

Board Meeting, January 17, 2011

In attendance: Jacquie Kirby-Hensel, David Fish, Ann Ulp, Billy Fish, Don Fry, Louis Waddell.

Meeting started at 7:04 pm.

Discussion of putting out dues letter on the Pine Brook listserv/website early. Residents who respond will not get a letter in the mail.

2011 calendar of neighborhood events.

January 30 – dues letter on email listserv

Feb 28 – Dues letter mailed out

April 1 – Deadline for neighborhood annual dues

April 15 – Friday evening Mulch day and party at Hidden Park 5-8pm Saturday as rain date 4-7 pm.

April 29, April 30 – Spring Yard sale

September 1 – Annual meeting letter.

September 17 – Neighborhood Picnic

October 3 – Annual Meeting. Election of board, secretary, treasurer

October 14, 15 – Fall yard sale

October 22 – Pumpkin Patch at Pavilion Park

Dec. 14 – Caroling – Need a volunteer to organize this

Dec 24 – Neighborhood luminaries

If any resident sees a conflict with these dates, please let any board member know. These dates may be subject to change.

Santa in neighborhood. Need to get more advance notice to help residents plan better. Could be sent out in newsletter or on listserv to advertise it. Could we do a party at Pavilion on same night?

Discussion of new baby swing at Hidden Park. New picnic table for Hidden Park. Recycled plastic and metal table to replace wooden one.

Discussion of the condition of sidewalks at the parks. Will examine them in the spring to determine what course of action needs to be done. Replace or lift. Cut roots or not.

Discussion of maintenance of grass at Pavilion Park. Who can we get to give suggestions on what needs to be done. The condition of the soccer area is becoming very bad.

Meeting adjourned 7:42 pm.

Next meeting February 21, 2011, 214 Lamp Post Ln., 7pm

## **Board Meeting, March 21, 2011**

In attendance: Jacquie Kirby-Hensel, David Fish, Ann Ulp, Mike and Jonah Harmon, Ramon Marin, Lee Morrison, Gary Marr, Yvonne Abel, Mary Reinhart, Stephanie Lepley

Meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Jonah discussed his plans to do his Eagle project. He would make new tables at Hidden Park, wooden trash can holders, new child seats for swings to meet current code. Jonah would take care of design, planning and building of the project. He will be requesting volunteers from the neighborhood to assist the scouts that will be helping him. He would also work on cleaning and fixing the Little Tykes PlayStation. He would like to start in late summer. Estimate cost will be \$400-500. He will fundraise for the project.

Dues are still coming in. We have 254 paid members so far. Last year we had 294...so we still have a way to go. The dues are ahead of schedule from last year, most likely due to emailing the dues.

Ramon discussed budget. The money coming in and the current expenses are normal and well within the projected budget. The association is still looking into a flag pole for the front entrance. There is some construction going on which is delaying the start of the project.

Mary mentioned a request from a resident about organizing an Easter egg hunt. The association will donate some money for the costs of the event.

Ann had some money left over from the long since defunct Pine Brook Garden Club left over in a can that served as the "bank" for the club. Ann has donated the money to the association to buy some flowers for the front park. The trees that were planted at the front entrance back in 1964 need to be trimmed. Ann had some pictures from 1974 of work done by the Garden Club at the Front Entrance which will be scanned and posted to the website.

Lee mentioned about the possibility of helping to fund a water level station on the creek which would provide updates on the level of the creek every 15 minutes online. There are current stations along the creek which are about to be defunded. Perhaps an effort can be made that might help to refund these gauges.

Mulch Day at Hidden Park is coming on April 15 beginning at 5pm. Show up and help.

Ramon Marin mentioned the need for a long term plan for the neighborhood.

Meeting adjourned 7:42 pm.

Next meeting April 18, 2011, 214 Lamp Post Ln., 7pm

## **Board Meeting, April 18, 2011**

In attendance: Jacquie Kirby-Hensel, David Fish, Ann Ulp, Lee Morrison, Mary Reinhart, Stephanie Lepley, Don Fry.

