

	Subject:	Madison Park Homeowners' Association Meeting		
	Date:	March 9, 2015		
	Time:	7:00 p.m.		
	Location:	Pinewood Elementary Media Center		
	Presenters:			
	President:	Douglas Welton	Attendance:	
	Meg Fencil, Sustain Charlotte Karen Howard, Mecklenburg County Parks & Recreation; Therapeutic Recreation Section / Gifted Gardner		<u>30</u> attendees 1 CMPD officer 1 Code officer	
http://www.madisonparkcharlotte.org/				

Welcome

President welcomed all attendees to meeting

Acknowledgement of Visitors

Douglas asked for any new attendees to be acknowledged, no new residents were noted. We had Ms. Detra Davis of Charlotte Pie Authority located at 151 Harding Place provide us with some samples of her pies.

Membership reminder

All were reminded that dues are **\$20 ANNUALLY** and cover January – December. Our membership dues pay for our expenses such as events, PO Box, postage, supplies, and rentals. Each resident is encouraged to pay in person or on-line via pay-pal from our webpage: <http://www.madisonparkcharlotte.org/membership/>

Sponsor Recognition

Platinum: Auto Bell
 Gold: Spectrum Residential, The Beth Smith Shuey Team @ Keller Williams Realty
 Silver: Dry-Pro, Queens University, Carolina Pest Management and the Angel Agency

Announcements and Volunteer Opportunities

The 3rd Annual Madison Park Easter Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday April 4th at 10:00 am at Madison Central Park. Douglas has lined up 7 volunteers from the community to assist with the event. Please mark it on your calendar to come out, meet your neighbors, help hide eggs or bring the little ones to find them and get some sweets.

The Madison Park Book Club is meeting on the fourth Tuesday of each month with the next meeting on March 24th from 6:30 - 8:30 pm at the Charlotte Cafe. The book selection is *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr. Contact Gay Hurst for more info, gay.hurst@gmail.com

Pinewood Elementary is in need of volunteers to: mentor a child, assist office personnel, shelve books in the library, support PTA, and join garden committee. For more info: <http://schools.cms.k12.nc.us/pinewoodES/Pages/VolunteerResources.aspx>

The Charlotte Mecklenburg Library and Solid Waste Services are offering Green Living Classes at the Steel Creek Branch. The next class, about edible weeds, is scheduled for March 18th

City Councilmen Vi Lyles is holding an event to discuss how to improving bicycling in Charlotte. The event will be on Saturday March 21st from 9 – 11AM at the Dilworth Grille on Morehead Street. To RSVP, contact Kim Oliver at 704-336-2180 or koliver@charlottenc.gov

City Councilmen David Howard's ReThink CLT presents a conversation with Bruce Katz, author of *The Metropolitan Revolution*, on Wednesday March 18th at 6:30 at the UNC Center City Building. RSVP by calling 704.336.4947 or emailing aburney@charlottenc.gov by Monday, March 16th at 5 p.m.

Matt Magnasco will be heading up our efforts with the NeighborWoods Program. Currently there is about 7 volunteers, but can always use more. If you are interested in helping Matt, send an e-mail to info@madisonParkCharlotte.org

Bark in the Park is having a photo contest, if you are interested in submitting a photo of your four legged woof-woof then the deadline for submitting the pictures is March 20th.

Registration for 2015 summer camps is now open. Camps are offered for youth and teens at affordable rates and include aquatics camps, nature camps, sports camps and much more. For more info www.parkandrec.com

AARP and the Tyvola Senior Center are partnering to provide no-charge tax assistance for those who qualify thru April 14th. Also, the Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority will be doing Voter Empowerment Training on Tuesday, March 31st from 10:00-11:00am For more info on these and other activities at the senior center call 980.314.1320 or send an e-mail to TyvolaSeniorCenter@mecklenburgcountync.gov Note: The senior center calendar is now available thru the Park and Rec Department's web site.

The Madison Park 2nd Friday Social will be this Friday at Jeff's Bucket Shop, 1601 Montford Drive starting at 5:30. Plan on attending to meet some more of our neighbors there in a relaxed atmosphere and possibly enjoy an adult beverage. Name tags will be provided for all of us without stellar memories.

Emily Bartlett is leading the Madison Park Parents meetups. The next is scheduled for Sunday, March 29th from 2-4 PM at Madison Central Park with an ice cream truck there for the purchase of treats. Anyone with children is encouraged to attend. They are attempting to make the meetups a monthly event where BOTH parents and children can enjoy the company of people their own age.

Uptown The St. Patrick's Day parade is Saturday March 14th beginning at 11:00 am and the following weekend NCAA Tournament is in town on the March 20th - 22nd. Beware of traffic.

Treasurer's Report

For February 9, 2015 through March 9, 2015, we had the following activity:

Starting balance:	\$ 6,194.93
Deposits	\$ 260.54 membership dues
Deposits	148.93 Little Free Library receipt – matching grant
Payments	- 0.00 Public Storage (to show next month)
Payments	- 15.64 office supplies 12.64 and bank fee 3.00
Ending balance	<u>\$ 6,508.76</u>

Traffic Calming Funds in the amount of \$1,253.80 continue to be held by CDOT. The funds are earmarked for vinyl replacements on our signs in the future.

