



MINUTES

November 9, 2005

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:08 p.m. There were 27 people in attendance, including President Chris Lawrence, Treasurer Sue Morales, and Secretary Mari Colello. Three members from the Local School Council (LSC) were also in attendance.

Approval of Minutes

The minutes of the October 12, meeting was unanimously approved. There were no changes.

Treasurer's Report

Members unanimously approved a \$75 ETNA ad for the ECC Fund Raiser Program and \$200 for Rev. Shedd's Safe Place After School Program. Sue Morales reported the account balance is \$373.55 after these expenses.

Old Business

Parkway Maintenance at Peirce School: Three Local School Council members attended tonight's meeting to respond to ETNA's concern regarding Peirce School's parkway and campus upkeep when school is out during the summer. During the summer, ETNA wrote letters to Arnie Duncan, Alderman Smith, Mayor Daley's Office, and the Chicago Park District. ETNA received little or no response to its inquiries regarding who was responsible for watering the campus and parkway trees during the summer.

According to the LSC members, the local school is responsible for maintaining the grounds. The Park District has no responsibility. However, the LSC was unaware about ETNA members' concerns about the neglect of trees on the parkway. ETNA member Susan Darnall indicated that one of the first people she contacted was the LSC past president. Her response was that there was no money, no staff and no time to maintain the parkway and campus during the summer months. But the LSC members stated that Peirce did contract with Monaghan Landscaping. Susan Darnall said that there was no sign of any landscapers in the summer and that neighbors on the block next to the school ended up spending \$100 on hoses to reach the lot. LSC is aware that the sprinkler system is broken and has asked for bids to have it repaired. However, the bidding process is slow and must meet minority contractor guidelines. It is currently unknown if any of the young trees survived last summer's drought.

ETNA member Joe Teller recommended that LSC join forces with neighborhood block groups, including ETNA, and that ETNA member go to LSC meetings to keep the lines of communication open so that each are aware of mutual concerns.

Broadway Zoning: Chris reported that the last meeting is November 10. His recommendation is to support the local block clubs wishes regarding development on the side streets that fall into their area, but development on commercial streets should be looked at one-by-one and should have input by every block club adjacent to the major arteries since it impacts the quality of life of every resident living within the surrounding area.

Some members were agreeable to having national chains in the neighborhood, recognizing that land is overpriced and small business owners cannot afford to open a store or restaurant in new developments with higher rents. It would be convenient to be able to walk to these places, however, parking must also be provided. It was also noted that larger developments should not have residential units on the first floors.

The consensus was that a process was needed that was friendly and cost-effective for developers, but also protected the community from over-development. If zoning is lowered, block clubs will be looking at more requests for zoning exceptions.

Nomination of ETNA Officers: Chris Lawrence asked for volunteers for two new officers for 2006. He will be unable to run as President next year. Mari Colello also will be unable to continue as Secretary. Sue Morales indicated that she would stay as Treasurer. Elections will be held in December.

Open Discussion

Volunteers are needed to distribute the next newsletter.

The 7-Eleven is boarded up. It was mentioned that the property was sold for a condo development.

Hollywood Pantry owners reported that some Senn kids are loitering by Hollywood Pantry during school hours but police ignore them and don't ask why they are not in school.

Chris mentioned that there have been a lot of incidences around Bryn Mawr and Thorndale El stops. However, SSA cameras can't be put on CTA properties and the police put their cameras where crime is the highest.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mari Colello
Secretary
