

OHMHA Board Meeting from May 4, 2010

In attendance: Henry Brysk, Wendy Carman, Emily Eisbruch, Neal Foster, Monica Hanna, Greg Jagst, Anne Karabakal, Peter Mooney, Margie Weiss

- Agenda approved
- The OHMHA Minutes from March 2010 were reviewed; two grammatical errors were corrected. The minutes were then approved.
- OHMHA Garage Sale: Greg and Neal will put out signs; Jack Cederquist placed an ad in the newspaper promoting the event.
- Wendy mentioned 16 dues checks collected since last meeting. Two more donors for the Anita Jones Memorial, bringing donors up to 16 neighbors.
- OHMHA Annual Meeting to be held June 4, 2010 at Thurston Library at 6:30pm. The Annual Meeting will allow for the collection of ballots for the OHMHA Board election. A speaker may be made available for the Meeting. Greg mentioned checking with Deb Cauffiel, the Neighborhood Watch liaison with the Ann Arbor City Police. Neal Foster agreed to man the Ballot Box and also collect any monies neighbors bring to update their membership in OHMHA. Peter advised the Board that he will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting due to travel plans. The Election of Board Officers will be held on June 15, 2010 at Thurston Elementary at 7:30pm.
- New 'Orchard Hills' Signs: Emily has created a power point presentation of several images for OHMHA members to consider in replacing the old Orchard Hills signage at Plymouth and Georgetown street entrance. This presentation will be made to neighbors in attendance at the Annual Meeting.
- Mailing of OHMHA Newsletters: Emily advised that she spoke to the Green Road Post Office on the preferred methods and timing for mailing Newsletters. Kinko's was utilized to produce the last Newsletter at \$450. Kinko's also labeled and stamped the last Newsletter mailing; the Board found the results favorable to the previous time consuming stamping, labeling and physical delivery performed in the past. The cost Kinko's charged for this service was \$188. Kinko's also offered a somewhat different service to Emily at a lower price; this will be investigated. The Board discussed concern about less neighbor interaction without physical delivery.*** Action Item: Emily will investigate the direct mail options further with Kinko's***

- Median Pilot/Care: Margie met recently with two members of Natural Area Preservation (NAP). Jason Frenzel-Wright, NAP Outreach Coordinator, and Tina Roselle, Adopt-A-Park Coordinator, discussed median care and planting options. Buffalo Grass, which grows to 6", is drought and heat resistant, as well as not needing mowing, was proposed. The portion of the Median selected for the pilot program is at Georgetown and the north end of Yorktown; site preparation is tentatively planned for after the conclusion of the Georgetown Road reconstruction. Budget for the Median Pilot is set for no more than \$200. The biggest identified challenge would be the turf grass, which is very labor intensive to dig out. Woodchips, provided at no cost from the City, might be a good solution in smothering the grass under a 6-12 inch layer. An OHMHA neighbor also proposed the planting of Day Lilies to Margie, which will be considered.
- Georgetown Median Upkeep: Peter spoke to Tina Roselle about the City upkeep of the Georgetown Median. He was told that they contract to have the Median mowed up to 16 times a season; this contractor could supplement the mowing for OHMHA "on our dime" if we felt it benefited the neighborhood. The contractor would charge \$108.00 per cutting. Peter proposed authorizing two cuttings if it's needed for the season.
- Round Robin: Wendy mentioned that the City is considering not selling public land in the City but signing long term leases for certain areas for private uses. Changes in what can be allowed by the City are being made that could lead toward public lands used for private profit-making endeavors.