

University South Neighborhood Association (USNA) Meeting October 2, 2018

After opening with our pledge of allegiance and introduction of officers, Shannon reported a bank balance of \$361.69. No report was available from the 9/13/18 South Sector meeting or the 9/28/19 UNOE meeting. Officer Erik Belford shared the neighborhood crime report with the 25 people present. No picnic took place in September due to the lack of donated funds available.

The 23rd UNOE Sparkplug dinner is scheduled for October 25th. Jerri Close was selected to be our nominee and Shannon and Mitch will prepare a gift basket for the event with an auto care theme worth about \$25. We voted to cover the \$36 cost of meals for our crime prevention officer Chad Diedrich and his wife.

Ron Beane, head of the Evansville Building Commission, was our guest. He did not present a program but answered many questions and addressed concerns from the attendees. He took down names and phone numbers to address individual problems. He encouraged involvement in attendance at meetings involving our local government as citizen participation makes a difference. He noted local elections are coming soon and that this is an optimal time to contact elected officials with neighborhood concerns. He noted the problem of finding the right person to contact regarding a specific problem and suggested calling the mayor's complaint line (812-436-7999) or police with other concerns. Specifically, he clarified the city's weed control rules, firewood storage rules, and vehicle street and off-street parking laws. He also addressed vacant code violation properties (Mitch and Jeff had met with him and all 19 properties they reported have been inspected and code violations notifications have been started), but he reminded us of the time needed to work through the legalities involved in enforcing code violations.

Mitch will continue working with Rev. Carl Mann and Karl Hayes to dim the parking lot lights at New Horizon Church. The cost of individual shields is prohibitive. The need for more light along darker areas of neighborhood streets can be addressed by contacting Vectren to consider either additional or brighter LED street lights.

We discussed the fact we try to have one meeting a year at a local restaurant and Spuds and Stuff has recently opened at Ross Center and has a private meeting room.

Our next meeting is November 6th with Shawn Dickerson, City Arborist, as our guest.