

**Iles Park Neighborhood Association
Neighborhood Minutes May 6, 2024
Iles Park Pavilion**



17 attendees

Jennifer Notariano, Alderwoman Ward 6

- Mostly pretty chill right now.
- Call NPO for any issues – keep them informed about what’s going on.
- **6th St Paving** from Myrtle to S Grand – timeline is controlled by IDOT
- **Parking in yards** is an ordinance violation
 - Writing citations is a waste of time – the States Attorney dismisses them.
 - However, they are being managed as nuisance violations, handled in administrative court (like building code violations, trash, etc.) and owners are being fined.
- **Nuisance properties**
 - If a property is cited multiple times, then it can be identified as a “nuisance” property and the fines can add up. Report everything on properties that are repeat problems.
- **Traffic / drag racing**
 - Additional people in new budget
 - Drag Racing – call it in with the time of day. Flock cameras could be used to ID with license plates.
 - Speed bumps unlikely UNLESS perhaps new version that allows larger firetrucks to avoid them but slows down cars. Ask her if so.
- Softball team for neighborhood kids – talk to Ethan Peasey, Director of Community Relations

Shawn Gregory, Alderman Ward 2

- Family Dollar Stores on Cook and 4th & S Grand are closing. He’s told owners that no new liquor licenses will be considered there.
- Closed Walgreens at S Grand and 5th may be taken over by Springfield Clinic. The vacant property has been relatively clear of clutter.
- He is on Housing Committee, and has asked for regular status updates on houses and fly dumping.
- Four new street sweepers, one per quadrant. Keeping streets clear helps to avoid drainage and flooding.
- Safety improvements coming at intersections at 11th and Ash and 11th and S Grand (for new fire station.)
- New fire station at 11th/Yale is progressing. Will have a community room.

Michael Horn, Zone Manager, Public Works

- Use Report a Problem in the website to report. Upgrade to allow uploading photos & carbon copying yourself is scheduled for this fall.
- Or you can call general city number at 217-789-2255 and ask for him. Email Michael.Horn@Springfield.il.us.
- Markings along 7th are in prep for sidewalk work and overlay on 7th St.
- Pay attention to your surroundings – homeless have been displaced from northeast by demolitions for rails and are moving south. If you see a problem, report it. Call on non-emergency number 217-788-8311.
- Fly dumping and tall grass are a big problem.
- Call Public Health for garbage dumped in yards.

Officer Joe Vose, NPO

- 217-558-1291. Will attend in the future.

Park District Police

- Not in attendance due to issue requiring their attention.

Lead water lines

- Mailing last week. House to street is the city's portion.
- State mandate to do a particular number per year for 12 years. Will require lots of contractors. ARPA funds and CGB grants being used to pay for city's part.
- Customer pays for inside-house upgrades.
- Go to link in letter; put in your address – locations are color-coded: confirmed/suspected.
- It's sobering info, but at least you know.

Problem Properties

City's Unsafe and Dangerous Buildings map: <https://arcg.is/1Gz5va> (click on Demo)

Demolitions -

- Comes down to more funding & more people to do the work.
- Near Iles Park
 - 2015 S 5th – on demo list; initiated 11/5/2021. Will ask status.
 - 1st & Laurel (101 W Laurel) – burned house on demo list.
- City Priorities
 - N. Grand rail demolitions
 - Old Towne demolitions
 - 8th St where bricks fell – emergency order.
- 412 E Myrtle (on the alley) been a problem for a long time.
- Several additional properties were mentioned and given to Alderpeople & the Zone Manager.

Michelle Coffin, President

- \$2,963.74 in the bank account.
- **IPNA Signs** near S Grand and 7th and S. Grand and 8th: if you have a chance, pull or cut down weeds.
- **Safety**
 - Turn porch lights on after dark. (Consider motion lights to preserve darkness and protect night-flying pollinators.)
 - Call in problems with homeless people.
 - Security cameras - register online with the city. If there's an incident, the police may request access to recordings.
- **National Night Out – August 6 in Iles Park**
 - Keep reasonable level of effort for volunteers. Gift cards instead of prizes; reduced amount of food.
- **Clean Up**
 - One day event similar to Enos Park and Pillsbury.
 - The neighborhood is responsible for recruiting and organizing trucks and volunteers to go pick up solid waste (furniture, mattresses, etc.) and transport it to a designated location.
 - Designated location is used by neighborhood to collect solid waste.
 - City picks up solid waste by 2:30pm on that day.
 - Alderwoman Notariano and Michael Horn will look into it.
- **IPNA fundraiser** coupon books again for 2024; see website.
- **Shred event** possible in the fall.
- Next meeting June 3 at Iles Park Pavilion
- 2024 meeting dates are generally 1st Mondays at the park pavilion.

Respectfully, Carol Kneedler, IPNA Secretary