

Forest Home Improvement Association
Officers' Meeting
Date: January 21, 2014 7:30pm
Location: Forest Home Chapel

In attendance: Claudia Fuchs, President; Bill Arms, Vice President; Montana Petersen, Treasurer; Cindy Bowman, Secretary. Also in attendance: Bruce Brittain and Jon Miller.

Insurance: Claudia and Montana will follow up on umbrella insurance research with Karen Supek.

Dues: Montana or Claudia will send out an email requesting dues (suggested donation is \$30); last year we had \$230 by this date; this year \$650 has been collected.

Montana has already filed the tax form with IRS; Claudia needs to be put on the account and will follow up with that; please ask to spell Montana's name correctly on the account (Petersen with an "e.")

A little less than \$2000 is in CD; this is a 5-year CD maturing in 2015; the checking and savings balance is \$3200. Last year we spent \$530.

Bruce Brittain ~ knows the history of the legal defense fund. He explained that at one point the Town closed Forest Home Drive between Forest Home and Martha van Rensselaer. The FHIA sued city, town and Cornell to reopen. Bruce's father started the defense fund, fearing that the Association would need it. In the end all was resolved, so Bruce's father donated the money he had set aside for the lawyer's retainer and used it to create our defense fund.

Street captains - Pete Loucks is now street captain on Crest Lane. Cindy is street captain on McIntyre.

The directory is nearly up-to-date. Claudia did talk with Ari and they decided this would not be linked to website. Jon Miller asked if an attachment can be sent with the list serve; Bruce seconded the idea. Jon Miller noted that the Directory is laid out for print, not for a pdf. Also, it was suggested that we add emergency contact information at the bottom of the page.

Claudia mentioned the break-ins; Bruce asked whether there was going to be an official "Neighborhood Watch." Jon Miller - "neighborhood watches" are self-organized; Bill Arms described the "Neighborhood Watch" organizations in Annapolis and added they were ineffective.

How to enhance FH Community Social Life -

Bill Arms - make clear on community invitations that you are welcome to our events, whether you're a long term Forest Home resident or just here for a short while.

Claudia - tea with FH residents would be fun.

How to enhance FH Community Social Life (cont.)

Jon Miller – in the past there have been Chapel presentations open to all FH residence. If there's some talent or interest that someone would like to share

John L. ~Famous Astronomer
Bruce – History
Art Bloom – Geologist
Lab of O' ~ Bird Friendly
Beth – Musical events
Jon Miller – *How to Feed the World*

Snow Removal –

Bill Arms – the Chapel is responsible for a lot of shoveling; the FHIA could find out what the snow shoveling responsibility is exactly. The town does a good job from Warren to the down stream bridge.

Bruce thinks it is on the town's long-term plan to shovel Forest Home.

Ithaca Youth Bureau – has a teenage list serve that could be considered for on call shoveling.

Claudia will put a call out for young FH residents interested in work.

Dam Debris (DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation))– when part of the dam broke off, the DEC took care of this. Bruce thinks the creek is regulated – and the DEC may oversee the creek and dam. Claudia will remind Todd Bittner.

The Garden –

Montana – will take a look at the list of plants and let Rich know what we're picking;

Jon Miller spoke about a project out west that planted fruit trees and bushes which would then allow residence to pick the fruit;

Montana ~ has an idea of what to plant; Montana mentioned that Elizabeth suggested a rain garden.

Photovoltaic panels – Claudia wrote to Nick Goldsmith who wrote back that there is a group called Outreach; John Miller said there is a small FH sustainability committee that might be interested

The Bridge – it's going slower than they hoped because the ground froze. They need to be out of the creek by either March or April 15th – but the bedrock must be 40 degrees or above to pour the concrete.

Suggestions for new projects:

Social get together in March

Snow shoveling organized

Next meeting in March; Spring clean-up in late April.