

**Forest Hills Neighborhood Association
Executive Committee Meeting**

Thursday, September 11, 2008

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Forest Hills Neighborhood Association was called to order at Tom Quinn's house at 7:30 p.m. on Thursday, September 11, 2008.

Present were Tom Quinn (President), Linda & Ed Dunn (Treasurer) and Alex Neubert (Secretary). Also in attendance were the following street representatives: Ken Dodgson and Jay Sackett. Neighbors Kevin Curley and Francis Winslow were also present.

Tom Quinn called the meeting to order. The first item of business was a review of the July 24, 2008 Executive Committee meeting minutes. After a review of the minutes, upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes were approved as submitted.

The next item of business was a review and discussion of the financial report. There was a brief discussion regarding the budget, specifically trash collection dues collected to date and the need to send out second notices and/or to contact certain neighbors. Upon motion duly made and seconded, the financial report was approved as submitted.

The next item of business was a discussion regarding vacant officer and street rep positions.

The next item of discussion was the upcoming block party. It was noted that the Block Party Committee indicated that responses were high.

The next item of discussion was the neighborhood website, specifically usage and maintenance issues. With Greg Kacprzynski planning to move, there may be a need to find another server. Chuck Sorce agreed to continue to maintain and post information to the website. Chuck indicated that another server operated by a Forest Hills neighbor might be available, and that some rework of the web site would be necessary before moving to the new server. Options were discussed, and more information is being gathered.

The next item of discussion was the current status surrounding the Town of Perinton Historical Commission (the "PHC"). Tom noted that the intent of the Executive Committee is to maintain a neutral stance with respect to this issue. He also noted that both Kevin Curley, a resident who is against the PHC's proposal and that Ken Dodgson, a resident who is in favor of this proposal, are both in attendance tonight and that he was prepared to open the floor and allow them both a chance to speak.

Kevin Curley advised the group that he, along with other neighbors, attended recent meetings of the PHC on August 19th and September 9th. He also noted that the PHC had intended to mail out notices to Forest Hills residents advising them of an October 2nd informational meeting, whereat interested parties would be allowed to comment on the PHC's proposal to designate a majority of the residences within the neighborhood as being part of a preservation district. He further noted that the PHC had intended to follow that meeting with a vote on November 18th as to whether or not move forward with this designation. He advised the group that at the August 19th PHC meeting, he was provided a chance to speak and that he voiced certain concerns as a homeowner regarding the proposal, specifically the way the Town and the PHC were going about this, their lack of any contingency plan in the event of an

emergency situation at any residence assuming the ordinance passed, and the fact that the PHC has yet to publicly define which homes within the neighborhood would fall into the proposed preservation district. He provided example of situations that could occur to any individual homeowner and how the ordinance as currently written does not allow for or provide any lee-way. He noted that the PHC did agree with him on some of his arguments. He further noted that the PHC agreed to table the matter and, in the event of any future public hearing on the matter, that the neighborhood will be provided with a four-month notice period. He stressed his belief that the burdens of this proposal far outweigh any perceived benefits to be enjoyed by any of the effected residents and he noted that the PHC by law already has the authority and that they do not require the neighborhood's endorsement or authorization to enact this ordinance. Additionally, those neighbors who are against the proposal noted that they felt strongly about having the PHC dictate to them what they as homeowners can or can't do with their home and/or property and that the residents over the past 70 years have generally respected the integrity of both the architecture and design of the houses.

Ken Dodgson responded that since 1997, when the neighborhood last took up this same issue, approximately 40% of the homes have been sold. He noted that he felt it was important to gauge or reassess how the neighborhood as a whole now feels about this proposal. He stated that it was his belief that without this ordinance, there is nothing to protect the architectural integrity of Forest Hills – the only neighborhood of its kind in the Rochester metropolitan area – and a neighborhood that he feels is very worthy of preserving. Ken noted that the architectural commissions regulations are meant to protect the structural appearance of original buildings and to preserve the neighborhood's historical culture and that they are meant to limit new construction on undeveloped land. Ken noted, and the group agreed that, generally these restrictions only pertain to the façade, or areas visible to the public, and that this proposed ordinance does not dictate the choice of paint colors.

After a lengthy discussion regarding the perceived pro's and con's of this ordinance, the group also discussed the matter in more general terms and how the ordinance was perhaps written with the intent to prevent commercial development within a neighborhood and/or to protect commercial development and that parts of the ordinance don't necessarily apply to a residential neighborhood but that those restrictions are in place and could be imposed upon a homeowner nonetheless.

Tom posed a hypothetical question in light of the fact that the PAC has the authority whether to act with or without the neighborhoods approval, and asked whether the PAC would even honor the neighborhoods wishes in the event the neighborhood as a whole came out against the ordinance. The group then discussed the merits of whether there even was a need to discuss this as a neighborhood and if so, how to go about doing so. Tom thought that it would be less impartial if the Executive Committee found a way, as opposed to the PAC, to try and explain everything to the neighborhood. Ed Dunn felt that any measure by the Executive Committee to "educate" the neighborhood would be difficult to do in an impartial manner and would ultimately appear that the Executive Committee was taking a position "for" or "against" the ordinance. After a discussion of whether to present anything to the neighbors at this time or not, it was decided to table the decision in order to provide the Executive Committee time to consider the options.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

The next meeting of the Executive Committee is scheduled for November 13, 2008.