Meeting started at 7:00 pm.

Jacquie discussed the recent repairs to Pavilion Park. The water facet had to be replaced. The cost will be about \$200....this includes damage to the faucet and the pipe coming from the meter....which was leaking. The lock to the door of the shed was jammed and had to be fixed. Cost was \$61.

The HMMS soccer teams are only playing on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Perhaps the PBCA can ask the soccer teams to appoint a parent from the team to make sure the park is cleaned up, the toys are put back and the siblings are looked after. The PBCA will also ask the HMMS to remind soccer families about not blocking driveways or parking too close to the end of Harness and Oxbow.

The current dues are ahead of last year. 264 families have paid so far this year.

The Easter Egg Hunt organized by Nicole Mortimer was a great success. Over 30 kids attended and had a great time. Hopefully this will become an annual event. Thanks to Nicole for taking care of this.

The mulch day at Hidden Park went very well. Eight families showed up to help. Lots of kids were there and had a blast.

The board would like to remind all residents to be careful about leaving valuables where thieves can see them or leaving garage doors open or leaving cars unlocked. Crooks may not be able to avoid the obvious temptations. Due to the recent robberies in the neighborhood, there will be a meeting with Hampden Township officials and police at the Pavilion on Monday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

The board will send a letter to folks that have not paid dues yet.

Lee discussed the funding of the flood gauge for the Hoggstown monitoring station for the Conodoguinet creek. The current funding will run out in September.

Meeting adjourned 7:30 pm.

Next meeting May 16, 2011, Pavilion Park., 7pm

## **Board Meeting, May 16, 2011**

Meeting started 6:57pm and about 76 people attended.

Pine Brook Civic Association President Jacquie Kirby introduced Don McCallin of the Hampden Township Board of Commissioners.

Don read a letter from Chief of Police Harry Clay. The Chief said the police are pursuing two suspects. The police have caught suspects during car thefts and have found out other gangs may be involved. The police are investigating.

In the matter of peddlers in the neighborhood, The township will install signs in the neighbor which state: "Solicitors are required to have permits." The township is taking requests from residents for locations of these signs.

Don introduced the two Hampden police officers. Corporal Jeff Synder and Officer Kate Hottenstein.

Cpl Synder stated the burglaries are still continuing in the Township with some this past weekend. Three more burglaries occurred in Good Hope in houses of people that had left for the weekend. None of the owners had taken a great deal of protection. They did not have dogs, did not turn on lights, stop newspaper or have security system. Garage doors – especially older ones – can be the victim of code grabbers. Tips on how secure sliding glass doors and windows were discussed. If you are leaving your house for an extended period of time, tell your neighbors, use timers, perhaps a house sitter. Take care of bushes surrounding houses to make sure they do not provide cover to hide crooks working on windows. Cpl Synder reminded people to please have their house numbers on their house and/or mailbox. This greatly aids police and firefighters response time.

Some residents discussed neighborhood watch. The neighborhood used to have one years ago and currently only one other neighborhood in the township has an active watch. Cpl Synder recommended the neighbors start one. Pine Brook has an active civic association with Block Captains established. Perhaps this could be the start of a system. Talk to neighbors and have them help out when going away. Perhaps start a phone tree system to alert the neighborhood to news and emergency situations.

The PBCA Email listserv is a good resource. Pay attention to details of suspicious people. Take note of description of person, type/color of car, age of person, etc.

Cpl Synder discussed one burglary in Pine Brook in which the crooks actually unscrewed security lights. Cpl. Synder mentioned the police are questioning the victims of the various crimes looking for some common threads; so far nothing has become obvious other than the crimes appears to be the work of professional burglars. There may be a common thread of houses being called from out of area phone numbers.....with a hang up. But, that is not proven yet.

One resident asked about Newsletters being placed on doors and could this be a signal that no one is home if it is not picked up. The Block Captains will be asked to follow through and keep an eye out. It would also help to have your neighbor grab the newsletter from your door if you are out of town. If you see something, please call the police non emergency number at 761-2609 and report it. Cpl Synder stated the police would rather respond to many false alarms which may lead to something rather than responding after it is too late.

