



# SHERWOOD FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

---

## **Minutes of the Sherwood Forest Neighborhood Association Meeting**

**Tuesday, November 13, 2012: 6:30 PM; Sherwood Forest Presbyterian Church**

The meeting was called to order at 6:35PM by Ed Tilden, President, after a brief social period among attendees including PACE Officer Dustin Pollard of the Proactive Community Enforcement Division (PACE) of the Columbia Police Department. He was representing Officer Nick Scott who is our District 3 Community Liaison. Also present was Angela Adams of The City of Columbia's Customer Care Center.

There were 13 residents in attendance. A motion to approve the minutes from the August 14, 2012 meeting was approved. Ed Tilden gave the report of our treasurer, Rhett Bailey who was unable to attend. Our current balance is \$1,089.50 with no outstanding debt. Items paid since the last meeting include food and party essentials for the Halloween Festival, and the new Crime Watch signs which will be posted at all entrances to the neighborhood. It is hoped that these signs will add another layer of security to our neighborhood.

At this time President Tilden thanked Cynde and Rob Devlin for coordinating and hosting the annual Halloween Festival held at their home on Kalmia Drive. There was a record turnout of attendees, and all agreed that it was a happy and festive occasion for our neighborhood.

Officer Pollard was introduced and reported on recent crimes that have occurred in Sherwood Forest since the last meeting. These included two burglaries at the Sherwood Forest Presbyterian Church, two auto break-ins, and seven auto thefts on Devine and Blossom Streets.

Neighbors are encouraged to use the RAID System which is located at the Columbia Police Department website ([www.Columbiapd.net](http://www.Columbiapd.net)). This is an easy and convenient way for the public to stay informed about crime activity in our neighborhood or the city as a whole. This link can also be used to report all crimes.

Officer Pollard gave the following tips for home security during the holiday season:

- Never leave cars unlocked or with valuables in plain sight.
- Do not use ATM machines at night. Would-be assailants hide in near-by shrubbery.
- Leave porch lights on as well as inside lights in the evenings when residents are not at home.
- Video surveillance, alarm systems, and dogs are good crime deterrents.
- Home owners are allowed to own a X-26C Taser stun gun which can be purchased at local gun shops. No license is required for SC residents.
- Residents are encouraged to use the Police Property Watch Program when they will be out of town. Call 545-3500 to request this service.
- Call the police to inform them of any suspicious characters at 252-2911 (the non emergency number).
- To get information on crime prevention, call 545-3500.
- If you think someone is committing a crime, call 911.



# SHERWOOD FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

---

The next speaker was Ms. Angela Adams, a representative from The City of Columbia Care Center. She addressed issues of how citizen complaints/issues are handled and described the new 24-hour hotline for all City service requests and utility billing questions.

- **For emergencies** (ex. broken water main) the 24-hour hotline can be called at any time by dialing 545-3300.
- **For non-emergencies** dial 311. A City Customer Care Center Representative will take Service calls at 311 during normal business hours. Requests will be routed to the appropriate City departments.
- **To register a concern** residents do not have to give any personal information and may do so anonymously.
- If a resident leaves contact information, a Customer Care Center Representative will follow-up with the caller.
- Residents may also email concerns and complaints using [customercare@columbiasc.net](mailto:customercare@columbiasc.net).

Mr. Bill Kunze of Jungle Taming, LLC gave a PowerPoint presentation on “Restoring a Mature Landscape.” He also made available a Landscape Design Planning Questionnaire, as well as contact information on local speakers and consultants who can offer information on gardening topics such as home vegetable gardening, landscaping, and outdoor hardscape construction.

## **New Business**

Elizabeth Leverton was introduced and discussed the idea of establishing a “**Little Free Library**” in Sherwood Forest. She had fliers available that described this project. This is a non-profit organization based in Hudson, Wisconsin and is dedicated to promoting literacy and community. The Library typically looks like a free-standing birdhouse....filled with free books that come from donations, usually from individuals in the neighborhood. Neighbors are encouraged to share their favorite books and are welcomed to take a book, read it, and return it to the Library.

Each Library is managed by a Steward who promotes and watches over the Library. The local Library would then be registered with the national organization and listed on a GPS-based map.

Elizabeth Leverton, who lives on Duncan Street, has volunteered to build, register, and act as steward if the neighborhood chooses to support this project. Neighbors are invited to review this proposal and see if they are interested in establishing this in our community. This will be discussed again at our next neighborhood meeting.

The **Sherwood Forest 12<sup>th</sup> Night Adult Party** is scheduled for Friday, January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2013 and will be held again at the home of Regina Monteith on Kilbourne Drive. Additional party information will be sent to residents during the month of December.

President Tilden announced that **volunteers are needed to fill the positions of Membership Chair, Beautification Chair and Safety Chair** for our association. To continue our neighborhood association's success, these positions are critical, but the work involved is not that demanding. Anyone who is interested



# SHERWOOD FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

---

in serving in one of these positions please contact Ed Tilden by phone at 530-2436 or at [president@sherwoodforestneighbors.org](mailto:president@sherwoodforestneighbors.org)

The **next association meeting will be at 6:30 PM on Tuesday, February 12, 2013.** Polly Tilden and Allison Hart volunteered to bring refreshments for this meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rannie French