

McKinley Civic Association Feb 5 2009

Chair Wallace Robinson called the meeting to order at 7:40 and led the association in the pledge of allegiance. Fire Chief Chris Bors announced that the Abington Fire Department's strategic plan is continuing. The department logged 35,000 hours in 2008. The ladder track has arrived and will soon be in service. The Christmas tree sale and the pancake breakfast will continue.

Chair John Edgar read the minutes of the Nov. 6 meeting. They were approved as read.

Treasurer Frank Gillespie said the balance had been \$5199.40. By motion we agreed to pay Betty Smith \$84 for mailing costs. The balance is now \$5115.40.

Jennifer Sherwood of the Environmental Advisory Council notified us of the Abington free shade tree giveaway.

Chair Wallace Robinson is developing an outreach program to connect senior citizens who need help to services. He plans to network with other groups to see how they operate, and use the website to aid the effort. Since the Abington schools require community projects, we might try to enlist students to pass out flyers.

We set September 26 as the date for the community yard sale, and asked Jay O'Connor to check with Linda about coordinating it again.

Commissioner Michael O'Connor announced that there were no taxes increases for this year. Some projects will be delayed. The Somerford property is now Manor Woods and is held by Abington Township. The fields behind McKinley Elementary School will have their drainage issues addressed and the school district will make the fields available to local soccer clubs after 4 p.m. Parking will be at the elementary school. Manor Woods, having thus been saved from soccer, may perhaps be used for walking. Michael congratulated the Fire Company on its new members.

Commissioner Jay O'Connor recalled the McKinley Parade and praised the new website.

David Rondinelli, Town Watch Council President, reported on the existing Abington Town Watch structure. They meet monthly with the Police Department. The Town Watch functions as the police department's eyes and ears in teams of two on Friday and Saturday nights. He provided numerous pamphlets and the application forms, and offered help in forming our own group. He encouraged all of us to call 215-884-2700 whenever something seems suspicious. He introduced Vice-President Mario Gasbarra, Coordinator John McGlaumphy, and Block Watch Captains Ken and Sue Hoffman. Wallace Robinson passed around a signup sheet.

The meeting adjourned for dues and cookies at 8:22.