

**Cool Spring/Tilton Neighborhood Association**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**March 9, 2010**

Attendees: See attached list.

1.) **Welcome** to members of CSTNA and the following City Departments: Planning, Constituent Services, Parks & Recreation, and Community Policing

**2.) Announcements**

- Using the search engine [www.GoodSearch.com](http://www.GoodSearch.com) is an easy way for CSTNA to make a little money. Designate CSTNA and then our Civic Association receives money for each search you do on the internet.
- Community Yard Sale is on Saturday April 17<sup>th</sup>. Brian Leffler and Heather Hooks are co-chairs.
- Clean-Up day is on Saturday April 24<sup>th</sup>. There will be coffee at 4 stations around the neighborhood. No trucks will be doing pickups on Saturday. Call for a special pick up during the week if you have a lot of bulky items. Community Project- 11:00 AM is to refurbish mulch in Cool Spring Park. Bring Shovels and rakes.

**3.) Reports**

- The Dog Park Update- Alfred Lance & Rich Enge [richenge@yahoo.com](mailto:richenge@yahoo.com)  
Proposed Dog Park is modeled after the plans for Talley Day's Bark Park. This includes 2 pens, one for large dogs and the other for small dogs. Estimate for fencing to include double gate entry system and grading is for \$42, 000. The proposed location is at the corner of Park Place and Jackson Streets. Committee asked for a letter of support from CSTNA in order to proceed with fundraising.

Comments and Questions

C: Who will maintain it?

Q: Will there be any restrictions on usage? A: Regular rules about park usage will apply.

Q: Who will be responsible for policing/maintaining proper usage? A: community responsibility.

C: Asking Sign Company for sponsorship could bring in some income.

C: There are not enough responsible dog owners; I am against the dog park idea. Too many owners do not clean up after their pets.

C: We are trying to create a positive destination in this corner of the park. Hopefully increasing responsible pet ownership by creating gentle peer pressure will be good for the area.

C: This section of the park is currently being used in a negative way, would like to see positive dog ownership in the park.

C: Like Talley Day Park, having trash receptacles and bags will help users keep the area clean.

C: Residents of Park Place and Administration from Lewis Elementary should be informed of the proposal in the park.

Vote regarding the proposed plans for the Dog Park

Support: 28

Opposed: 2

Abstain: 1

#### 4.) New Business

Light Up Cool Spring-

- Project to get photo sensors on porch lights. This mechanism would have lights automatically come on when darkness falls and then turn off in the morning.

Sign at 1117 N. Franklin Street

- Property owner is seeking variance to place sign at the property line.
- Clara distributed picture of sign including dimensions.
- Design has already been approved.

Motion to vote on the variance

Opposed to the variance-8

Support the variance-0

Abstained- 13

- ZBA meeting March 10- variance was denied.

#### Comments and Questions

Q: Is CSTNA support required for variance?

A: Not usually.

C: Some have good reason to oppose the variance, since there are a number of similar businesses in our neighborhood if the proposed sign passes, other signs in the area may follow.

C: This could set a negative precedent for other businesses in the residential area.

C: Seems that the group would support a compromise such as a smaller sign with more set back from the property line.

Motion to vote again.....

Opposed variance-18

Support variance-0

Abstain-9

#### 5.) City Department Presentations

##### **Constituent Services**

- Operates as a liaison between residents and other departments
- Helps residents navigate through city government
- Call 576.2489 to contact Constituent Services
- Some services include:
  - Community Directory- will be available online this year
  - Kids Count Report- call in to request report
  - Leaf Bags- available free
  - No Loitering signs (ASK THEM) sends message to police from residents

##### **Planning Department**

- Hand outs included Vision Plan for the City, brochures about How to Paint Exterior Wood, How to Maintain Exterior Masonry, Tax Abatements
- Planning Department addresses physical, social, and economic needs for the City
- Liaison between city government and Community Organizations..
- Comprehensive plan for the Westside grew out of Working Group concerns
- Balance neighborhoods, land use, and historic preservation

##### **Parks and Recreation**

- Dept. was established in 1883

- Brochure describing services provided by Parks and Recreation including Special Projects, Youth and Families, Recreation, Maintenance, and Wm. Hicks Anderson Community Center

### **Community Policing**

Officer Fossett- (302) 547-6171; michael.fossett@cj.state.de.us

- If you have a serious problem happening right now call 911.
- Offshoot of Patrol- not having to answer radio calls enables him to address quality of life concerns which officers responding to emergency calls may not be able to get to.
- Lot of shoplifting from the CVS- goods being sold to small stores in city.
- As weather changes, community police officers can be great resources

### Comments and Questions

Q: How do home buyers know they are in an Historic District?

A: Letter & brochure are sent to homeowner by the city & publicity and education to Realtor Groups.

C: Clara/Ed/ Paul Ignudo/ Rep. Brady are continuing efforts to upgrade the sellers' disclosure form to convey this info

Q: How are College Prep/Trips publicized?

A: Contacts with schools and channel 22 messages

C: Some services seem fragmented...need a dept of the "Big Picture"

C: Number of people downtown in the evening seems to be increasing, new businesses are being drawn to the Wilmington Area.

C: The state is renewing the Preservation Tax to help with rehabilitation of lots of buildings in Wilm.

C: Beautification projects are coordinated with Planning and Parks and Recreation Depts.

C: Dept. Heads come together to collaborate on long term goals

Q: Is there a department to ask about jobs?

A: Economic Development Department has brought in Blue Cross and others along Riverfront.

Rep. Brady reports....

- that the HJR 80 will be rescinded. This would have allowed for a pilot program to let Car Dealers perform inspections. State will be continuing with the DMV.
- Link provides public access to agenda for DE legislature
- CSTNA will forward the link and email when there are topics that may affect our neighborhood.
- Upcoming topics...HB 194 has to do with establishing new casinos.
- Fiskar cars will be converting GM to produce cars using workforce from Valero for the project.