

**East Allentown Rittersville
Neighborhood Association**

MINUTES

President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. on June 20, 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 twelve other neighbors were present at the meeting as was Officer Mike Beidelman of the Allentown Police.

Secretary Dave Schell handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting of May 16, 2016. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as written. The motion carried.

Treasurer Bob Jacoby gave his report. The account balance remains \$527.03. We owe \$95.37 to President Pearson for three months' rental fee @ \$31.79/month. It was moved and seconded to approve the report as read. The motion carried.

President Pearson congratulated Lois Morrell on retiring from here forty-four years as a crossing guard in front of Dieruff High School.

President Pearson noted that the neighborhood was involved in the science fair, during which several awards were made on behalf of EARN. At the high school level, the winner of the Kirk Shinsky Award was Allen Potter of William Allen HS on "Solar Panels." The Frederick Greenleaf Jr. Award was won by Peter Capote of Harrison-Morton MS for his project "How does the angle of a football kick affect its pathway?" Jakob Tyson of Harrison-Morton MS won the Space Faring Civilization Award for his project "Magnetic Linear Accelerators."

Additionally, there was a science fair at Ritter. The winners were 1st Place: Aaron Tyson for "Plant Growth with Different Light Sources," 2nd place was Zane Childs for "Which paper towel is the most absorbent?" and 3rd place to Daniel Antar for "The effects of Soil pH on plant growth."

Pearson also noted that the city has put in a new playground in the Irving Park (Andre Reed Park). He noted that he has asked the city to change the name of the playground to the East Allentown Veterans Memorial Playground, honoring the seven east side veterans who gave their lives in the Vietnam War. The city has responded with a memo on how to change the designation and the matter and Council may consider the matter.

Secretary Schell read a message that he had received from the city's Bureau of Health and Animal Control concerning a rabid skunk that had been captured in a resident's kitchen in the vicinity at 4th and Allen Streets. The door had been left ajar and the skunk came in contact with the residents' two dogs, which were not vaccinated for rabies. The dogs are therefore now under a six-month quarantine, per Pennsylvania Department of Revenue protocols. Residents were urged to make certain that their pets' rabies shots are up to date, and noted that if you are bitten or scratched by a strange animal you should seek medical attention immediately.

Pearson noted that the crime watch organization has requested for sales tax from the state. If approved, this would cover the neighborhood associations. He also noted that the next meeting of the city crime watch organization will be in September.

Code enforcement has been made aware of an auto business in the alley behind Club Avenue and the police have taken steps as well. There is another person doing work on cars in the parking lot at the former liquor store on Club Avenue.

Officer Beidelman reported on other recent enforcement activities, including speeding on Jerome Street, an altercation at the Irving Pool, other traffic violations, bike thefts, and various domestic situations.

A neighbor noted that she understands that Big Woody's is going to be moving into the Allentown Commons shopping area at Hanover Avenue and Maxwell Street, and expressed concern about the mix businesses in the area (bars, food service, and child care) plus potential behavioral, noise, and trash issues. The neighbor suggested that we invite the owner to one of our meetings before the move to express our concern in a friendly manner, as she was certain that he wouldn't want the same trouble at the new location as he has unfortunately had at the present location.

The group discussed a number of small garages and "chop shops" that are popping up in the area around Bradford Street.

Secretary Schell handed out a list for anyone who has not yet been added to our email distribution list and would like to get our periodic minutes and other mailings.

There being no further business, adjournment was moved and seconded, and the meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully,

David A. Schell, Secretary