



P.O. Box 1292
Amherst, NY 14226

Neighbors
Helping Neighbors!

Minutes - November 9, 2004
General Membership Meeting of the Eggertsville Community Organization

Opening:

- President Janice Dunne opened the meeting and introduced 2 new members - Tom Hutchinson Jr. and Tom Hutchinson Sr. She said that she hoped they would be active members and join one of our Committees. Janice also welcomed and introduced TOA Councilmembers Bill Kindel and Shelly Schratz, TOA Highway Superintendent Bob Anderson, TOA Deputy Highway Superintendent Joe Speth, and our guest speaker, TOA Building Superintendent Tom Ketchum along with TOA Building Inspector Doug Cook.

President's Report:

- Janice said that she had a report on the sale of the Martin Luther School but it would be included in the discussion to be held by Councilmembers Kindel and Schratz.

Vice-President's Report:

- Vice-President Pat Lucey said that the daffodil bulbs we received and distributed have to be planted as soon as possible as our weather is turning very cold. He also recommended that they be planted far enough back on any property as to not be in the way of our snowplows pushing salt-loaded snow onto the newly planted bulbs.

Treasurer's Report:

- Treasurer Patricia McLean gave the following report:

M & T balance	\$1,141.74
Deposits	130.00
Expenses	<u>128.00</u>
Balance	\$1,143.54

Evans balance	\$1,084.27
No deposits	.00
No expenses	<u>.00</u>
Balance	\$1,084.27

Overall total \$2,227.81

- Patricia thanked the members for their donations of food for the local food pantries. She reminded the members that she would be collecting for the "Toys-For-Tots" drive at the December 14th. meeting.

Secretary's Report:

- Secretary Sheila Jones reported on a memo received from TOA Councilmember Dan Ward regarding Student Occupancies. This problem will be further discussed by Mr. Ketchum later in the meeting.

Committee Reports:

Business:

- No representative

Code:

- Chairman Steve Matisz said that due to the upcoming discussion by Mr. Ketchum, he would not report on any Code items at this meeting. He said that our Committee has gotten very good cooperation from the Building Department. He circulated a sign-up sheet for members who wanted to become involved with the Code Committee. He said that a Committee meeting would be held during January at the Higher Grounds Coffee House and he would notify all members of the date. Steve said that ECO is looking forward to welcoming the residents of Sheridan Woods and hoped they would become active members of the Code Committee.

Community Center:

- TOA Councilmembers Kindel and Schratz reported that the possible purchase by the Town of the Martin Luther School will be offered in a resolution to be put forth at the TOA Board Meeting on Monday 11/15/04. A tour of the School was held on Saturday 11/6/04 and attended by TOA Councilmembers and ECO members. The Lutheran Board has received 2 viable offers for the property as of this date. There will be a meeting of the Board on Thursday 11/11/04 and these offers will be considered. It was recommended that the Board be asked by ECO to delay their decision until after the TOA Board meeting on 11/15/04. Due to time constraints, ECO's request may not be made to the Lutheran Board, but Councilmember Schratz recommended that ECO members send requests for decision delay to the Lutheran Board. TOA Councilmember Kindel read the resolution he is putting forth at the TOA Board meeting and included the addition to the resolution recommended by TOA Councilmember Schratz. Councilmember Kindel cited the financial problems that are facing Erie County as well as our State and Town. He said that there is possible funding available from CDBG and Open Space Funding. The School is circa 1950 and is in need of updating and repairs, so a possibility of razing the structure and starting from scratch was discussed. A Feasibility Study would be the next step, followed by a Cost/Operating/Use Study, and then go to bonding to obtain the funds for purchase by the Town. The Town Attorney would then prepare a Purchase Offer. Councilmember Schratz said that if this property could not be obtained than another property would be looked for, as there is a definite need for a Community Center in Eggertsville. She has met with Mr. Penman of MJ Peterson Realty and discussed possible funding. Councilmember Schratz also said she was going to inquire where the funds went that MJ Peterson repaid the Town for the Allenhurst Apartment Project. Janice had flyers prepared for our members to notify them of the Town Board Meeting on Monday 11/15/04.

Parks:

- Chairman Chuck Gilbert said that TOA Engineer Donna Chestnut reported to him that Occhino Paving Co. has been awarded the contract for the Eggertsville Community Park. Bid items #1 thru 10 were accepted, but bid item #11 for a 24' diameter gazebo is being discussed due to a high bid price. If this item is not accepted, some of the stone walkway may be converted to an asphalt walkway surface with the available funds. The time extension proposed by the contractor of June 30, 2005 is being discussed by the Town. The Town would like a date of earlier June when school children are out of school. The material dumped in the park will be used to fill low spots for drainage improvement. The material will be spread out this fall, and then work will be started in the spring to finish the contract. Playground equipment has been ordered and it will be stored by the contractor when it arrives. Community Development Block Grant funds for the project are committed.

Spirit:

- Chairman Ruth Munson had nothing to report. Janice thanked Ruth for the refreshments for the meeting.

Sr. Housing:

- No representative

New Business:

- Janice opened the floor for nomination of officers for 2005. Steve Matisz made a motion for the following officers:

- President David Dengler
- Vice-President Patrick Lucey
- Treasurer Patricia McLean
- Secretary Charles Eisenmann

Beverly Matisz seconded, all voted aye, motion to accept the slate as read was approved. Janice asked if there were any additional nominations from the floor - no new nominations. Sheila Jones reviewed the slate of Chairman for the committees for 2005:

- Business David Ball
- Community Center Janice Dunne
- Code Steve Matisz
- Parks Chuck Gilbert
- Mailing Patricia McLean
- Spirit Roxanne Calabrese
- Sergeant-at-Arms Mary Carroll

Leo Zafron made the motion to close nominations, Chuck Gilbert seconded, and all voted aye, motion approved. Sheila said that the 2005 ECO calendar and the 2005 Roster will be sent to all members along with the December meeting notice flyer. Formal election of the officer slate will take place at the December 14th. meeting.

Suspension of Rules:

- Marie Zafron said that the Amherst Senior Center will be giving flu shots on Monday 11/15/04. She said that a call must be made to the Center to make a reservation and shots would be given only to those over 55 years of age.

Guest Speaker:

- Mr. Thomas Ketchum - TOA Building Superintendent and Doug Cook - TOA Building Inspector for Properties were the guest speakers for our meeting. Mr. Ketchum gave a brief overview of the history of our Building Codes and said that as TOA Building Superintendent, he has been authorized by New York State to be the official interpreter of the document "Property Maintenance Codes of New York State." He said that we have 2 building inspectors for the Town. Mr. Ketchum provided copies of the up-to-date "Property Maintenance Code" manual for our members.

Mr. Ketchum discussed the following topics and took questions from the floor on each topic:

- **Sidewalks** - Violations for sidewalks needing repair work that is not done. Mr. Robert Anderson - TOA Highway Superintendent covered the process for the Town removal of tree roots. Snow and ice removal rules. The summons and fines that will be given out.
- **Junked and Unlicensed Vehicles/RV/Motorcycles**
- **General Property Maintenance** - repairs to property needed to be done, grass and weed cutting.
- **Sanitation and Drain Sewers** - discussed sump pumps and proper shut-offs for water lines.
- **Garbage and Trash Pickups**
- **Residential Occupancy Rules** - covered students living in private homes and square footage required

Mr. Ketchum and Doug Cook conducted a question and answer period and remained after the meeting to talk to our members.

Meeting Adjourned:

Sheila A. Jones
Secretary
Egbertsville Community Organization