

Pleasant Ridge Community Council Meeting Minutes – November 3, 2009

The minutes from the October meeting were approved by general consent.

Treasurer's Report

Robert Ramsay distributed a report of PRCC's activity through October.

Police Report

Officer George Engleman distributed a report of October's crime statistics for the neighborhood. He advised residents to be alert for suspicious people doing door-to-door soliciting. Also, if you observe any unusual activity at unoccupied houses, Officer Engleman can work with the city to get them boarded up (contact Officer Engleman at 979-4465).

Stu Isaacs from the Mortgage Fraud Task Force attended the meeting to let neighbors know about the task force, which watches for predatory lending patterns. He encouraged residents to visit the Web site savethedream.ohio.gov, which contains valuable resources for people who may be in danger of foreclosure.

Recreation Center

Rick McCollum reported that children from the area had a good time at the center's Ghou! Fest Halloween celebration. They are talking to a group about providing after-school math tutoring for PRMS and Nativity students. The center is asking the community for \$100 for supplies for Winterfest.

The Recreation Center is still seeking donations of booster seats and/or money to buy booster seats so they can transport their under-8 athletic team members to competitions at other centers. Donations can be dropped off at the center, and are tax-deductible.

Safety Committee Report

John McCarthy reported that PRCC would like to have a schedule of block watch meetings to publish in the Informant and the weekly e-mail bulletin to encourage people to participate in their streets' block watch groups. Neighbors around Smith and Attica are organizing to promote safety in their part of Pleasant Ridge. John reminded residents that they can call 765-1212 to report any suspicious activity around businesses. Citizens on Patrol is also looking for more members.

Fire Department Report

Lieutenant Lopera from the Engine 8 firehouse reported that the company responded to 153 calls in October: 124 EMS runs, 24 non-fire responses, and 5 fires. The firehouse is currently out of smoke detectors, but has plenty of batteries. A resident reported that the fire hydrant in front of Kitty's Hair Salon has been hit by cars several times. Lt. Lopera said he will ask the city to install some stanchions around it.

Communications/Events Report

Will Menz treated the residents in attendance to a preview of the Pleasant Ridge promotional video that he produced to enter in the city's "You 52" contest, sponsored by the mayor's Young Professionals Kitchen Cabinet.

Beau McGrath reported that the Communications Think Tank's next project will be updating the Pleasant Ridge Web site and redesigning the weekly e-mail bulletins. E-mail Beau at communication@pleasantridge.org to get involved in these and other exciting projects.

Winterfest will be on Friday, December 4th, featuring a tree lighting at 6:00 PM at the Recreation Center. Information about luminaria is being sent to street captains.

Business Committee Report

John McCarthy reported that the parking lot on Orion across the street from the Gaslight Café lot has new lighting. Business patrons may park there for up to 3 hours (the time limit will be enforced). PRCC is discussing the proposal to hang new banners in the business district, which will probably happen early next year. A resident suggested that the existing poles could also be used to display projects from area art schools.

Beau McGrath reported that he has communicated with a property manager at BP's corporate office about the former BP site. They are seeking fair market value for the property, but it's hard to determine what that is. He will ask Roxanne Qualls to have City Council take formal action on the property. A resident pointed out that the weeds and graffiti at the site are an eyesore.

Beautification/Clean-Up Report

Ruth Anne Wolfe reported that few people participated in the Fall Clean-Up Day, but that it went well nevertheless. The Beautification and Clean-Up committee is trying to get more planter pots for the area around Swift and Attica at the southwestern corner of the neighborhood. The committee has 100 extra daffodil bulbs, which they will provide at no cost to properties on Ridge and Montgomery.

Hilton Davis Report

Marjorie Evert reported that there has been no update from the Ohio EPA about the requirements for cleaning up the Hilton Davis site. The city is expected to include consulting fees for our consultant on the project in the 2010 budget.

Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church Presentation

Reverend Kurt Strassner from Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church attended the meeting to tell neighbors about the church. The church is devoted to four principles: the apostles' teachings, fellowship, breaking of bread, and prayer. The church also provided swing space for Pleasant Ridge Montessori students for two years. Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church is located at 6401 Ridge, north of Montgomery.

Informant Report

Josh Krekeler reported that the Fall/Winter Informant will be ready for distribution in two weeks, and that PRCC is seeking a volunteer to coordinate newsletter distribution. Please e-mail Josh at pridge-informant@fuse.net if you can help.

Pleasant Heights Village Presentation

Tom Shokat attended the meeting to discuss a plan to form a non-profit group called Pleasant Heights Village that would provide care and services for local older residents in Pleasant Ridge, Kennedy Heights, and Amberley Village who need independent living assistance. The group would have paid membership and maintain a list of service vendors, and would be focused on helping people stay in their homes. If you're interested in getting involved or would like information, please e-mail pleasanthightsvillage@gmail.com.

The next community meeting will be on January 5th, 2010.

Respectfully submitted by Josh Krekeler