

Historic Hudson Community Association

November 13, 2014, GMP Hall

The regular meeting convened at 7 PM. Sherry Cass, President, presided over the meeting. Members present: Carol Floyd, Sherry Cass, Sondra Lott, Richard Lott, Tonya Cline, Mindy Nelson, Rod Nelson, Jose Cabral, Bob Meldhal, Gerald Mercer, Barb Kelley, Pat Kelley Ann Rao, Ely Rao, Ruth Pheneger, Doug Pheneger, Steve Hays, Faye Hays, Tony Barbuto, Bob Evans.

Guest Speaker

Sherry Cass introduced our guest speaker, Michael Ecker, *Director of Horticulture*, Dawes Arboretum, Newark, OH, <http://dawesarb.org/>

Mr. Ecker stated that he had toured the HHCA area to assess the condition and selection of planted trees. He observed a rather limited diversity of mature trees and that many sugar maples are in decline. This is generally attributed to trees not reaching full dormancy due to mild winters, as well as poor growth caused by diminished sources of water and root growth due to pavements. General signs of trees in decline are dead limbs dying from the top down. Fertilization does not help trees at this stage.

He suggested planting more diverse trees in clusters. Some suggestions for rounded trees include Norwegian Sunset Maple, Autumn Fantasy or Blaze Freeman Maple, Sugar Hackberry, male Ginkgo, Kentucky Coffee tree, pond Cypress and Zekova. For narrow trees, he suggested Upright Black Maple, Frans Fontaine European hornbeam, Princeton Sentry Ginkgo, Pyramidal Tulip, Green Pin Oak, Continental Linden and Richmond Linden.

He then fielded some questions on pruning and transplanting, reminding the audience of classes offered at Dawes Arboretum.

Minutes

The minutes of the October meeting were accepted and approved.

Treasurer's Report

The previous budget stood at \$2969.01. No new revenues were received and the 22 banners for lamp posts cost \$1,235.94. This leaves a balance of \$1,733.07.

Executive Committee

- I. There is no meeting in December. We will have only our holiday dinner.
- II. Elections and Ballot:

A ballot for officers established at the preceding meeting was confirmed.

1. Trustee: Tonya Cline
2. Trustee (2nd Term): Bob Meldhal
3. Vice President: Sondra Lott
4. Secretary: Jose Cabral

No further nominations were received from the floor.

A motion was made and approved unanimously for the acceptance of the ballot. Charges of new officers will last for two years spanning January, 2015 to December 2016.

III. Christmas and Holiday Dinner

Tony Barbuto volunteered to host the dinner on December 13, 2014 at 7:00 PM, at 496 Hudson Avenue. The party features potluck dinner and beverages. Sherry volunteered to bring a ham.

IV. Banners

We have purchased two additional banners and have received all 22. These will be installed soon. Fall "flags" are available for a donation of \$10-20 to HHCA.

V. Building Doctor Program

Newark City has been selected to host an event in Licking County. People are encouraged to volunteer their homes at website: <http://www.ohpo.org/gis/BDindex.htm>. Houses must be located within 5 miles to downtown Newark.

A total of ten houses will be selected. Dawes will house the "doctors," but funds for their lunches as well as volunteers to drive them around the area are being sought. Clinics may occur between March and October, 2015.

VI. Chicken Noodle Dinner

This has been set for January 17, 2015 at the Central Christian Church. Volunteers are needed to plan and implement the event. Walt will once again prepare the noodle dishes. We are seeking donations for fundraising.

Committee Reports

Beautification & Historic Preservation Committee: Richard stated that a meeting was scheduled for 3:00 PM, November 15, at his house.

A survey regarding the equipment and nature of the North Street Park has been initiated. This has been distributed throughout the HHCA area and is part of the requirements for the future grant. The parking lot will most likely need to stay to make it accessible, though Kokosing Co. is interested in donating the paving. The City is interested in donating the materials for a shelter house, though volunteers will be needed to assemble it. Issues of fundraising, a budget, site development, public relations, and other park plans need to be further developed.

Old Business

Carol Floyd stated that our concern for maintenance of trees planted around lamp posts has been brought to the attention of city officials. The department dealing with streets will look into it, perhaps contacting owners where trees are problematic. Bob Ecker, Dawes Arboretum, is willing to assist in this matter.

A motion to adjourn was made and approved.