

**East Forest Park Civic Association
Minutes for October 10, 2007 Meeting**

Attendance (board members in bold): Richard & Darlene Acchione, Bruce Adams, Donna Ashey, Stella Bartyzel, Tom & Georgia Briggs, Dennis Brousseau, JoAnne Cardell, George Cartier, Brian Clancy, Paul Cloutier, Melissa Cody, Bill & Nancy Collins, Chris Collins, Clodo & Teresa Concepcion, Roberta Cyr, Kevin Devine, Art & Kathy Duncan, Ron & Martha Duquette, Elizabeth Eisold, Attorney Peter Fenton, Councilor Jimmy Ferrera, Klaus Feuerstein, Jacque Forsman, Jeff Galarneau, Linda Gallagher, Virginia Garrity, James & Barbara Garvey, Lynda Lemanis, Sandy Little, Sally Markey, Jeanie Marsh, Ronnie & Chris McCoy, Gwen McKeown, Jim & Peg Moriarty, Brad Moreau, Thomas & Kathleen Murphy, Maura Murphy, Edward Pomeroy III, Karen Powell, Councilor Tim Rooke, Mayor Charlie Ryan, Frank Ryan, Robert & Darlene Ryan, Orlando & Ivia Santiago, Shawn Sheehan, Sandra Shooshan, Councilor Bruce Stebbins, Peter Sygnator, Elaine Wright, Ellen Walmer, and David Wells

Board of Directors Organizational Meeting

Shawn Sheehan, Co-President, administered the meeting at 6:30 pm. East Forest Park will be using a new P.O. Box for all written correspondence which is P.O. Box 23 East Longmeadow, MA. Officer positions were clarified: Elaine Wright will be continuing as Treasurer along with Dick Acchione as co-Treasurer. Frank Ryan will be the secretary. Shawn also detailed the night's agenda.

Old Business

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 P.M by Shawn Sheehan, Co-President. Shawn introduced the officers and the board of directors to the crowd. Mayor Ryan was announced as tonight's guest speaker and everyone was reminded about the 50/50 raffle.

Day Care Center on Roosevelt Avenue & Overlook Drive

Introduced Kathleen Murphy who spoke about of the Day Care's effect on her home and neighborhood and the actions she has taken and asked Attorney Peter Fenton to file a lawsuit on her behalf.

Attorney Peter Fenton spoke about the 83 children in one backyard, the concern of traffic for a business serving that number of kids. He informed us of the costly suit to be filed and that Kathleen Murphy would appreciate any financial help from other equally concerned city residents.

Shawn stated the civic association advocates support for such a dedicated citizen.

Councilor Stebbins spoke of work on the Zoning By-Law Committee. According to research, there are 264 Dover Amended Facilities in Boston, Springfield has 132, and Worcester has 75. The Dover Amendment has allowed for the operation of the large day care center on Roosevelt Avenue.

Councilor Rooke spoke of a traffic study done on Roosevelt Avenue. A hearing will take place in November at City Hall.

A request was made by the Civic Association to sign a petition to the city to grant a permit for a horseshoe drive on Roosevelt Avenue to facilitate the drop off and pick up of kids at the day care.

250 Winton Street

Judy Benoit updated us that the property at 250 Winton Street is in foreclosure by Country Wide Bank. The neighbors are working with Councilor Tim Rook and are keeping in contact with Code Enforcement, which has gone out to the property.

Residents have issues with:

- Lots of trash in the front yard, which blows around to neighboring homes.
- Cars are parked on the lawn and cars are driven in yard.

- Automotive work occurs on the cars parked on the front lawn.
- Dumpster was kept on the property for six months.
- Transmission is stored on the front porch.
- (Unregistered?) car is parked near the house.
- Picture of property is located at: <http://eastforestpark.org/news/>

New Business

Police Union Picketing Meeting

Sgt. Kevin Devine spoke of the reason why the police are picketing tonight's meeting do to not having a raise since 2002 and there has been no movement in resolving their contract since July 2003. Approximately 29 police officers were in attendance.

Guest Speaker: Mayor Charlie Ryan

Mayor Ryan spoke of the negotiations currently going on with the police supervisors union. The general membership has turned down a tentative agreement with negotiating committee and there is another bargaining session planned for October 11th. The mayor said that he prefers a face to face meeting rather than a go-between with mediators.

Three and a half years ago upon taking office the city embarked on an unfortunate trip where we were in debt for \$50 million. The legislators voted to give us the Control Board. We now have money in the bank and a return of confidence in the city and its leadership. We are not out of the woods yet and the city's situation is complicated and all of Western Massachusetts depends on the city's health.

We have to be concerned that we will have to fully fund the city employees' pension fund, which is \$350 million. Two years ago we moved our money and invested it to a better rate of return.

Governor Deval Patrick has developed a partnership with the city and he knows we are here. He will be opening a branch office in the state building. We have also seen the demolition of the green monster in Indian Orchard and will also be seeing the demolition of the York Street jail this fall. The city is coming through with pride.

The mayor then answered residents concerns about:

- Traffic light sensors (those who run red lights)
- Gunshot sound pinpoint technology
- Civic minded Kathleen Murphy's efforts with a very large day care center

Shawn thanked the mayor for being our guest speaker and fitting us into his very busy schedule.

250 Winton Street

Area neighbors brought up the following complaints on the property:

- Lots of trash in the front yard, which blows around to neighboring homes.
- Cars are parked on the lawn and cars are driven in yard.
- Automotive work occurs on the cars parked on the front lawn.
- Dumpster was kept on the property for six months.
- Transmission is stored on the front porch.
- (Unregistered?) car is parked near the house.

Suggestions were made to contact Code Enforcement, Health Department, and Police. Councilor Rooke is also helping the residents.

28 Wheeler

Six guys renting the house from Springfield College. The guys have apologized to the residents for the parties taking place on Thursday nights. A letter is going to be drafted to Duan Xiaoke & Xiaoming Zhao

who are the owners of the property because there is a violation of more than three non-related individuals residing in an apartment.

The mayor drew the 50/50 raffle ticket and \$25 was granted to the winner.

The Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M. Submitted by Frank Ryan, Secretary 10/21/07

Our Next Meeting will take place on Wednesday, November 14, 2007 at 7:00 pm at Holy Cross School in the Cafeteria. Our guest speakers will be Deryk Roach of the Park Department and Director Bill Miller of Friends of the Homeless Shelter at 769 Worthington Street to discuss the new grants received. We hope to see you there.

Please give us your e-mail address so that you can receive minutes and neighborhood news electronically. Please send an e-mail to Sheehan@eastforestpark.org to be added to our list.