

TWINBROOK CITIZENS ASSOCIATION

Tuesday, July 31, 2007

Twinbrook Community Recreation Center

Members: Christina Ginsberg, Rich Gottfried, Carol Hannaford, Judy Miller, Brigitta Mullican, Bill Neil, Bill Ormsby, Julie Phifer, Jill Unger, Steve Wilcox

Guests: Jennie Kimball, Assistant to City Manager; Hjarman Cordero, Neighborhood Resources Coordinator; Captain Mike England, Rockville Police Department; Chuck Aubertin, Code Enforcement

Brigitta Mullican resigned as treasurer as she is running for a seat on the City Council. She delivered a final financial report. The main account has \$4,760.19. The Voice account has \$1,702.46. The CD account has 1,838. The total for all accounts is 8,300.65. There have been 30 paid memberships since July 1.

The minutes were not discussed; they will be voted on by email.

President's Report

A large hotel is planned in the area across from Regal Cinema in Town Center.

This year's Good Neighborhood Awards will be presented on August 1 at the Civic Center Mansion.

Old Business

Neighborhood Services Report: Assistant to the City Manager, Jennie Kimball, introduced Hjarman Cordero who will be the new Neighborhood Resources Coordinator for Twinbrook. He has done community outreach in Venezuela, and it is expected that he will be able to make more extensive contact with Twinbrook's Latino residents. He can be reached at (240) 314-8344 or, by email, at hcordero@rockvillemd.gov

Jennie said that TCA should not be concerned about a full service methadone clinic going into Broome School as the budget for such services has been cut. Christina replied that there are still reports that the methodone clinic has signed contracts expanding their space in Broome and that as the reports are in conflict they must be investigated.

Jennie distributed a calendar of events in the city for July through December.

There will be construction at the entrance to City Hall from August through September. Visitors should enter from the parking lot through the side door.

A July 23 meeting on the Veirs Mill Road/First Street project has been postponed. Jennie Kimball will let us know about the date of the next meeting. She said the State Highway Administration has been supportive of the Mayor and Council's concerns about changes to the intersection.

City Police Report: Captain Mike England said there have been some auto thefts and the activity is thought to be the work of juveniles and has occurred in several areas of the city. The activity has diminished recently.

A fixed site speed camera has been installed on Old Baltimore Road and Mike will share speeding statistics with TCA when they are available.

There have been complaints about large trucks with boats parked behind Twinbrook Shopping Center on MacAuliffe. The police were not aware of it—and, in fact, it may be legal—but they will follow up. Mike says there may not be a simple resolution because one side of the street is residential while the other is commercial.

Julie Phifer asked about graffiti at 5706 Wainwright and Chuck Aubertin said he would follow up. Jill Unger asked about an incident near her and Mike said it was a domestic violence case.

Chuck Aubertin said there were no code enforcement issues to discuss.

Neighborhood Watch: National Night Out is Tuesday, August 7. Bill Ormsby said there are about 50 block parties across the city and Twinbrook usually hosts about a third of them. He will have his annual event. Rich Gottfried is organizing a party at Broome School, with help from city staff. He has created a flyer advertising the event and asked for volunteers to deliver it in the neighborhood. He also needs someone to bring a grill and to help with grilling hot dogs. TCA membership forms will be provided to solicit new members. Restrooms at the school will be open and the lights will be turned on.

Rich said the city police and other staff have helped a great deal. He showed a cup with the phone number of the police department that will be passed out around the city. The city will provide tables and chairs. A vote was taken to allocate \$100 for this party.

Business Development and Relations: John Tyner sent a letter of resignation as chair of this committee; he has been appointed to the Planning Commission. Bill Neil was voted in as the new chair.

A Twinbrook Sector Plan meeting was held at the recreation center on July 9. A public hearing will be scheduled before the Montgomery County Planning Commission to discuss the plan.

Chuck Aubertin had a meeting scheduled at Twinbrook Pool at 8 p.m. and asked about the status of the monopole. Christina said that no official statements have been made. In fact, Sprint may challenge the court decision that denied it the right to construct a cell tower at Twinbrook Mart. She offered to attend the meeting at the pool and Chuck said he would appreciate that. He said that the pool could use the revenue from a cell tower.

Rich spoke again about the stormwater management fee that is being proposed by the city for homeowners. For the first year the fee would be \$56 and, for the second year, \$88. Members who want to comment about the proposed fee can contact Lise Soukup at the Department of Public Works (240) 314-8500 or by email at lsoukup@rockvillemd.gov

Traffic and Transportation:

Bill Neil said that County Councilmember Mark Elrich has been looking at the traffic model Montgomery County is using and considers it worthless; it is one used by the District of Columbia. Bill would like Mark to speak to TCA about it. Christina suggested that he might be invited to speak to a larger group such as a few civic associations or a general ARNA (Alliance of Rockville Neighborhood Associations) meeting. Twinbrook will be facing considerable growth in the next few years with an anticipated increase of 4,800 housing units: 1,600 at Twinbrook Station, 1,200 in the Twinbrook Sector Plan, 500 on Veirs Mill Road, and 500 on Lewis Avenue.

Communications: Steve Wilcox was voted in as chair of this committee to replace Ben Pauwels who resigned.

Membership This committee needs a chair to replace Steve Wilcox.

Environmental: No report.

Education: No report

Outreach/International/Historic/Senior: See comments by Rich Gottfried above.

Members at Large, North and South: No report

New Business

Christina proposed that the next meeting be an open house on Tuesday, August 28 from 7 to 9 p.m. at the Twinbrook Community Center. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Hannaford
Secretary