

Iles Park Neighborhood Association  
Neighborhood Minutes June 3, 2019, 6pm  
Track Shack



18 attendees

- **Curt Drew, President**
  - **4<sup>th</sup> Annual National Night Out Tues, 8/6, 6-8pm**
    - Set up at 6pm
    - Partner with Harvard Park again: face painter & balloon artist
    - IPNA has #1 or 2 biggest attendance
    - Fire department & K-9 this year
    - Hot dogs, chips, cookies, drinks
    - Walk flyers
    - Carol will ask Chan to borrow speakers and mic again
  - Suggestion to ask Public Works Acting Director Nate Bottom to speak in future.
  
- **NPO Mike Badger**
  - Introduced Lt. Dodd, who is in charge of street officers.
  - Talked about motorized bikes and 4-wheelers, which are becoming a problem in St. Louis
  - Funnel reports of drug dealers through NPO.
  - Handout for residents to register their video cameras:
    - In case of nearby crime, police may ask for footage from your camera; they are not automatically hooked up to the city.
  - Lock it or lose it
  - Project Safe Horizon for addicts – not arrested but provided treatment at Gateway.
  - Cops & Bobbers at Southwind Park, 5-13 years old
  - Jr Police Academy 5-13 year old.
  - Mobile cameras (Horace Mann) for hot spots; some hidden cameras used for drug houses.
  - Dozens of meth houses in Springfield; 10,000 users.
  - Coffee with a Cop Hardees Sangamon Ave – 2 more this year.
  
- **Juan Huerta, Director of Community Relations**
  - Handles housing, discrimination in housing, landlord / tenant issues, explains rules.
  - Mayor pushes for customer service – nearly 100 calls a month.
  - Most of their clients are tenants; help find housing / Section 8
  - Rules for eviction:
    - 5 days for non-payment
    - 10 days behavior against lease
    - 20 days month-to-month
  - They partner with police, Land of Lincoln Legal, Sangamon County Attorney's Office
  - Field complaints against police and send to department of internal affairs.

- Works with ADA on accessibility.
- Youth programs – 40-60 for basketball workshops
- Americorp 3 year grant serves 60 kids to mentor or help; employs adults – money for college.
- Homeless –
  - Goals: low barrier shelter with services; permanent housing
  - Winter Warming Center
  - Lowes helped fix up
  - Police help a lot
  - Allows everyone except sex offenders.
  - Sign up – every night something to eat
  - Helping Hands helps to manage
  - November 1 to March 21.
  - No cooling center in summer, but a list of 15-20 locations where they can get cool
  - Having many homeless at library and church on 7<sup>th</sup> St is not a solution; need a solution: Low Barrier Shelter to have a location all year with services.
  - Chris Jones is the HOT Officer
  - Providing homeless services attracts more homeless from other cities; other cities give homeless bus tickets to Springfield.
- Panhandlers
  - Makes city look bad. Can't be in roadway.
  - 80% of money given to them goes to drugs and alcohol; DOES NOT help – it HURTS and prevents them from getting treatment. They are going to stand on corners as long as they keep getting money.
- Landlords
  - 3-4 same landlords; big apartments
  - Many questions about rental rules:
    - Lease should specify number of people; if you think there are too many, call the landlord and let them know.
  - Landlord training in the fall at South Side Christian Church: Sheriff, Sentinel (bedbugs) present, Springfield Housing Authority, Land of Lincoln Legal presentations
  - Handed out Landlord booklet

**Next Meeting**

- Iles Park Meeting July 1, 6pm Restoration Church

Respectfully submitted, Carol Kneeder, Secretary