

**East Forest Park Civic Association  
Minutes for October 14, 2009 Meeting**

**Attendance (board members in bold):** Richard & Darlene Acchione, **Tim Allen**, JoAnne Cardell, **Jacqueline & Shawn Corbitt, Maureen Gagnon Craig, Ron & Martha Duquette, Jacqueline Forsman, Marty & Linda Gallagher, Jodi Manning, Sally Markey, Daryl Moss, Thomas & Kathleen Murphy, Frank Ryan, Linda Ulrick, Ellen Walmer, and Bud Williams.**

### **General Session: New Business**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM by acting Recording Secretary, Frank Ryan.

On behalf of the acting Board of Directors whom he introduced ,he welcomed Mayoral Candidate Bud Williams and explained that Mayor Sarno could not make this meeting but those who wish to hear him speak may attend 16 Acres Association Meeting next week. There were 23 people present but not everyone signed the attendance sheet.

Mr. Williams gave a short biography of his 'wonderful life' in Springfield and explained that he is running in order to give back as his family has done. His concerns are the quality of our school programs, crime in the city, lack of police presence, residency requirements, Springfield's economic future, and low income housing.

The schools must create a vision that our students have a hopeful future and involve all parents to affirm their responsibility to keep the youth of Sprfld. on that road. City centers, Y and Park programs and camps are needed. He will lobby for Head Start, early childhood and pre-school programs. He advocates an early intervention system for the city's present teenage pregnancy problem. "A message needs to go out to students and parents alike: 'Babies having babies' is NOT acceptable!"

Crime is creeping into all neighborhoods. The Police Dept. needs to be restructured to get more officers patrolling our streets. A special unit needs to be started to get guns off our streets. The present Residency Requirements must be enforced at all levels.

There needs to be a spending freeze and the city's economy must brace for yet another round of state budget cuts. We need to lobby Boston and communicate with state and regional legislators to receive our fair share of State Aid. A moratorium is needed on low income housing. Work with surrounding communities to come up with a regional approach to meet the needs of the poor in the western part of the state.

The court system needs to be addressed. Citizens should go in and observe, record and write letters to bring public awareness to the action of judges and city action will produce a more responsive judicial system. Special court sessions are needed to expedite violent and weapon related crimes.

Mr. Williams ended with, "We are all from Springfield. Not from one area but from the City of Springfield!"

The **next meeting will start earlier** on the **Veterans' Holiday, Wednesday Nov. 11 at 6:30 PM** to accommodate our Crime Watch meeting that would have fallen on Thanksgiving Eve.

Respectfully submitted,  
Frank Ryan, Recording Secretary