



[www.italianvillage.org](http://www.italianvillage.org)

P.O. Box 8001, Columbus, Ohio 43201

**Meeting Minutes August 9, 2011**

Columbus First Free Will Baptist Church

49 East Third Ave.

7:30 PM

**Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests**

There were 11 members and 12 guests present at the meeting, for a total of 23 people. All Board Members were present.

**Opening Comments**

President Jared Wilson welcomed all members and guests. The standard who you are and your affiliation with Italian Village went around to each guest and member. Safety was the main topic of the August Meeting. Tim McKnight was thanked for allowing the use of the meeting room in the Columbus Free Will Baptist Church for the monthly meeting. He and his staff provided beverage service to the attendees.

**Village Safety- Italian Village Block Watch Coordinator Amelia Constanzo**

Amelia stated that about 20 people attended the National Night Out with an additional 6 representatives of the Columbus Police Department. She mentioned the Street Sweeping and Towing. Membership of the Block watch and how to join through the Gmail account were mentioned.

Issues of this summer, Block Watch and Safety

Italian Village Park- residents reported drug activity and light not functioning.

After Hours Club- An after hours club set up operation on east Fifth Ave near N. 6<sup>th</sup> St. The operation is now closed.

Russell and Kerr Break ins- Six break-ins have occurred recently and suspicious activity has been reported.

C P O property- A recent break in homeowner caught perpetrators on video.

UDF- United Dairy Farmers Corporate has installed speakers outside its operation to play classical music loudly to deter loitering.

Toy Breed Dogs- A rash of Small dogs have been stolen form their owners.

Security Cameras- City installed cameras have been put in the N 4<sup>th</sup> St and E 5<sup>TH</sup> Ave area.

Anti Graffiti- Meeting will be held in the near future concerning graffiti abatement.

Deterring Crime- Getting business owners to setup their role in the ongoing summer issue.

Amelia spoke of facilitating people to come together to address the crime issue. The meeting host mentioned he would like to get his church more involved and security cameras were discussed.

Kent Russell with Housing management spoke on the issues of crime, hiring of CPD for security. The company manages over 1500 units. Kent also mentioned pictures of perpetrators might put preconceived notions of other crimes committed. He also touched on points of: Screening new residents, property locations and the acquisition of new properties, surveillance, and housekeeping polices and the punishment of residents who break the law.

CPO Management Bruce Shumdo (sp) touched on some Safety and community concerns including: CPD patrolling of the neighborhood, Community response team, panhandling and some of the laws concerning proximities, homeless people in the neighborhood, parks and recreation and posting of park hours, Maryhaven's activity in assisting the homeless, Tent city near Interstate 670.

Joi Brooks from the management team spoke of the importance of getting the details when witness a suspect such as license numbers, tattoos, color of cars. These details will make any action taken more creditable.

#### **IV Commission Report – Per Jill Clark**

Jill gave an update about the Short North Guidelines and how they are being used i.e. Huntington Bank. No new news on the Pizutti Boutique hotel project. Columbus Arts Walks will install signage on existing signs.

Upcoming issues will be the proposed Hookah Smoking Lounge at 1020 N. 4<sup>th</sup> St and 3 new units near Russell and Kerr.

#### **Italian Village Park Update– Steve Hurtt**

Steve was not present. Some information can be found at the Martha Walker Facebook page and Clean ups and weeding will be held at the Italian Village Park on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesdays at 5:30.

#### **Approval of Minutes**

The Minutes from July 2011 meeting were postponed until the September meeting.

#### **Website Committee-Emily Noble**

Emily is always looking for assistance or volunteers for the website committee any help are appreciated.

<http://www.italianvillage.org/TheItalianVillageSociety.html>

## **Membership Report – Mike Renner**

Vice President Mike Renner reported a total of 48 members. (If you have not yet, you can join online, it is quick and easy. <http://italianvillage.org/JoinNow.html>)

Mike also gave an update on the Wonderland project pull out, and how they intend to give back to the village for its support.

He also mentioned the Highball Street closings in October and the traffic issues concerning this event.

## **Treasurer's Report – Stephanie Harris**

The Following report was given:

Checking Opening Balance: \$6242.58  
Income: membership fees – \$336.24  
Expenses: postage – \$26.40  
Closing Balance: \$6552.42

Park Fund Opening Balance: \$1830.33  
Income: interest – \$0.08  
Closing Balance: \$1830.41

## **Announcements**

- Screen on the Green: “Rear Window” will be shown at Goodale Park Friday August 19<sup>th</sup> at 8pm.
- Short North Business Association fundraiser “Short North’s got Talent” at Axis night Club August 10<sup>th</sup> at 7pm
- Facebook site for the Martha Walker Garden club is a great place to get information on Italian Village parks.
- Meeting minutes, complete with hyperlinks, can be viewed online at (<http://www.italianvillage.org/MeetingInformation>).

Respectfully Submitted,

Christopher L. Vidoni, Secretary