

**Iles Park Neighborhood Association
Neighborhood Minutes June 10, 2024
Iles Park Pavilion**



12 attendees

Jennifer Notariano, Alderwoman Ward 6

- Call NPO for any issues – keep them informed about what’s going on.
- **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.
- **Clean Up**
 - Discussed using available grant money for a dumpster to be set in the neighborhood for a week in September.
 - Michelle will ask Magna Dental and Level Up if we can use their lot. Open to suggestions on placement.
 - Ald Notariano will check if the city will empty the dumpster mid-week in case it fills up.
 - Alternative discussed: designated date for residents to place garbage in the easement; Butch would pick up and haul in his trailer to a designated area for city pickup.
- Family Dollar closing question: would there be a place for neighborhood to go for quick grocery shopping.

Shawn Gregory, Alderman Ward 2 – unable to attend

Captain Murphy, Park District Police

- Reported some instances of pop-up parties. Major incidents down, but minor incidents up.
- Aware that new pickleball courts are planned; IPNA sent a letter supporting this.
- They have received funding for Skywatch – a large square monitoring station – very exciting.
- Asked about Park Police participation for NNO, and probably not since they are short staffed, similar to past years.

NPO Officers Joe Vose and Joe Bridges

- Asked about Neighborhood Watch program; we should contact Crimestoppers, Chris Jones. We brought to their attention that city police website says to contact NPOs.
- Question about speed monitoring stations – how funded? Speed study is done prior to setting them up; a grant pays for them.
- Requested dogs as a priority for NNO, which we didn’t have last year. Are city police wanting or planning to have a vendor table with games, similar to past years?
- Even though Officer Bridges primarily covers the lake, we can call either one – they cover for each other. Joe Vose 217-558-1291. Joe Bridges 217-843-6694.

Michael Horn, Zone Manager, Public Works – did not attend

- 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.
- 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.

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 – scheduled for demo, according to Alderwoman Notariano, who provided an update on the process and why it can take time.

Michelle Coffin, President

- **IPNA Signs** near S Grand and 7th and S. Grand and 8th; Butch weeded them recently.
- **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.
- **IPNA fundraiser** coupon books again for 2024; see website.
- Next meeting July 1 at Iles Park Pavilion
- 2024 meeting dates are generally 1st Mondays at the park pavilion.

Respectfully, Michelle Coffin, acting for IPNA Secretary