

BRAG Minutes
October 10, 2007

Update on the 6 GINI action groups; school grant:

Lisa Angrick reported that there are six action groups that continue to meet monthly between July and November 2007. They include:

Better perception of Lawrence Township Schools; next meeting on October 11 at 6:30 pm at Skiles Test Elementary School.

Crime reduction/safety; next meeting on October 16 at 5:30 pm at Church of the Saviour on 6205 Rucker Road.

Parks and green space; next meeting on October 18 at 6 pm at Church of the Saviour.

Business development; next meeting on October 23 at 5:30 pm at Crestview Elementary.

Pedestrian Access; next meeting on October 25 at 6 pm at Crestview.

Smart Growth; next meeting on November 14 at 6 pm at McKenzie Career Center.

Please contact Lisa Angrick to join any one of these groups lisa@binford71.org or 585.8492.

The results of each of these working groups will be included in a Quality of Life planning document for BRAG to use in applying for grants and to implement projects in our area.

Lisa also reported that BRAG has received a generous Service Learning grant to improve the connections between Skiles Test Elementary School and BRAG through special programs that will incorporate the nearby Skiles Test Nature Park as a learning environment.

Planning our October 13th beautification party:

Karen Kryah reported that we still need volunteers to help on Saturday between 9 am and noon with registration at the former Burger King.

Volunteers will replace trees, replant perennials that died during the summer, and weed beds along Binford. Volunteers need to bring gloves and tools, Trash bags and water will be provided.

New business developments:

Larry Riggle reported that demolition work will be starting soon on the northwest corner of Binford and East 71st Street.

Donna Carr and Brian Pahud are reporting increased interest in leasing space in their developments on both corners of Binford.

Updated BRAG website:

Kas reported that BRAG has switched its web design and maintenance to a new firm. The new website template will be ready by next week. She invites comments on it. Larry Riggle will be the liaison between BRAG members and Patrick, our web guy.

Jane and Ray will contribute minutes from past 2007 BRAG monthly meetings to keep our website up-to-date.

Crime watch update:

Peter reported that the Flagstar armed robbery suspect is still at large. Photos of the robber have been circulated to all the other banks in the BRAG area.

Joe reported that the resident crime watch system still needs more communication from residents to their Crime Watch coordinator so they can be circulated to the BRAG community. Joe is learning about crimes through police reports that are one month old.

Our police substation needs

Farmers Market update:

The final Market for 2007 will be held on Saturday, October 13th. Flu shots will be provided by Community Health. There will be a closing ceremony and thank you presents given to vendors for making this Market such a success.

Plans for 2008 include a new location that will be determined this fall by a survey of vendors. In addition, the Market plans to open on May 13, 2008 with a walk/ride/run as a fund-raiser. Kas and Jane are working on sponsorship levels to support the Market with a possible part time person to run the Market on the 24 Saturdays that it will be open.

Spring beautification plans:

The Binford median planting of native grasses and wildflowers will need to be replanted in April 2008.

The Skiles Test Park south entrance will need extensive new landscaping with a big crew of volunteers as well.

BRAG has been selected to participate in our own Focus group. They would like us to attend on **October 25th, 6:30-8:00pm** at ESC (7601 E. 56th Street- small building right next to Belzer Middle School). It is very important that we attend and voice our opinions!! Please let me know if you can participate. Below is more information about the focus groups and you can also access www.ltschools.org.

Next meeting: November 14, 2007