

**West Portland Park  
Neighborhood Association**

Markham School Cafeteria  
May 8, 2008

**Minutes**

Board members present: David Gens, Rob Shirley, Roger Jauch, Jim McLaughlin, Betty McArdle, Bill Dant

Others present: Officer Tim Evans, Sandra Leith, Robert Leith, Lori Hedgecock, Bob Sutela, Tami Sutela, Bill Jones, Lillian Pakoscher, Bob Widtfeldt, Connie Widtfeldt

Public Safety Report by Jim McLaughlin: The reported homicide in West Portland Park was a typographical error; the homicide (domestic dispute) actually took place in the Multnomah Neighborhood.

Car Prowls and Car Thefts: Car prowls and car thefts in WPP are still all too common, and increasing. Please keep your car locked even when it's in your driveway and do not leave anything inside your car, even in your driveway.

Gym locker thefts: If you are using lockers at MJCC, PCC or the Swim Center at 45th and Vermont, be careful. There has been a spate of locker thefts at these facilities over the last 3-4 months, which may or may not – have recently been solved by one arrest. However, there may have been more than one “perp” and the one arrest may not full end the rash of thefts.

Land Use Report by Rob Shirley: The owner (Mr. Davis) of the proposed large house we have been discussing the last few months has submitted a new plan. Many of the concerns WPPNA addressed were addressed in the new plan. There still are concerns, such as where the detached garage would go. The biggest concern is that part of the building would still be in the protection zone, particularly the garage. Neighbor Bill Jones foresees that this issue will eventually go to the appeal process. Robert Leith suggested we have an approvable plan prepared to show Mr. Davis, who has expressed interest in attending the June board meeting on June 12.

Schools Report by Robert Leith: There has been no action on the proposal to provide health insurance to kids. It seems there is a lack of funds.

Robert has been advocating for a birth control program in the schools because there have been pregnancies among younger and younger girls. He is also advocating for a return to classes in Basic Home Economics, and Basic Gardening.

Street Cap Signs Report by Robert Leith: We have \$970 from the City Small Grants Program to be used toward the street sign caps in West Portland Park. The Portland

Alliance of Business Associations has given WPPNA a grant for \$3850 for street cap signs. Thanks to Robert Leith, Sandy Leith and Jim McLaughlin who went the extra mile to get business endorsements and information needed on short notice. Their efforts is what made our application a success!

Volunteer of the Year: Robert Leith has been selected unanimously as the West Portland Park Volunteer of the Year. Robert will receive his award at the SWNI Volunteer Appreciation Celebration, Monday, June 30, 7:00pm.

Work Party: Our host, Sarah Lewins, Principal of Markham Elementary School, says there will be a work party on Sunday, May 18.

WPPNA Board Elections: Elections were held at the May 8, 2008 general meeting at the Markham School cafeteria. Elected were:

For the offices of President, Vice President and Secretary/Treasurer there were no nominations from the floor. For the office of Communications Officer, Lillian Pakoscher was nominated from the floor.

Elected were:

President – Jim McLaughlin 14 votes  
Vice President – no candidates  
Secretary/Treasurer – Betty McArdle 14 votes  
Communications Officer – Lillian Pakoscher 13 votes

For Director at large, Robert Leith was nominated from the floor.

Elected were:

Rob Shirley was re-elected as a director 14 votes  
Robert Leith was elected as a new director 14 votes

Two directors resigned: Amanda Fritz and Paul Matteson  
The office of Vice President is not filled and there is a director position open.

Next meeting, Thursday, June 12, 7:00-8:30pm at the Markham Elementary School cafeteria.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by:

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Betty McArdle, Secretary/Treasurer, WPPNA Board of Directors