

Lomond Association General Meeting Minutes  
November 12, 2009  
Lomond School Gymnasium

I. Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. Review and Approval of Minutes

Karen Knittel read a correction to the Beautification Committee's report: *The Federal Reserve included a write up on the Lomond Grant Project in a report they are completing on positive examples of addressing housing issues.*

The October 9, 2009 Minutes were approved as corrected.

III. Officers Report

a. Treasurer - Denise Keller reported that the current Lomond Association balance is \$4,275.00. Of this amount \$1,000.00 is allocated to flower baskets and Gridley Park, leaving a balance of \$3,275.00. It is recommended that \$1,000.00 be maintained as a buffer in the budget; therefore \$2,275.00 is available to be budgeted for expenses. The grant program is going well with the grant funds coming into the Lomond account and immediately going back out to reimburse the appropriate grant program participant. (The Lomond Association received a grant to encourage renovations on houses from the Fund for the Future in November 2008)

b. Vice President Community Relations - Willa Walker reported that H1N1 flu shots will be offered to qualifying residents on Saturday, November 15 at the Shaker Middle School.

A Good Neighbor Guide has been launched by the City that provides information about the city and neighborhoods and provides useful telephone numbers. They are designed to assist people moving into Shaker and are free at the Community Building.

c. President - Dena Smith thanked the out-going Executive Committee for their hard work and dedication.

The first Executive Committee with the newly elected officers was held last month. Ideas were discussed concerning how to make the General Meetings interesting and allow time for the members to have open dialogue. The Minutes from the meetings will be circulated via e-mail prior to the meeting date to allow members more time to review

them. Printed copies will be available the night of the General Meeting for members who do not use email.

Committee Reports will be given only when new information is being reported. Committee Chairs were asked to inform the Association President if they had anything to report. Discussion with the general membership included the following comments:

- Committee Chairs should be and need to be visible at meetings so members get to know who they are and so members can ask questions of them;

- Concern about the length of individual reports resulted in the suggestion that Committee Chairs be reminded that they do not have to create a report if there is nothing new and that only the Chair or their designated representative needs to report to the general members.

Dena Smith responded that the Executive Committee would look into these comments.

Dena stated that she would like to include a “Good of Order” agenda item where individuals can discuss ideas, report good happenings or concerns about their individual street; a time for individual members to speak.

Dena reported that she and Vice President Kim Papell attended the first Neighborhood Association Presidents meeting. This included a report from the City regarding foreclosures and vacant properties. After the meeting Kim and Dena met with city staff members, Kamla Lewis and Bill Hanson to speak specifically about Lomond Neighborhood. She reported that she was impressed with the city staffers’ knowledge of each street and property that was discussed. All were encouraged to call Bill Hanson’s office about any problem properties on their street. Properties that have a high number of calls from neighbors frequently receive attention sooner.

Dena reported that MyCom is sponsoring multiple activities for youth including after school programming at the Middle School and High School. The websites are up and the new youth hotline is available. Outreach is provided through flyers and announcements at the schools. Many of the activities are held at the library. Events for families and children are included such as a session on how to raise successful children in south Shaker.

IV. There were no Standing Committee Reports

V. New Business

There is approximately \$2,500 to be budgeted to the various committees. Direction from members as to what the Association should focus on and how funds should be utilized is critical. The committees include: Membership, Community Programs, Elections, Preservation and Beautification, Safety, Community Relations, and Communications. There had been discussion of the need for a Ways and Means Committee to conduct fund raising efforts.

Ideas for possible meeting topics from members included:

1. Discussion of Committee Reports – important for general meeting attendees to see Committee Chairs and hear what committees are doing.
2. Art Programs – music, visual arts, performances (vision of ice cream social including an art exhibit and perhaps areas with artists selling their work, music performances and other programs.)
3. Monthly musical programs similar to the ones held a few years ago on Sunday afternoons at Lomond School.
4. An ethnic fair where local families could celebrate and share their heritage (Possible could combine Lomond Association effort with the Lomond School function)
5. Safety Discussion with Mayor and Police Chief – perhaps small group discussions prevention ideas safety.
6. Programming to reach youth and families who do not regularly attend Lomond functions.
7. Invite local historians to speak on the development of Shaker Heights, particularly about the Lomond neighborhood
8. Program on the architecture of Shaker Heights and highlighting the Lomond committee.

Other Ideas from members included:

1. Develop a welcome packet and committee to welcome families to the neighborhood and invite them to join Lomond Association.
2. Year round playground supervisor to organize activities and have equipment for youth to use at the playground.
3. Publicize general meetings better – perhaps through the use of yard signs, and/or hanging posters at local stores & the library.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.