The officers mentioned that alarm systems, when used, are very effective at preventing burglaries. The police confirmed there have been over 90 burglaries between Hershey and Hampden Township. There have been no fingerprints left. The criminals are only taking objects that can be sold easily with not traced. The police have heard that safes have not been broken into.

Preventive measures may include having your neighbors can put one of their trashcans in front of a empty neighbor's house. Perhaps you can park your car in a neighbor's driveway.

Discussion of possible scams involving crooks attempting to get information from residents. One may be from a "security company" asking if you have a security system. Don't answer. Ask for a home improvement contractor number.

The police asked residents to not be embarrassed to call if they see something suspicious. They would rather come to many false alarms rather than have someone wait and it turns out to be a real problem. If you see an unknown car, take note. Sometimes crooks will park in one location and walk around the neighborhood.

Some phone numbers to call are:



Hampden Police non-emergency: 761-2609. If no one is in the office, calls are forwarded. Cumberland County police non-emergency dispatch: 238-9676

Parking in your driveway is preferable to parking on street. Much more common for cars on street to be broken into than on driveway. Beer in garage refrigerators is another common target in the summer.

The Office Hottenstein mentioned the need to take pictures of valuables - especially jewelry. In some cases a description consisting only of "Grandmas' ring" won't help when the police search pawn shops. But a photo will. Also, keep a list of model numbers and serial numbers. The police can now enter that information into a national database which may help in locating the items.

Representatives from two local security companies were present at the meeting with the permission of the Board. While the PBCA does not endorse either of these companies, both security firms are professional and well established companies that would like to discuss their various plans with interested residents. A scan of the two business cards is provided below. The two companies have different options with different pricing points.

Give them both a call and discuss which plan – if any – you may be interested in. Get a quote from one and see if the other company can match or beat it.

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|   | <p><b>EP Security, Inc.</b><br/><b>Timothy P. McCoy</b><br/>President<br/>5235 North Front Street<br/>Harrisburg, Pa 17110<br/>PH. 717-599-7495<br/>Fax 717-599-5507<br/>epsecurity@comcast.net<br/>www.epsecurityonline.com</p>   |
| <p><b>Choice</b><br/>Security Services</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Burglary Protection</li><li>• Fire Protection</li><li>• CCTV</li><li>• Access</li><li>• UL Listed</li></ul> | <p><br/><b>Rachel Higgins</b><br/>Sales Representative<br/><b>Security Systems for Home &amp; Business</b><br/>200 Richardson Drive<br/>Lancaster, PA 17603<br/>1-(866) 246-4232<br/>(717) 207-0155 Local<br/>(717) 330-9872 Cellular<br/>(717) 207-0259 Fax<br/>HICPA Registration # PA010058<br/>rachelh@choicesservice.com<br/>www.choicesservice.com</p> |

## **Board Meeting, June 20, 2011**

Meeting started 7:04.

In attendance: Jacquie Kirby, Lee Morrison, Mary Reinhart, Yvonne Abel, Ann Ulp, David Fish, Ramon Marin

Discussion of \$2,000 bill for landscaping at Pavilion Park. The problem was labor costs for spreading tanbark. Next year the association is looking into having volunteers spread tanbark at Pavilion Park similar to what is done at Hidden Park. If residents are not willing to help, then the expense would have to be budgeted.

Discussion of setting up the ability for the PBCA to text residents when emergency situations happen (such as the recent tornado or when the water needed to be boiled). The cost is almost nothing for the association.....\$50 for 2,000 text message credits. PBCA would need to collect phone numbers and set everything up. Looks like a very low cost method for contacting many people at one time. The association will look into how much would it cost to include a phone call system for folks that don't have cell phones or texting capability.

