

Lafayette Square Area Coalition Meeting

Date: March 25, 2008

Time: 5:30 PM

Location: Westview Healthplex Sports Club

Meeting called by: Mary Clark
Facilitator: Mary Clark
Type of meeting: Coalition Meeting
Recording Secretary: Judy Donner, for Sue Ann Silva

Guest Speakers: Tammy Stevens, Keep Indianapolis Beautiful

Agenda

Call to Order: **Mary Clark**

Discussion: The March 25, 2008 meeting of the Coalition was called to order by the Board President, Mary Clark.

Approval of Minutes: **Mary Clark**

Discussion: Board President, Mary Clark presented the February 26, 2008 minutes for approval. Mark Killgo made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Ken Holyoak seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the minutes were approved.

Action items: N/A

Person responsible:

Deadline:

President's Report: **Mary Clark**

Discussion: The general meeting of the Coalition opened with Board President, Mary Clark asking everyone to continue their commitment to the Lafayette Square Area by continuing to support area businesses and residents by shopping in the area and supporting area events and organizations. Remember to support new businesses Wal-Mart and Garden Ridge, but remember the "old" businesses like Meijer.

Mary told the group that tonight's meeting would end promptly at 6:15 pm so the Indianapolis Department of Parks & Recreation could hold a meeting to discuss their plans for the community. Everyone is encouraged to remain for that meeting, which will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Mary then asked Coalition Board members who are present to stand and introduce themselves. She also introduced Mary Chalmers at the new liaison between the Coalition and the Mayor's office. Mary Chalmers announced the next Mayor's Night Out will be held in Pike Township on April 22 from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. Location and other details will follow.

Action items:

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Board Nominations:**Judy Donner**

Discussion: Mary Clark asked Judy Donner to report on board nominations. Judy outlined the plan: paid members have the opportunity to nominate board members from now until May 5. At the May 27 annual meeting, members will elect 10 directors – the top 5 vote-getters will be elected for 2-year terms, the next 5 will be elected for 1-year terms. This will set the stage for continuity on the board.

Sahara Williams expressed concern that the board was making decisions without input from the membership. Scott Rosenberger stated the board is elected by the membership to carry out the business of the organization. This was reiterated by Mark Killgo, who encouraged interested members to become more involved with the organization, through committee memberships or as a board member.

Action items: Nominate board members.

Person responsible: All

Deadline:
May 5, 2008

Keep Indianapolis Beautiful:**Tammy Stevens**

Mary Clark introduced the topic of neighborhood cleanliness by stating that Pike Township Trustee Lula Patton is organizing a clean-up day for May 17. Mary would like the Coalition members to participate in that event.

Tammy Stevens described the Keep Indianapolis Beautiful Program. KIB has developed a strong relationship with Southside Landfill who accepts trash collections free of charge. The KIB events are successful because they are a grassroots way to build community. There is a lot of trash in our community and the community can take charge of it. Ms. Stevens was asked if there is an adopt a road program as part of KIB; she responded there is an “adopt a median” program run by the city.

Action items: N/A

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department:**Major Paul Ciesielski**

Mary Clark introduced Major Ciesielski who spoke about the “Weed” portion of the Weed & Seed initiative. He reminded attendees that we have a responsibility to “take back” our community. There are two opportunities to become involved. First, attend a Weed & Seed meeting and learn how IMPD and community members are working to reduce crime. Secondly, attend the monthly meetings held specifically for businesses; they are the last Thursday of each month and the next one is March 27 at 4458 Guion Road.

Mary Clark stressed that we need to support IMPD and the Weed & Seed activities. We need to be part of the solution to crime issues and we cannot allow people in our community to take from our community.

Action items: Attend the March 27 business crime prevention meeting

Person responsible: All

Deadline:

PR/Marketing Committee:**Judy Donner**

Judy reported that the committee has met twice. They will work on several issues: a publicity/outreach plan for Taste the Difference, ways to reach more of our businesses, and reaching the media with a positive message. She encouraged more people to participate. The committee’s next meeting is April 10 at the Pike Township Assessor’s office.

Action items: Attend the next committee meeting.

Person responsible:

Deadline:

Events Committee Report:			Mary Chalmers		
Mary reported that Taste the Difference is being planned for late September. The committee is looking into other activities for other months of the year.					
Action items: N/A			Person responsible:		Deadline:

Land Use Committee Report:			Mary Clark		
Mary advised the group of the April 8 meeting of developers, property owners and legislators. She informed everyone that this is an important meeting that for the first time will bring together people who are able to make real change in the area. The meeting will be facilitated by Cynthia Bowen.					
Action items: N/A			Person responsible:		Deadline:

LSAC Upcoming Meeting:			Mary Clark		
Discussion: The next general meeting of the Lafayette Square Area Coalition is scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 2008. The meeting will begin promptly at 5:30 pm.					
Action items: N/A			Person responsible:		Deadline:

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.