

Holly Hills Improvement Association

June 4, 2007 General Membership Meeting at Southern Commercial Bank

Presiding officer – Dee McAliney

Board members present: Paul Sager, Dan Haag, Beth Murphy, Tara Ohler-Jenney, and Stacy Ross

Minutes—March meeting was the annual dinner meeting when the elections were held and minutes were not taken.

Treasurer's Report submitted by Beth Murphy

Reports

Neighborhood stabilization report from Brian Kolde: Brian talked about spring things to look out for, and mentioned Mosquito vector control through Americorps. Make sure that you don't have standing water in your yard or your neighbors' yard. You can report issues/conditions that may harbor mosquitoes to Citizens Service Bureau. Likewise with old tires that are left around—call Citizens Service Bureau. It is hoped that copper thefts would go down with the recent aldermanic bill. Call in nuisance properties if necessary.

Alderman Matt Villa: Tree inventory was made of Carondelet Park. About 52 trees need to be taken immediately. Wanted to get an idea of what we needed to take out and plant going forward due to the storms within the past year. The city will be doing a massive reforestation in late fall and into Winter. Alderman Wessels has introduced a plan to possibly "mark" some of the oldest trees in the park with historic markers. Contractor is going to be repainting the boat house and that should be completed by the end of the summer. Irrigation will also be installed for the landscaping around the boat house. Stone work on the bridge near horseshoe Lake should be addressed this summer, as well as some playground issues. Matt had special thanks for the efforts of City Parks department. Great Rivers Greenway is working to extend the River des Peres trail to connect Germania to Carondelet Park. A planned shopping center is going in around Weber Rd. in STL County with a Super Walmart as main tenant. Approx. 60 houses will have to be taken in order to build the development. Loughborough Commons: Still working on Applebees & a fast food restaurant. Bridge over RR on Loughborough will be widened. This work is still under design review. Construction may begin around March of next year (2008). Developer at building of Holly Hills & Grand (Shoppers Cleaners) is still waiting to hear on the courts price. Developer is very confident about moving forward on this, and potentially some other buildings in the area. Still working with the dry cleaners on their future. Board of Alderman allowed use of eminent domain for this building.

Alderman Fred Wessels is out of town.

Old Business: Special thanks to Joe Rusch, Monica Groth Farrar, Lisa Roth, and Mary Jo Gordon for their outstanding service over the years. Dee also thanked and presented outgoing president Dan Haag with a very nice gift of gardening tools.

New Business: After reading the by-laws carefully, Dee announced that she would like to make some changes such as eliminating the role of Marshall, as well as changing terms to just a single month in length. We're going to cancel the July meeting this year as well as that newsletter and focus on the next meeting (September).

News: St. Louis Bread Co will be present in Loughborough Commons. Outbuilding with Starbucks, Qdoba, Great Clips moving forward. In April we had a wonderful event in Carondelet Park Day to improve park & recycling awareness, and going green. Special thanks should go to new board member Stacy Ross & her husband Jim for all of their efforts.

Guest speaker-Dan Skillman, City Parks Commissioner.

Introduced the history of a community center for south St. Louis. The building will be constructed into hillside with an outstanding view for people driving down highway 55. About 72K sq. ft. of activity space. Double gym, indoor pool, senior area, meeting rooms, daycare, security. It will appear as a 2-story building when you see it from the highway. Lower level will have indoor pool & gymnasium. Locker room facilities & family locker rooms. It will be similar to many of the newer community centers (Clayton, Ballwin, Richmond Heights). There will also be an outdoor pool, fitness area with free weights & weight machines.

This will be new for the city—it will be a pay as you go facility costing the city about 19 million, plus 2-2.5 million a year in maintenance. It will possibly be operated by the Carondelet YMCA and there is a tentative agreement in place. City would build and the Y would operate. Cost of membership would be similar to what a Y membership is. YMCA has a sponsorship/scholarship program available. Design to be complete by November of this year, out for bid in December. Break ground in March of 2008, open to public in late May, June of 2009.

There will be resident & non-resident rates. Will be going for LEAD certification—it will be a Green building. City is shooting for silver certification for the building. It will be similar in size to Richmond Heights, and we will not lose any of the existing ball fields. Drive will come off of Holly Hills as it runs through the park. Y study indicates that this center would probably pick up members from some other existing locations. Mulching operations will continue at present location. A study of traffic issues is part of the planning process. 314.289.5340 for direct calls to Mr. Skillman.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30 PM

Respectfully submitted, Dan Haag, Immediate Past President