

BRAG Minutes for September 10, 2008

Special guests:

Rylan Hall who spoke about the effort to reduce the number of Township Assessors in Marion County. He invited all of us to take a close look at the ballot on the reverse side of the form to vote against the proposal to retain them and consolidate. Check out www.mysmartgov.org for more info

Mechelle Rusk introduced herself to the group as the new Community Resource Liaison with IMPD on the north side. Mechelle presented crime stats for our area and explained the efforts of IMPD to report stats more accurately. She spoke about how much police officers value the substation at Graham Road/East 71st Street and invited more contributions of snacks and water to the officers to keep up their morale. Mechelle can be reached at 327.6168

Mechelle also mentioned that Shirley Purvitis will become the new Crime Watch Coordinator for the north district as of September 15th. Shirley can be reached at 327.3781 or at p1527@indygov.org

GINI working groups' update re crime watch issues, pedestrian trails and connectivity development, collaboration with Lawrence Township Schools, new business development in our area. Lisa Angrick had to leave early but Janet Dankert spoke about the efforts of the business development group to coordinate efforts with CIRT to get a permanent train stop at East 71st Street and also efforts to collaborate with the Indiana Transportation Museum to have a temporary train stop in August 2009 during the State Fair.

Next GINI working groups' meeting will be held on September 23 at 5:30 pm at Church of the Saviour

New recycling bin! Jane reported that Colin Martin, Manager of Hawthorn Plaza, BRAG, and Republic Services have implemented extensive recycling with 5 new bins that have been placed on the south end of the former Entenmann's near the site of our Binford Farmers Market. Please note that no glass or plastic bags should be tossed in these bins.

Treasurers Report. Kas Vargo reported that BRAG has \$17,000 approx in its kitty and the GINI account is at about the same. However, with beautification plans underway and \$30,000 needed for pedestrian/connectivity plus \$30,000 needed for Skiles Test Nature Park Center feasibility study, BRAG's kitty needs more infusions.

Oktoberfest fundraiser on October 11th Sales of tickets for this fun fundraiser are continuing but they are not as strong as BRAG or Hillcrest would like. It was agreed that increased promotion of ticket sales needs to take place by neighborhood presidents and at our Saturday Markets. Our goal is 500 ticket sales by the evening of October 11th, with

the vast majority sold by September 24th. Proceeds will be split with Hillcrest Historic Foundation.

BRAG's beautification and clean-up day on Saturday morning, October 18th. Contact Karen Kryah re Binford maintenance kjkryah@yahoo.com
Contact Jane Lommel re Fall Creek clean-up jane@BinfordFarmersMarket.com

Karen and Jane need 40 volunteers each at both locations. Jane will have Fall Creek Road closed for the safety of volunteers. Two pick-ups are needed at Fall Creek to handle the trash and recycling.

Next Leaders & Learners Luncheon on October 22 at George's. Barbara Summers is our guest speaker. Contact Kas to reserve your seat kasvargo@gmail.com \$15/gourmet lunch.

BRAG Board approval re the Nickel Plate light rail and train stop in our area. Jane circulated the letter that was sent to CIRT A to indicate BRAG's full support of having the Nickel Plate resurrected and a train stop erected at East 71st Street. BRAG will work closely with CIRT A to implement these plans.

Special indoor Holiday Farmers Markets will be held on November 22 and December 6 & 13 inside the former Entenmann's between 10 am – 2:30 pm. The Market needs volunteers to run these special Saturdays and to decorate the inside of the building plus the outdoor window