on how to prepare for and react to extreme weather. Among her recommendations:

- Sign up for Immediate Response Information System (IRIS) Douglas County alerts at bit.ly/IRISDG.
- Check spc.noaa.gov and/or weather.gov/Topeka every morning.
- Make plans with family for meeting place and communications.
- Pack a small emergency bag to grab and take in the event of evacuation.

— Respectfully submitted, Norma Pierce