

**Preston Springs Homeowners Association
Communications Committee Meeting**

Saturday, February 2, 2008

2:00 P.M.

Home of Julie Maher

1420 Messina

Plano, TX 75093

Committee Members Present

Sharayn Leverett – Chair

Julie Maher – Board Rep

Ellen Degen

Trudy Hale

Ken Hudson

Barbara Hudson

Absent – Louise Davis. In Louise's absence, minutes were recorded by Sharayn Leverett.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 P.M. by chair, Sharayn Leverett.

II. Holiday Decorations

Ellen Degen agreed to head up the decorations for the holiday season of 2008. This is to coincide with landscaping that will be put in place by the landscape committee. New landscape designs were discussed and how lights, garland, and wreaths would be used. It was agreed to buy some new wreaths and keep some that are still good. New garlands were purchased already for next year. It was concluded that even with the ideas presented, the decorations would basically follow the anticipated landscaping.

III. Spring Fling

Trudy Hale presented a plan for the Spring Fling set for Saturday, May 3 from 2 P.M. to 5 P.M. Location is to be Charlemagne Drive, west of Messina and East of Milano, but including Martina Circle. No drive access would be affected. Estimated Attendance – 120 neighbors.

A. Main planning notes were:

Apply for City Permit – approved date, time, and neighbor permission living along the streets affected.

Develop Invites and Distribute – April 12th by committee door-to-door, bordered stationary paper, posted in the newsletter

Locate candy, basketball goals, tables, grills, and other necessary equipment

Ask neighbors to bring certain items – side dishes, previous equipment listed

Finalize Activity list and suppliers

B. Event Supplies

HOA – meat, buns, water bottles, paper goods, name tags, condiments, toppings, cookie tray, miscellaneous items

Neighbors – side items, drinks for family, chairs, miscellaneous items

Miscellaneous items – trash bins/bags, recycle bins, 6’ tables, coolers, canopies, grills, basketball goals, basketballs, footballs (nerf), spare tire

List is not conclusive

C. Activities

Bounce House, Fire Truck a/o Police Car, Duck Pond, Sidewalk Chalk, Frisbee Golf, Basketball, Hula Hoop Contest, Football Toss

Music – boom box, karaoke machine

IV. Neighborhood Programs

A. Crime Watch – Ken Hudson contacted the Plano Police Department. The city Crime Watch Coordinator would like a group to present to and scheduled at least 3 weeks ahead. The presentation includes setting up the program and benefits there of. Julie will bring the matter to the board’s attention at the next board meeting on Wednesday, February 6th to propose adding the presentation to the April Board meeting and request announcement be sent via email per the current and future revised neighborhood lists. An announcement of initiating the program will be included in the newsletter.

B. McGruff Program –

Ellen Degen would like to increase this program in our neighborhood. Upon walking the neighborhood, she saw 6 houses with McGruff stickers in the front windows, designating them as safe houses for children in frightening or emergency situations. Since participants do not have to sign up through the local PTA anymore, it was decided to request the board send an email with a short paragraph about the program and the website to use through the City of Plano to sign up. This will also be newsletter. http://www.plano.gov/Departments/Police/Citizen+Programs/mcgruff_ho use.htm

C. Solicitation

Ellen Degen contacted the City of Plano to see about prohibiting solicitation in our neighborhood. She was told that only individual houses with signs from the city will be enforced to by the police. A sign at a neighborhood entrances is only a deterrent, but not enforceable by the city. One committee member posted a homemade sign (not enforceable) in a front window by the door and said it greatly decreased papers and solicitations. That will be shared with the rest of the committee. Further resolutions will be discussed to share with the community.

V. Communication

A. Directories

A new directory is needed. A preference of a style such that only a few pages would be replaced to save cost was expressed. This is not feasible with the comb-binding style that has been used the past several years. Julie

will check with Fitchwood, management association, to see what places or options they have. Plain, stapled 8 1/2 x 11 sheets every 6 months was satisfactory by most members as an inexpensive alternative.

B. Newsletters

Newsletters need to be distributed quarterly, or as close to as possible.

Articles included will be:

President's Message

Community Info – Spring Fling, Crime Watch/McGruff, Landscaping,
Plano Newcomer's Club, Board members

Community News – Neighbors Achievements, Awards, Recognitions,
Announcements (retirements, births, weddings)

VI. Future Items

Items to be discussed at future meetings – Neighborhood Garage Sale, Halloween Costume Contest, Fourth of July Parade, National Night Out, Neighborhood Welcoming Committee, and Neighborhood T-shirts.

VII. Adjourned

The next meeting was set for Saturday, March 29th, 2008 from 2 P.M. to 4 P.M. at Julie Maher's Home, 1420 Messina. This is allowed to be changed per needs of the committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 P.M. by chair, Sharayn Leverett.

Minutes are respectfully submitted by:

Sharayn Leverett
5808 Charlemagne
Plano, TX 75093