Discussion of recent break-ins in the neighborhood. A resident suggested a neighborhood nite-out during which residents could show solidarity. Perhaps call the paper or local TV and have press cover the neighborhood coming together to look after each other. Others have said it is a bad idea to draw attention to the problem and alert other crooks. This may be bad for resale of homes in the neighborhood. Jacquie Kirby, PBCA president, contacted the police and found out there have not been as many robberies in the neighborhood as some people believe. Precautions need to be taken by all residents. People should look after their neighbors. This is a problem in other neighborhoods as well. The police have said the best thing residents can do to solve the problem is to call the non-emergency phone number if you see something out of the ordinary. You will not be bothering the police and that one call about the strange car may be the piece that breaks the case. [Note: since the meeting, there was a home invasion in the 500 block of Lamp Post Ln. The thief, 25-year-old drifter named Scott Kirby, entered the home when the residents were home, demanded money, prescription-drugs and took their car. Kirby crashed the car in East Pennsboro Township where he was caught. Kirby entered this home because the front door was unlocked. He may have attempted to enter another home just before this robbery.] It is always a good idea to have a plan ahead of time of what to do if your home is robbed. Discuss safety measures with all family members and maybe even run through a few drills with children. These plans should include fire safety measures as well.

Next meeting July 18, 2011, 7:00 p.m. 214 Lamp Post Ln.

Meeting ended 7:58

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## **Board Meeting Minutes from August 15, 2011**

In attendance: Jacquie Kirby Hensel, Lee Morrison, Ann Ulp, Yvonne Abela, David Fish

Meeting started 7:08 p.m.

Jacquie mentioned the pine tree by the front entrance has been taken down. A new tree will be planted in October. A flagpole is being planned for the front entrance as well.

Neighborhood picnic planning. September 17, 2011, 3:00 p.m. to 10:00 pm. Newsletter will go out promoting the event. Ann Ulp's grandson's band will play again. Will do hot dogs, fried chicken, pulled pork, ribs, fixings, desserts. Will plan for 200 people this year.

Need help with children's games. Need help with setting up. Need help with registration. Please call David Fish at 737-6635 to volunteer.

Need to get signs out for the picnic.

Eagle scout Jonah Harmon is working on picnic tables for Hidden Park. Is looking for help with fundraising for the project. Call David Fish at 737-6635 with suggestions.

Ann discussed having Pavilion Park rolled to help level the high spots. Mark Jacobs from Armitage Golf course is looking at the park and will make suggestions.

Need some new members for the board. Annual Meeting letter needs to be prepared.

Meeting adjourned 7:45 p.m.

## **Board Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2011**

In attendance: Jacquie Kirby Hensel, Stephanie Lepley, Mary Reinhard, Ann Ulp, Yvonne Abela, David Fish, Mike Anderson, Bill Wall, Louis Waddell, Gary Marr, Wayne Kessler, Lee Morrison

Meeting started 7:00 p.m.

Picnic wrap up. At least 110 people attended. Thanks to Dave Christian, Mike Heidelbaugh, Rauri Gleeson, Wayne Kessler, Ann Ulp, Jacquie Kirby, Billy Myers, Mike Plank, Mary Reinhard, Betty Fish, Ramon Marin, Stephanie & Chaz Lepley, the band "Friends of Enemies," Joni Baker, Fred Baskin (for the ribs and pulled pork) and all the parents who helped watch the moonbounce. Everyone listed above helped with various aspects of set up, cooking, check-in, food prep, kids games, sound system or clean up. Again, a great big thank you goes out to them all.

Ticket sales and 50/50 brought in \$410.

Wayne discussed the emergency text message service being offered for free. So far, 72 residents have signed up. This would only be used for emergency purposes such as the need to boil water, hurricane, power outages, etc. Pine Brook has a website available for residents. It is located at [www.pinebrookcivicassociation.org](http://www.pinebrookcivicassociation.org). The Pine Brook listserv currently has 382 emails currently participating.

