

Maize Road Civic Association
Monthly Meeting
March 13, 2013

Members present: Lori Robinson Terry, Chair; Jennifer Adair; Vicki Johnson; Geri Nance; Jeff Scarpitti, & Judy Hardin. Members absent: Jocelyn Armstrong

Robinson-Terry called the meeting to Order at 6:35 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Geri Nance.

Approval of the February minutes were tabled until April.

Robinson-Terry reported that the bank account had a balance of 617.63. Motion made by Adair to approve the Treasurer's Report. Second by Johnson. Voice Vote. Motion Approved.

Liaison Reports

- Neighborhood Liaison: Dick Graham reported:
 - Pit Stop Bar: The City Attorney's Office was contacted regarding the noise ordinance. If neighbors are having issues, call 645-4545 and report it. Multiple calls are good. Also let Dick Graham that you call.
 - Vacant Houses & Fences: Maureen reported that there are several vacant houses on Acton near her home. She also reported that many homes had fencing issues. Dick stated that it may be a good idea to check with elderly and disabled individuals who may need help to clean up their properties before reporting to code enforcement. Jerry also reported that there is a home near Pauline with a fence issue. He called it into code already. Robinson-Terry said MRCA wanted to start tracking vacant housing and perhaps the neighborhood could start a reality group to buy, renovate, rent and sell homes in the area.
 - Aggressive Dogs: Chris reported there was an aggressive dog at 1248 Northridge. This property is owned by Dr. Kovicko. He also suspects drug activity, with lots of vehicles coming in and out. Officer Riley reported that the law was recently changed regarding pit bulls and insurance. Dick Graham said he would call the City Attorney's Office to see what can be done with the Dog. Chris said he had previously worked with Animal Control 3 or 4 years ago for another aggressive dog. Robinson-Terry stated that even though the law changed, many insurance companies still require home owner insurance for pit bulls.
 - Sound wall: ODOT was out yesterday and said they would put up a wire fence in the hole. It a far enough back and high enough that it should be effective. Graham will ask if they can up a higher fence on the north. A no trespassing sign cannot be put up by the City because it is not City property. ODOT would have to put a sign up. Home owners can put signs up on their property.
 - Overbrook Service Clean Up: Graham is working to find out who controls the electrical wires to clean up around the wires and the right-of-way. We will have to get Clinton Township involved too.
 - 4402 Maize Road: This is the duplex on the corner of Maize and Cooke. Sharon reported that she lives next door and has seen a lot of police activity there. Graham reported that a nonprofit that rents the house to people in transition. The nonprofit is no longer in good standing with the State of Ohio. Danny Popp is the owner of the property. Sharon said she noted people parking on the grass, loud music in the summer time, and other issue. She had called Popp who said he took care of it. Graham reported that individuals with mental illness do live there. He had the police report runs. Many are medical

issues/mental health issues for transportation to a hospital or police are called because an individual is not on medications.

- Sidewalks: Robinson-Terry reported that NCC, MRCA, NLAC and Clinton Estates are working to get the sidewalk connected at Maize and Cooke Road. Emmanuel Remy is taking the lead. He believes the corner property belongs to the City.
- Maize Road House Fire: The fire in the house on Maize Road had an arson investigation that is now complete. There was a squatter inside. The city painted the graffiti on the house, but it looks worse. MRCA will contact the owner to see if we can paint it for her. The house has a lot of fire/water damage. The home owner is elderly.
- Karl Road Restriping: Communication is still on going. Interviews will be done with Karl road businesses and schools on the impact of the current stripping.
- Church Parking Lot: Graham Sayer reported the Church is having a lot of problems with people cutting through the parking lot. They have placed cones up on one of the drive ways. People are driving over them. Its private property, so the City can't do anything, but if residents see anything, please let the Church know.

● Police Department: Officer Riley Reported:

- Quarterly meeting with Coordinators: Officer Riley met with block watch and safety coordinators for the area. The group decided to come up with a good neighbor agreement for local businesses. The first business is a store at Weber and Cleveland.
- Community Crime Patrol: CCP has been patrolling around the MRCA area. They have uniforms and either on foot or bike. They make observations and call into police dispatch if they see anything. They also call in code issues.
- Parked Vehicles: A car parked more than 72 hours on the street is in violation, unless it is a commercial vehicle, then it is in violation when parked over an hour.
- Police Patrolling: There is not traditional Patrol as we would think. Police do drive through the area frequently and stop to make reports. There are also unmarked police cars around the area.

● NLAC: Shannon Cross, Chair of the Recreation and Park Committee presented the plans given to the Commission by the City of Columbus for Cremeans and Cooke Road Park. The City plans to spend 400,000 dollars for improvements in these parks.

- In Cremeans, there is a suggestion for a new playground, improvements to the shelter house, new basketball courts, tennis court removal, renovation of soccer fields, a walking path, removal of the fountain, additional of port-o-johns, and an added picnic area. The Cremeans family was present and excited that the park would be renovated. Neighbors and MRCA suggested looking at more lighting and a fence by North Broadway. There was also a suggestion for parking, however that would require a retention pond, and many did not like that idea. There were questions about having private corporations adopt the park, like PNC bank, to help with maintenance. Graham Sayer suggested bike parking at the park and the addition of signage at both sides of the park. Cross will take these suggestions back to the City. If these plans are approved by the Commission, construction will be done next year.
- In Cooke, there are plans to resurface the basketball court, take out one tennis court, add new signage, update the soccer fields, and add a path. The Commission had asked the City about a dog park and were told there was not enough space for a dog park and soccer fields in this park.

Committee Reports

- Executive Committee: We will once again be holding elections for new Board members. If anyone is interested in running/joining the board, please talk to Lori Robinson-Terry.
- Events & Beautification: This week end is KickButt Columbus. MRCA has adopted the Cooke Road ramp. We will be meeting at the ramp at 9am.
- Safety Committee: The block watch crime report and sex offender listing was passed out. There was a question regarding getting more block watch signs. MRCA is looking into that.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Adair. Second by Robinson-Terry.

Meeting adjourned at 8:18 pm.