

GLENBROOK NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
September 17, 2014 Quarterly Meeting
Glenbrook Community Center

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME:

The meeting was called to order at 7:30pm by Christie Fountain, GNA President. 79 people attended. Approximately 10 new members in attendance stood and were recognized.

Mike Battinelli made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 18, 2014 meeting (previously e-mailed to GNA members); Al Sgritta seconded the motion.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT: Anita Kozminsky - Currently 180 residential and 31 businesses

TREASURER'S REPORT: Meryl McDaniel - \$6,793 after all bills paid

OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Crescent Street: Trees will be planted later in the fall. Some parts unfinished – MetroNorth did not return Engineering Department's phone calls and work could not be done within 25ft of tracks.
- B. Annual print newsletter, *Neighborhood News*: Arrived in 06906 mailboxes before GNA meeting.
- C. Transit-Oriented Development (TOD): Final public meeting October 7th, 6:00pm, at Government Center.
- D. New construction in Village Commercial District (VCD): Commercial realtor Don Corbo said the 467 Glenbrook property would be coming down within two weeks. Developer Anthony Gaglio indicated 17 units would be built; ten one-bedrooms and seven two-bedrooms. They hope to have it framed before winter and ready for tenants in April.
- E. Signal Box Murals: Sylvia Fernandez-Stein will be working on the Hope St/Rock Spring box within the next couple weeks. It will have a Greek inspired theme.
- F. E-newsletter: This has been tabled for now.
- G. Historic Resources Inventory: Erik Larson detailed that the State grant will pay to have 150 parcels surveyed. Volunteers are needed to expand the area to include more properties. Wes Haynes has offered to train volunteers how to complete the survey forms.
- H. Facebook/Website demonstrations: Mark Nowotarski is available to demonstrate after the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Fall Cleanup & Swap will take place on Saturday, October 18th from 9:00 to Noon. GNA board members Linnea McManus and Becky Collins will organize it. Many hands would be appreciated to spruce up Glenbrook. There will be a dumpster, shredding, and of course, coffee and donuts! New safety vests will make their debut. MaryAnn Mara is looking into the cost/feasibility of planting fall flowers in some of the planters.

- B. Hot Chocolate at Glenbrook Fire Department's annual meeting will be manned by GNA. Again, volunteers needed!

INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- A. Business member introductions: Linda Gibson, Union Memorial Preschool Director; Kate Lombardo, Director of the Food Bank; Judy & Jeff Cahn, Dental practice; Gerald Pierni, Realtor.
- B. Elected Officials: Jay Fountain (City Rep D-7); Carlo Leone (State Senator 27th Dist); William Tong (State Rep 147th Dist); Dan Fox (State Rep 148th Dist) Mike Molgano (State Rep 144th Dist) gave updates. Amazing statistic: 15,000 cars use Courtland/Maple Tree Ave on a daily basis.
- C. Rev Blaine Edele, Union Memorial Church, announced their Trunk or Treat on October 25th; and a Mental Health First Aid Training course on October 3rd.
- D. Candidates in November election: Julia Wade (BOE); Betsy Allyn (BOE); Andy George (BOE); Mike Altmura (BOE); Benjamin Aponte (148th Legislative Dist); Caroline Simmons (144th Legislative Dist); Dennis Mahoney (147th Legislative Dist); Eva Maldonado (27th Senatorial Dist).

PROGRAM:

Ernie Orgera, Director of Operations for Stamford, was the speaker.

There was great applause when he mentioned that Crescent Street would be paved this fall! The City hopes to get more money for a continuation of streetscaping on Glenbrook Road. Courtland at East Main, as well as Courtland at Hamilton Ave will be renovated to include turning lanes. Ernie also had a concept map for Courtland and Taylor Reed, where a right turn onto the bridge will be made. Better signals and crosswalks will be reviewed for this intersection.

Ernie also presented the new Stamford Street Smart initiative. All intersections will be reviewed to ensure signage is clearly visible for both drivers and pedestrians and the city traffic lights will be synchronized.

Education of residents and students on pedestrian, driver and cyclist safety; support of Safe Routes to School Program; and working in collaboration with community organizations to build awareness are part of this initiative.

Enforcement will also be stepped up to include DUI, seatbelt violations, distracted drivers, jaywalking, and other violations. It was mentioned that cameras on school buses to catch drivers passing a stopped school bus are in Stamford's future.

Kristine D'Elisa and Jessica Vanderwoort spoke of the dangers of the Courtland/Taylor Reed/Maple Tree intersection and the school crossing guard who was struck in June by a truck turning right on red.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45pm, with many people staying to chat and enjoy the refreshments provided by Grade A.