Wayne discussed the Hampton Township Special Development meeting. The meeting discussed the Township's long term plans to build a "downtown" district for the area of the Township between Central Blvd, Carlisle Pike, Trindle Road and Sporting Hill. The Township is looking to revamp the entire area, roads and buildings. Over the next 30 years, the Township is hoping to have buildings facing the Carlisle Pike with shops on the bottom, offices on the second floor and living spaces above. Power lines hopefully would be moved underground. Roads would be redesigned. New buildings would have to follow the plan. The idea is to build a place for stores, offices, and homes in one big area. The plan would be for residents to live and shop in one place. The Township is looking for volunteers help with committees and sub-committees. A second phase would be from Sporting Hill to the edge of Silver Spring Township. Information and a PDF of the plan should be on the Township website.

Jacquie read a letter from Suzy Grim about trash being put in front of her house from the Pavilion. Suzy had agreed to allow the trash to be placed in front of her house for many years now, but the amount of trash now being generated since the Pavilion is being used more has become too much. The PBCA will see about getting trash service at the Pavilion. Suzy also mentioned Associated Products had been servicing the porta-potty at Pavilion Park at 5:00 am. A call to the company has resulted in a change to their driver's route and they will service the porta-potty at a later time.

Ann talked about the recommendations from the golf pro at Armitage Golf Course who had come and looked at the Pavilion field. The field needs to be rolled and aerated. The field will be rolled now and again in the Spring.

Stephanie talked about the new tree and flagpole to be installed at Front Park. A round bed will be put around the tree. Electrical service has to be extended to the flagpole location.

Someone will check into increasing pressure for the water facet at the Pavilion Park.

Next board meeting will be the Pine Brook Annual meeting on October 3, 2011, at the Pavilion Park, beginning at 7:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned 7:41 p.m.

## **Minutes of Board Meeting November 14, 2011**

In attendance: Jacquie Kirby, Mike Anderson, Ann Ulp, Lee Morrison, Gary Marr, Yvonne Miller, Ramon Marin, David Fish, Bill Wall, Jim Baker.

Meeting called to order 7:02 p.m.

Ramon gave a treasurer report. The dues coming in was on line with projections. The money out was a little higher for park maintenance due to weather related clean up and the rolling of Pavilion Park. Rolling was \$1,260. The park will need to be aerated and rolled again in the spring.

Discussion of flag pole in front park. Installation should be started after winter.

Discussion of tanbark spreading at Pavilion Park. Would like to have residents do the work as they do at Hidden Park since that will save money. Would be done on two different days.

The soccer goals have been removed from the Pavilion. HMMS was supposed to leave the goals all year in exchange for using the park. Jacquie will call the soccer folks to find out.

The water has been turned off for the winter. Trash service at Pavilion Park will start in the Spring.

Katie Gleeson is organizing a fun run on Thanksgiving morning at 9:00 a.m. starting and finishing at the Pavilion Park. All are welcome, you can run, jog, or walk. Push a stroller, bring your dog...this is purely for fun. The distance is just over 5k (approximately 3.20 miles). You'll need to bring your own watch if you are running for time.

This year, the township is NOT driving Santa through the neighborhood on a fire truck. Instead, Santa will come to Pavilion Park on Tuesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 7:15 p.m. Jacquie suggested the PBCA give a \$150 donation to the Fire Department. There will be music, hot cocoa and cookies. Maybe build a fire for marshmallows. This event will happen rain or snow.

Discussion of holiday decorations at the front entrance. Ann Ulp has gotten some new lights and decorations. Decorating will take place on Sunday, December 4, beginning at 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend. Maybe sing some carols?

Discussion of the arrest of the people the police say were responsible for the thefts in our neighborhood. There are some reports the crooks used the conditions of the lawns in front of the targeted houses for clues whether the residents were home. There was some speculation that two of the people arrested may have been two individuals who were seen

walking and driving through the neighborhood claiming to do house work or selling windows if they were questioned.

Discussion of promoting yellow ribbons for the troops returning from overseas deployment for the holidays. However, with no definite knowledge of when Pine Brook residents are overseas or when they might be coming home, something like that might be best left to individual home owners.

Meeting adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

No meeting in December.

Next meeting January 16, 2012, 7:00 p.m. at 214 Lamp Post Ln.