

Gifford Park Association General Meeting
Elgin History Museum [EHM]
Thursday, Sept. 15, 2022

DATES TO NOTE

Mon., Sept. 19, 7 pm: Fall Fest planning meeting, 16 Rugby Pl.
Thurs., Sept. 29, 6-8 pm: DNA Mixer for historic area board members, Elgin Public House
Sat., Oct. 9, 1-4 pm: GPA Fall Fest, Gifford Park
Thurs., Oct. 20, 7 pm: GPA General Membership Meeting, EHM

IN ATTENDANCE

Paul Bednar, Barbara Evans, Janine Hnatusko, Sarah Hunt, Laura Knoerr (briefly), Trish LaFleur, Mike Maginity, Dan & Pat Miller, Mark & Glenna Preradovic, Warren Tejes, Kathy York, EPD Officer Ramon Payne

CALL TO ORDER Paul Bednar

R.O.P.E. REPORT (Officer Payne)

During the past month in our area, there was one shots-fired call, but no evidence was found. There were also 3 incidents in which small amounts of unlawful possession of controlled substances were found as a result of traffic stops.

A flyer about the upcoming Nightmare on Chicago Street will be sent to all on our mailing list. The EPD will have a strong presence there.

Pat Miller expressed concern about the lack of publicity about the Hispanic car caravan scheduled to traverse the city on Mexican Independence Day (from Spain), Sat., Sept. 17, especially as the Chicago Tribune's Courier-News reported that as many as 400 cars might be participating. Office Payne said that to his knowledge, the EPD would not be monitoring the caravan and that because the group had purchased a permit, horns could be honking and loud music playing.

SECRETARY'S & TREASURER'S REPORTS

The minutes of the Aug. 18 general membership meeting were approved unanimously.

Because house tour income and expenditures are still incomplete, Laura Knoerr asked to delay her report until our next meeting. That was agreeable to all.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Historic District (Sarah Hunt)

Those involved in planning Fall Fest will meet at Paul Bednar's this coming Monday. More are still needed to help with the events, so if you're willing, please contact Sarah at 464-5864. If you're specifically interested in helping with the games, please contact Pat Miller at 697-3370.

Paul proposed that instead of planting perennials that require summer-long attention on EHD street corners, we opt to only plant spring bulbs. No decision was reached on this matter.

Dan Miller will research prices for a waste can for the pocket park. It will need to be bolted down.

Many things on the list that Paul and city workers compiled still need to be done. Call 311 to report bent/crooked signs, street lights out, etc.

2. Historic House Tour (Matt Martin)

After the dust has settled and all has been tabulated, Matt will call a Steering Committee meeting to discuss this year's tour and possibilities for next year's. He will then make his report at GPA's October meeting. In lieu of an official report tonight, those of us who worked on the tour this year waxed eloquent about what a glorious day Saturday was, then shook our heads remembering Sunday's almost non-stop rain. Barbara, who was working at registration, said she couldn't believe how many came in the rain on Sunday and paid full price for tickets. (Sunday attendance was approx. 200.)

3. Membership (Janine Hnatusko)

Two houses in the EHD have new owners: 433 Division St. and 363 North St.

4. Publicity (Trish LaFleur)

Now that house tour is over, Trish is returning to work on an online map that marks all the houses that have been on the tour.

OLD BUSINESS

1. Great Unveiling Grants

No further applications have been made.

Dan and Pat are still waiting for volunteers to join them to meet with especially promising properties to discuss what all is involved in removing substitute siding as well as what is gained by doing so. (697-3370)

In an email to board members, Dan expressed his concern about GPA members removing siding from second stories. Knowing all Dan has gone through since his fall, we were all glad that he'd raised this concern. We then discussed if we should change from providing free labor to remove all siding to just removing first story siding. The property owner would then have to arrange for it to be removed from the second story. Before any decisions are made, Paul is going to spend time with GPA's insurance agent in order to learn what our policy covers.

Paul did learn that GPA is remiss in not having liability insurance for its officers.

2. Street Name Signs

Dan had nothing yet to report about replacing missing ones. (At our August meeting, we voted to allocate \$2,400 for this.)

3. East Chicago Street's Lead Pipe Water Service

Dan met with City officials to urge them to reimburse the few who had replaced their lead water pipes going into their homes at their own expense, before the City received the \$4 billion grant. The City is looking into this, and Dan had the impression that this will be done.

The meeting was unanimously adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Barbara Evans, Secretary

