

**Gifford Park Association - General Membership Meeting**  
**Elgin History Museum**  
**May 16, 2019**

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Barbara Evans, Susan Kuester, Dan & Pat Miller, Maureen and Tom Lee, EPD Officer Ramirez, EPD Officer Callahan, , Tim Solarz, Peggy Bernar, Bill Briska,

Welcome and Introductions

Thank you to Elgin Police Explorers who helped with the constructing of the beds for the Community Garden last weekend. Approximately 12 Explorer members came to help. Officer Ramirez states there are about 40 Explorers currently in the program, ranging in age from 14 – 21. They meet on Wednesdays from 6 – 9 PM at the Elgin Police Department.

**R.O.P.E. REPORT** (Officer Ramirez 847-289-2700)

Since last meeting in March, there were a total of 597 calls for service in our neighborhood. There were 95 traffic stops, and 14 loud party calls. Expect as weather gets nicer to see increase in loud party calls. Ordinance states music can not be heard 150 feet from the property line and after 10 PM noise, music distance changes to 75 feet from property line. If you have an issue call non-emergency at 847-289-2700 or 911. Also had 4 burglaries to vehicles. Three of the vehicles were unlocked, 4<sup>th</sup> had a wallet in plain sight.

Upcoming events this month:

- May 17<sup>th</sup>, COP on TOP, starting at 5AM at the Dunkin Donut at Clock Tower Plaza, proceeds benefit Special Olympics.
- May 20<sup>th</sup> Chief's monthly meeting, at 6 PM held at the Police Department
- May 23<sup>rd</sup>, Coffee with a Cop at 10 AM at the Elgin IHOP on Randall Road

Teen Academy Applications are currently being accepted, age is from 13 – 19, program runs from June 3<sup>rd</sup> through June 8<sup>th</sup>. Registration is available online at the EPD web site.

Officer Ramirez reminds everyone to check the Elgin Police Facebook Page for all upcoming police events as well as their website.

Reminder if installing security cameras at your home or place of business, you can contact EPD Tech Division. They will give you some help locating cameras in the best spots.

## SECRETARY'S AND TREASURER'S REPORTS

Minutes from March 2019 meeting approved as presented.

### Treasurer's report

No income.

Checking account balance is \$ 41,077.71

CD's total of 4 \$ 83,166.20

**Total \$ 124,243.91**

Expenses over the last two months related GPA insurance \$1598/year, Web maintenance, house plague expense matching. Expenses in the next month, P.O. rental, envelopes, property tax for pocket park at the corner of Geneva and Chicago Street. Other expenses coming will be the rental for the storage unit, and fees to Jesus Ramirez, landscaper who is going to be maintaining the pocket park. He is charging \$35.00/cutting.

Pat wants to remind everyone our recurring expenses need GPA income.

### HISTORIC DISTRICT COMMITTEE (Paul Bednar paul@paulbednar.com)

#### Community Garden / Neighborhood Garden –

- Over thirty people have signed up.
- Thirty people have paid the \$20.00 rent.
- Past weekend the wooden boxes for each garden were constructed and two trucks of dirt were delivered.
- Pat would like to thank the following people who volunteered: Sara Hunt, Laura Knoerr, Colleen Anderson, Bill Anderson, Dan Miller, Paul Bednar, Anthony Bernar, Julie Schmidt, Pat Miller, John Boline, Carol Anderson, Chad and Yulia Lacek, the lady across alley, and the 12 Elgin PD Explorers along with Officer Ramirez.
- A Neighborhood Improvement Grant was applied for and received, it includes building the beds and a gazebo along with some landscaping.
- Thank you to the city of Elgin for installing water access which will accommodate several hoses, estimated cost \$5000.00.

### MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT (Moe Lee 708-828-9706)

Annual Potluck Dinner was held on April 26<sup>th</sup>, at Lord's Park Pavilion, approximately 70 people were in attendance. The rental fee for using the pavilion was waived as we have agreed to man the water station for the Annual Fox Trot on May 25<sup>th</sup>. If you want to help contact, Glenna Prevadovic or Karen Bach.

### ELGIN HISTORIC HOUSE TOUR (Mike Haskins 630-880-7276)

Have 8 homes on tour this year along with Elgin Public Museum and the Lord's Park Pavilion. Thank you to Barb Evans for assisting Dan with contacting homeowners.

**NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH PROGRAM - Barb** Evans at [evanselgin@yahoo.com](mailto:evanselgin@yahoo.com) or 847-742-2265.

August 17<sup>th</sup> will be Neighbor Works Day, the Wellington Area along the old train right of way will be focus area. Asking every neighborhood group to furnish workers. The workday will only be in the morning and is expected to be easier jobs than in the past.

All board members from all neighborhood groups are invited to attend a meeting on May 30<sup>th</sup>.

Barb also reminded us that as a member of the Downton Neighborhood Association we can have a table at the Farmers Market anytime we wish.

### **New Information:**

Dan shared some pictures taken at the First Universalist Church – now Iglesia Principia de Paz. The mayor's awards were held there this year. There has been quite a transformation from when GPA met there in the late 70's early 80's. It is currently a non-denominational Spanish church. They are busy renovating the building. Dan asked GPA to consider donating \$1000.00 to the church. Motion amended by Barb to reimburse the church for repairs to the windows up to \$1000.00. Motion approved.

Dan reminded everyone GPA will pay one half the cost for plaquing your home. Applications are available at the Building Plaque Program at the city web site. Cost of application is \$60.00. The purpose of the Elgin Heritage Commission Building Plaque Program is to identify and promote awareness and appreciation of those buildings in Elgin that have historical and/or architectural value.

Thank you to Peggy Bernar for creating the GPA Facebook page.

Respectfully submitted  
Susan Kuester

## **BUILDING PLAQUE PROGRAM**

### **About**

The program is indicative of the pride Elgin has in its past and its desire to preserve the history for future generations. Under the auspices of the Elgin Heritage Commission, the program was initiated in 1985 in celebration of Elgin's 150th anniversary.

### **Application**

A **Building Plaque Application** and \$60 payable to the City of Elgin may be submitted to: