

**East Allentown Rittersville  
Neighborhood Association**

**MINUTES**

President Dennis Pearson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. on July 18, 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 five other neighbors were present at the meeting as was Captain Dan Wiedemann and Officer Andrew Bloomberg of the Allentown Police.

Captain Wiedemann noted that it has been a quiet month on the east side. They have had the traffic force out in the trouble spots, including River Road (speeding—most are close to the posted speed), Maxwell and Woodlawn (stop sign—they issued two citations), American Parkway (speeding—lines need to be painted on the bridge).

A neighbor raised the issue of painted lines for no parking (yellow) or handicapped (blue). Neither is enforceable without also having a sign. Additionally, a double yellow line on a highway does not by itself mean that one cannot pass unless there is also a sign or another limitation cited in the motor vehicle code, such as on a hill, curve, intersection, etc.

The Buick Club of America will be holding its 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary gathering in the area near the old drive-in on Union Boulevard the weekend of July 27<sup>th</sup> to 30<sup>th</sup>. Wednesday through Friday will be for the club only and Saturday will also include the public. Parking lots have been designated and shuttle busses obtained. The police will be manning the traffic lights and area intersections.

President Pearson noted that this past Wednesday the City Council has let a contract to outsource the crossing guards for the schools. There are 52 crossing guard locations and the company will have the responsibility to make certain that all locations are manned. In the past when a guard was absent either a police officer or school security officer will replace the guard. The cost appears to be greater than the former cost of police overtime. The police had considered the former use of police to be an inefficient use of resources as it took officers off the street.

Pearson noted that the playground at Andre Reed Park (Irving Park) has been completed. There are no swing sets in the new setup. It was questioned why the prices are different at Irving Pool than at Mack and Jordan. Pearson noted that the Irving Pool had gotten some funds from the Trexler Trust and was supposed to be free. The small fee was agreed to as if it had not been the city would probably have closed the pool several years ago. He also noted that the benches, which had been paid by the neighborhood association, were gone and there were now benches at the basketball area.

A neighbor questioned why other pools had been closed, such as Roosevelt. President Pearson noted that, among other issues, the city had closed some pools since the city was felt to have more pools (seven) than were necessary for a city of our size. The city has also fixed the walls at the corner of N. Irving and E. Tilghman Streets. Some of the area juveniles were taking them apart where the mortar had deteriorated.

President Pearson read from several newspaper articles about issues relating to the east side.

A neighbor noted that dirt and leaves came flooding out of the old Mosser School property on Carlisle Street. There is a wall that should have been fixed, but was not. There is a tree that is in danger of falling on wires and nothing is being done about it.

Secretary Dave Schell handed out copies of the minutes of the meeting of June 20, 2016. There was one error in that the word “exemption” was left out when discussing sales tax. (It should have read that the “crime watch organization has requested a sales tax *exemption*.....”) It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as corrected. The motion carried.

Treasurer Bob Jacoby gave his report. The account balance remains \$527.03. We owe \$127.16 to President Pearson for four months’ rental fee @ \$31.79/month. We also have an insurance bill due by July 31<sup>st</sup>. It was moved and seconded to approve the report as read. The motion carried.

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

Respectfully,

*David A. Schell, Secretary*