

**East Allentown Rittersville
Neighborhood Association**

MINUTES

President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on May 16, 2016 at St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Present: Four officers (President Dennis Pearson, Vice President Robert Pandaleon, Treasurer Bob Jacoby, and Secretary Dave Schell) and seven other neighbors were present at the meeting as were Captain Dan Wiedemann, Officer Andrew Bloomberg, and Sergeant Ron Schlagel of the Allentown Police.

Secretary Dave Schell handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting of April 18, 2016. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried.

Treasurer Bob Jacoby gave his report. The balance remains \$527.03. We owe \$63.58 to President Pearson for two months' rental fee. It was moved and seconded to approve the report as read. The motion carried.

Sergeant Schlegel introduced himself—he is a seventeen-year veteran of the force.

One neighbor asked about the time limits to move one's vehicle registration to Pennsylvania. There is a requirement to change one's operator's license within thirty days if they are full-time residents of Pennsylvania. If the family is still maintaining a home out of state there is no requirement to move the auto registration. Likewise, if the owner of the vehicle is living out of state the vehicle may still be registered in the other state. Insurance must be informed where the vehicle is primarily located.

A question was also raised about people parking too close to corners. It is the city's responsibility to paint the yellow lines and this program was abandoned more than a decade ago. The statute governs violations—fifteen feet from a corner—not the painted line. Cases where visibility is severely impaired by people parking too closely to a corner can be reported to the police.

Captain Wiedemann described some technology that can be used remotely with one's smart phone to indicate that one is still home (Ring Video Doorbell—www.ring.com). He also suggested that some people give the impression that someone is home by simply leaving a coffee mug on the counter as though someone on the premises left it temporarily.

We have received complaints about trash not being cleaned up around the Popeye's and other restaurants on Hanover Avenue.

A question was raised about the railroad crossings that are no longer in use. The statute provides that even if the tracks have been removed and the track blocked, school busses are still required to stop unless the owner of the tracks posts a note to the effect that the track has been abandoned.

A question was raised about the responsibility of a vehicle driver when a back-seat passenger tosses trash from the vehicle. Captain Wiedemann noted that the owner of the vehicle is responsible in

that situation, and that one signs a statement to that effect when their annual vehicle registration is processed.

President Pearson noted that we received an invitation presentation of Commendation Awards on Wednesday, May 18th, at 10:00 a.m. at the Scottish Rite Cathedral. He noted that he also received another call from neighbor on N. Oswego Street that an area business's trucks are blocking the street.

President Pearson reported on various items in the local newspaper since our last meeting, both concerning various crime news from this part of town and good news from Dieruff High School. Among other items, Dieruff again received sixteen Freddy awards nominations for their musical. In this they are tied for the most number of nominations with Parkland High School.

Pearson also reported that the International Buick Association will be meeting at the site of the old Boulevard Drive In during July. During part of this the St. James Street connection used as a shortcut will be closed.

It was noted that N. Plymouth Street is and has been in rotten shape for years. A neighbor said that when they inquired of the city they were told that the city does not want to improve that stretch of street, fearing that it will then be used as a speed-inducing shortcut to get to American Parkway. A neighbor also noted problems with dirt flowing off of the property at the old Mosser School at Carlisle and Union Streets onto neighboring streets during heavy rains.

President Pearson noted that the Leonard Buck banquet of the Allentown Crime Watch was a success, and further noted that Treasurer Bob Jacoby received an award for his service.

There being no further business, adjournment was moved and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully,

David A. Schell, Secretary