

Gifford Park Association - General Membership Meeting
Elgin History Museum
September 19, 2019

IN ATTENDANCE

Peggy Bernar, John Boline, Bill Briska, Mike Haskins, Barbara Evans, Susan Kuester, Moe Lee, Dan & Pat Miller, EPD Officer Ramirez, Warren Tejes

Welcome

Thank you to the Elgin Explorers for helping at Liberty Street for the Historic Elgin House Tour.

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

Since last meeting in August,

- Unfortunately, some gardeners have found some of their veggies missing from the Community Garden. If someone is found to have in possession the missing vegetables, will probably issued a ticket for violating a city ordinance rather than be arrested. Office Ramirez reminds everyone if you see something that doesn't look right to call the Police Department right away.
- The incident at the former Bowes nursing home during house walk, was related to a call into the PD of two juveniles with a rifle. Seems the juveniles were shooting a BB gun at squirrels. Reminder discharge of BB guns within the city is prohibited.
- Currently, the PD is attempting to apprehend a black sedan seen frequenting the Providence subdivision, taking pictures of children. Again, Officer Ramirez would like to reiterate, "No call to small".

Upcoming events this month:

- September 23rd, Chief's monthly meeting, at 6 PM held at the Police Department
- September 24th, cookies with a Cop. 3:30 – 4:30 PM at McDonalds at 1165 N McLean Blvd. Cookies are free.
- September 25th, Elgin Teen Life: Self Defense at Elgin Police Dept., from 4 – 6 PM. If you have teens, grandchildren of teenage and they are interested in learning self-defense sign up for this free class
- September 26th, Coffee with a Cop 11:00 – 12:00 AM, at Elgin Books & Café, 66 S Grove. The mission of Coffee with a Cop is to break down the barriers between police officers and the citizens they serve. Come meet our police and ask questions voice concerns, get to know your neighborhood.
- October 2nd, National Coffee with a Cop Day, 10:00 – 11:00 AM at Panera Bread, 2484 N Randall Road, and from 4:00 -5:00 PM at the Starbucks on N. Randall Road
- October 5th, Women's Self Defense sponsored by the Elgin PD at The Centre of Elgin, morning session is still available.

Discussion related to traffic issues especially on side streets with the construction of East Chicago Street. All drivers should drive defensively. If you see violations call the PD immediately.

SECRETARY'S AND TREASURER'S REPORTS

Minutes from August meeting approved as presented.

Treasurer's report

Checking account balance is	\$ 56,472.25
CD's total of 4	\$ 83,938.57
Total	\$ 140,410.82

Historic House Tour dollars are still pending, we have a deposit of \$26,933.00, but waiting on money from the Jewel stores for pre-ticket sales, and additional sponsors. Expenses for tour are at \$6282.70 with after party expense still needing to be paid.

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

Preliminary attendance is around 1900 over the two-day tour. Approximately 450 nonpaying attendees with 157 complimentary tickets given and 298 books to docents. Online sales went very well, and we had 35 tickets sold that were not redeemed. We brought in about \$34,598.00, while we are still waiting on money from Jewel for tickets sold and a couple of sponsors still need to send checks. Expenses at \$10,490.00, with \$2800.00 in donated items. Overall income to Gifford Park Association is approximately \$24,000.00. Thank you to Donna Leetz and John Marsten for the after party at Danny's Pizza with 140 people in attendance.

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

Peggy Bernar was in attendance for Paul

- Fall Fest is planned for October 26 at Gifford Park, from 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM. Peggy from the planning committee requested of the board to spend up to \$200.00 for a Bouncy House. Discussion ensued about how much money can be spent for this Fest. Barbara Evans proposed that a budget of up to \$700.00 should be established for the Festival. Mike Haskins second and board approved a budget for the Fest. Peggy is also still in need of volunteers to help with games. Contact Peggy at 708-426-8012 to sign up
- Community Garden is having a Pergola Build on Saturday, September 28th beginning at 10:00 AM. The garden has been very successful this year and plans are being made for more beds next year.
- Porch Fest – next year the plan for porch fest to be held at the Pergola, looking for help in planning Porch Fest.
- Christmas Plans:

- Wassailing Holiday Party – December 14th starting at 5:00 pm. It will be a progressive party starting at Donna and Tom Leetz. In need of at least two more homes to host
- Christmas House Decorating Contest – More information will be coming in November. Sign up will be from December 1st through December 14th with judging on the 14th. Two different categories traditional and with lights.
- Christmas Wreaths – for the Historic Signs, Paul Bednar, Paul Kuester and John Boline will be working on this.

MEMBERSHIP – currently 143 households. Moe with the help of Dan attempts to contact new neighbors in the historic district.

Other Concerns

Pat stated rent for the storage space has increased again this year. Wondering if anyone knows of some reasonable storage space in the area. Contact Dan or Pat if you have any ideas.

Respectfully submitted
Susan Kuester