

West Salem

Neighborhood Association
Tuesday, March 3, 2009
Minutes

Josh Sutter began the meeting at 7:05pm. 17 people were in attendance, including the president, vice president, treasurer, and secretary.

7:05 PM Ed Collari

Representative, Winston-Salem Dash

Mr. Collari presented a slide show providing information on the new stadium, its new focus on a family atmosphere, and its immediate and future impact on the community. He stressed the large increase in family activities that will be available at the baseball games, including a 15,000 square fit Kid Zone, removal of "Thirsty Thursdays", the "biggest television in North Carolina", skits and a professionally trained mascot.

Opening day has not been set, but will most likely be late May to early June. The stadium itself will hold 5500 people in seats, and another 700 or so on the grassy hillside created for relaxed game-watching. Ticket prices will range between \$7-\$11, depending on chair or lawn seating.

Attending WSNA members inquired about parking, and were told that the stadium lies on 8 of the 32 acres that is owned by the team's managing partners. Because of this, there is room for parking and a parking deck is planned for the future. A visual aid shown did not depict the Green Street Bridge, and Mr. Collari was asked if the neighborhood was getting the foot bridge we were promised. He said he would check and get back to us.

More info is available at www.WSDASH.com or you may contact Tim Collari at 770-367-5986.

7:40 PM Josh Sutter/Gina/Joanne

Recap of Neighborhood Watch

Gina and Joanne will be coordinating the Neighborhood Watch. They provided a map showing the 3 sections that the neighborhood has been divided into. A discussion was held regarding the rationale of the division, and Gina said she would follow up with Bob Whitaker regarding the matter. Gina summarized the new WSNA listserv yahoo group and encouraged all to join. A discussion was held regarding the intentions of the Neighborhood Watch, and the consensus was that it should organize quick communication of crime/incidents and provide information rapidly. Creating a neighborhood phone tree and recruiting block captains was also discussed.

8:07 PM Josh Sutter

Housing Committee Update

The Housing Committee has been in contact with the city regarding the suspected rooming houses in our neighborhood, and the city provided a status report on each of the properties. Unfortunately, several of the properties are exempt from rooming house control because they have been grandfathered in or are non-conforming properties. The Committee continues to pursue several properties. Email WestSalemConcerns@yahoo.com for more information, to get the status of specific properties or to report a rooming house anonymously.

8:09 PM Josh Sutter

Peter's Creek Community Initiative

The Goals of the Initiative were summarized. The next meeting on March 23 at 5:30pm at the Green Street Church will be open to all interested individuals.

8:11 PM Del Perry

Community Garden

The Community Garden planning meeting will be held the week of April 15th after the last frost day. Del said that supplies for the Garden will cost approximately \$269, and funding is being sought from the WSNA, the Garden Club, and from donations. All are welcome to participate in the garden!

8:15 PM Josh Sutter/Joanne

Easter Egg Hunt

The neighborhood Easter Egg Hunt will be held April 11 between 2-4pm in Granville Park. Joanne is recruiting volunteers to stuff eggs and volunteer at the event. A "bunny suit" volunteer is also needed!

8:21 PM Josh Sutter

Garden Club as part of WSNA

A discussion was led by Josh regarding the Garden Club's desire to join the WSNA. The issue of possible back-taxes owed by the Garden Club was raised and concerns were voiced regarding the WSNA's liability. Del volunteered to contact a tax professional or attorney to get a definitive answer on taxes that may be owed by the Garden Club due to their lack of 501 3c status.

8:35 PM Greg Levoniuk

Treasurer Update/Newsletter Ad funding

The special account has a balance of \$225. The regular account will have \$561.64 after the March newsletter printing check clears the account. Greg voiced concerns over some of the outstanding newsletter ad invoices that are past due, and it was decided that going forward any annual ad subscriptions must be paid in full before printing of the ad. A discussion was held regarding including a flyer(s) in the newsletter and the implications of too much advertising. It was decided that a flyer will cost the advertiser \$250, they must provide the inserts, and only one insert will be allowed per newsletter.

8:45 PM Josh Sutter

Newsletter Purpose/Content/Advertising

Josh led a discussion on the functionality of the newsletter and how it is funded. All agreed that the newsletter should be maintained at all costs, and that it is one of the most neighborly, unifying things we do as a community. Ad content was discussed regarding who is allowed to advertise and who is turned away, and it was generally agreed that the newsletter is a family publication and advertisers that do not cater to that environment (for example, strip clubs) will not be allowed to advertise at the discretion of the WSNA officers. Also, properties for sale or rent will no longer be allowed in the newsletter classifieds or ads because we cannot legally single out the rooming house property owners. Please send any comments you may have regarding the newsletter to rick.henterly@ehs-support.com

9:05 PM Josh Sutter

Closing comments

Because of the long presentation by the stadium representative, the meeting extended far beyond its 1-hour schedule. The election for the board member(s) will be held at the April 2009 meeting. Also postponed till the April meeting are Fundraiser planning and a discussion of our Association's goals and financial needs to meet those goals.

Upcoming Neighborhood Activities

1. March 23 – Peter's Creek Community Initiative Meeting, 5:30pm at Green Street Church
2. April 11 – Easter Egg Hunt at Granville Park from 2-4pm
3. May 2– Peters Creek Community Imitative "Clean Sweep" at 9:00am
4. West Salem Garden Club Meeting, Thursday, March 19, 6:30pm at the home of Patricia Olmstead, 620 S Broad Street. A presentation of container gardening will be given by Sprigg Parker, and a drawing for a container garden will be held. New memberships will be accepted and \$10 annual dues will be collected. Everyone is invited!

9:10 PM

Adjourn