

ABC Streets Neighborhood Association Quarterly Meeting
1600 East Avenue Apartments, Basement Conference Room
January 24, 2013
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Meeting Notes

1. Meeting called to order by **Tom Hasman**, *Association President*, at 6:35 p.m. Tom and attendees thanked George for his hospitality and help in hosting our meetings at his building.
2. **Tom Hasman** introduced **Commander Joseph Morabito**, the new Rochester Police Department East Patrol Division Commander.
 - a. **Commander Morabito** gave attendees a brief overview of his RPD background. He also explained that the RPD is currently discussing and investigating the possibility of returning to the *quadrant format* in the City of Rochester. Discussion ensued about how College Town is responsible for a positive turnaround of the Mt. Hope area and the increased improvements going on in the South Ave and Gregory Street area. Folks are moving back into downtown and feels administration and city officials moving in the right direction.
 - b. Plans are underway to establish an RPD office in the former Sibley building.
3. **Treasurer's Report (Maureen Duggan)**
 - a. Maureen reported approximately \$3,500 in neighborhood association checking account at end of 2012. We went a bit over budget for 2012 due to the fact that we needed more topsoil and stone for Morrison Park than originally budgeted for. Should cost much less this year, as we will be in *maintenance mode* in the park.
 - b. Our fundraising efforts netted about \$2,655 for our Banner project. Total cost of the project was \$2,700. \$200 in donations from **Dave Burnet Photography**.
 - c. Our attempt at trying color on the front page of our newsletter was found to be too expensive. We do make money on the newsletter. Thank you to all of our advertisers!
 - d. Our current membership is at 115 paid members. Suggest landlords give "gift of membership" to their tenants!
4. **April Elections (Tom Hasman)**
 - a. Our by-laws limit president to two, two-year terms. **Tom Hasman** will not be running for office in 2013. Positions of **President**, **Vice President** and the **five at-large positions** will be on the ballot in April. The **Treasurer** and **Secretary** are appointed by the **President**.
 - b. Monthly board meetings are open to the membership to attend. Simply contact us at abcstreets@gmail.com if you wish to attend an upcoming meeting.
5. **Photo of the Week (Dave Burnet)**
 - a. **Dave Burnet** will be wandering the neighborhood looking for photo opportunities on a weekly basis. Photo's will be posted on the website. Be sure you check them out... YOU could be in one of them!

6. **Chili Cook-Off (Dave Burnet)**

- a. **Dave and Irene Burnet** will be our hosts at the **Chili Cook-Off** on **February 9th**. All entrants should plan to drop off in their chili entry (**in crock-pots please!**) between 3:00-4:00 p.m. at 949 Harvard Street. Desserts will be provided and prizes awarded for winners. Watch upcoming weekly emails for details, time, etc.

7. **PAC-TAC (Tom Hasman)**

- a. **Tom Hasman** gave a brief overview of the first training class for volunteer PAC-TAC members in the ABC Streets Neighborhood.
 1. Minimum time commitment of 2 hours per month. The more shifts and people we have, the more effective we'll be at deterring crime in our neighborhood. "Official hours are from 8:00 a.m.-9:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. The Mt. Hope neighborhood implemented PAC-TAC after many reported problems with car and home break-ins. After PAC-TAC became visible in neighborhood, crimes went down significantly. Most break-ins occur during daytime (when residents at work).
 2. Volunteers must always walk in pairs (never alone).
 3. This is a **non-confrontational** volunteer position. Simply there to observe and report if suspicious activities, persons, etc.
 4. Accessories (radios, reflective vests, flashlights, raincoats, etc.) are to be picked up and signed out at the NSC on Clinton Ave on the day of your scheduled walk. They should be returned as soon as possible, as these items are shared amongst all PAC-TAC volunteers.
 5. Our first scheduled walk through the neighborhood with **Officer Velez** is scheduled for **Thursday, February 7, 2013 at 6:00 p.m. We will meet in the driveway @ 51 Calumet Street.** It's not too late to join, so if you have an interest, please email abc.streets@gmail.com or phone **Tom Hasman** at: 563-7237

8. **Reminders: (Tom Hasman)**

- a. Don't forget to renew your neighborhood association membership! January 1st began our new membership year.
- b. Bottle and can stickers are still available for use on your trash totes and recycle bins.
- c. If you were not aware, neighborhood members receive a 10% discount at Wine Sense on Park Avenue! Simply mentioned that you are an ABC member to receive your discount. Likewise, discount coupons were in our last Newsletter for Turner Heating & Cooling and Wong's Chinese Restaurant. PLEASE SUPPORT OUR SPONSORS!

9. **City of Rochester Voice of the Citizen: Seeking Solutions to Violence: (Tom Hasman)**

- a. **Mayor Tom Richards, Chief James Sheppard** and City Staff are asking for resident input in their efforts to reduce violence in our neighborhoods. Discussion topics will include: *Open Air Drug Sales & Gate Houses; Bullying and Truancy; Gangs, Guns & Culture of Violence; House Parties.*

- b. Tom Hasman** will be attending this meeting on **February 5th at Riley Lodge at Cobbs Hill from 6:00-8:00 p.m.** Neighbors are welcome to attend. If there are any concerns neighbors have that they would like brought up at this meeting, please contact **Tom Hasman** at **563-7237**.
- 10.** Ensuing conversations about neighborhood house parties and slow response by RPD. Suggestion made by several neighbors that if students play sports, look for school parking tags on cars and make contact with sports coach. This usually shuts down trouble rather quickly. One neighbor actually chased down/ran after a possible perpetrator, phoning 911 while running. No response from RPD.
- 11.** Several attendees discussed how the small hill on Harvard (near the park at Culver) can be a hazard after a snow fall. Cars waiting at the light end up skidding/getting stuck when the light turns green. **Tom Hasman** to contact City of Rochester Department of Environmental Services Commissioner Paul Holahan and request that Harvard St. receive plow service more often.
- 12.** Mention also made of continuing excessive speeds on Harvard and side streets. It has been about five years since last study on speed bumps and we may wish to revisit.
- 13.** Many felt that city needs to have more formal agreements in place with absentee landlords to keep their properties maintained and tenants under control so that the quality of life of neighbors and neighborhood is not compromised. We shouldn't have to police ourselves just because we live in one of the more safe neighborhoods.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 to allow attendees to socialize with their neighbors.