Community Reports

Officer Shabeer Mohammad from CMPD presented the following crime statistics for us:

Type	Select
Geography	Neighborhoods
Area	Madison Park, Madison Park, Pinewood ES
Layer	Reported Incidents
Category	Index Offenses (Part I)
Data	For Public Release
Date Range	2/9/2015 - 3/9/2015

Incident Type	Frequency
Residential Burglary	2
Larceny-Other	1
Total	3

Complaint No	Date	Street Block	Incident Type
20150214-1229-04	14-FEB-2015	5000 FURMAN PL	Residential Burglary
20150225-1418-02	25-FEB-2015	5200 FURMAN PL	Residential Burglary
20150308-1129-00	08-MAR-2015	2000 TYVOLA RD	Larceny-Other

He reminded us to pick up after our pets and dispose of their waste properly. One resident had questions about noise ordinance for the city, obvious complaints (late night, early morning) should be called in so they can have a conversation with the perpetrators.

The Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department is looking for volunteers interested in helping ensure the safety of the citizens of Charlotte and Mecklenburg County. For more info, contact Officer Veronica Brown at 704 432-0430 or ybrown1@cmpd.org. The next orientation session March 21st.

Dennis Whittington from Code Enforcement had recently investigated a fire, possibly resulting from code violations. He reminded us to change the batteries in BOTH our fire alarms and CO2 detectors. Changing the batteries whenever we are switching to/from Daylight Savings Time is an excellent way to remember when the last time the batteries in those devices were changed and insuring the batteries are fresh in case they are truly needed for an emergency.

President's Report

I meet with the Madison Park Parents group on February 24th to let the group know that we support their efforts. The group intends to do events on a monthly basis. I'll pass along more info when I get the details.

I meet with the Madison Park Book Club on the 24th to let that group know that we support their efforts. The group plans to meet monthly, choose 10 books a year to read / discuss with no meeting to be held during December.

Margaret Sexton led the Adopt-A-Street cleanup on Saturday March 7th. About 10 people showed up and picked up 16 bags of trash. A reminder that going forth the pickups will be semi-annually on the First Saturday in March and October.

Heidi and Russell attended a Jane's Walk workshop on March 3rd. Discussion will continue on how we can create a "Jane's Walk" for the Madison Park.

On February 15th, Valerie finished and submitted a Communications and Marketing grant that would support our partnership with Pinewood Elementary. As the grant goes through the process, Valerie will provide updates as necessary.

CMS Boundary Change Request update - As discussed last year, Valerie has been pursuing a request with CMS to change the Madison Park boundaries to be more geographically central to our community, specifically around our middle and high school designations. The request would have Madison Park attend - Pinewood Elem (same as today), A.G Middle (or more likely Sedgfield based on capacity) and Myers Park High School. The application is due on March 13th and volunteers Daniel Beckham and Kevin Nunnery have agreed to work with Valerie on this project. CMS will be reviewing all of MeckCo schools in regard to capacity and need thus the push for us to apply now vs. in 2016. We hope to send a survey to the community via the HOA email distribution list to ask for feedback from the community (the survey should be available later this month). All data gathered will help with the request for realignment. In addition to working with Eric Davis/CMS, our team has partnered with Montclair in their pursuit to ensure we stay in alignment with our goals for both neighborhoods. We will keep you posted as we progress through the application process.

Several new development projects along the South Boulevard corridor that may will affect Madison Park over the next year. The old Hooters is being replaced by a Take 5 Oil Change place. Pike Nursery has gotten plans approved to modify Seneca Place. Dynamic Health has gotten plans approved for work in the old Villa Antonio's space. The Sam's Mart at the corner of South and Tyvola has also submitted plans for modification to their structure. Director Daniel Beckham asked about the possibility of getting some of the developers to help in installing traffic calming devices (speed bumps, round-a-bouts, 4 way stops, etc.) since development will increase neighborhood traffic. Past President Valerie Delby stated that Spectrum Development is working with CDOT to do that in the areas of our neighborhood that will be impacted by their upcoming project on Abbey Place.

We have begun using MailChimp for our neighborhood-wide e-mail blast. Our initial load was about 670 names. During the month of March we have added almost 5% more subscribers. About 44% of the recipients are opening the e-mails we send. 62% view our mailing on a mobile device. One online community indicated that 84% of neighbors that interact with us are less than 55 years old.

Madison Central Park Sign was recently hit by a car and damaged. As a neighborhood, we will repair the sign and be working on a strategy to pay for repair / maintenance to things we have installed. Insurance is a possible option ..more to come as we develop a strategy to make sure we cover such items as the need arises.

Neighborhood-wide Street Light plan, we have 49 streets in the neighborhood and most have poor lighting. We are looking at what is needed to develop a plan for the entire neighborhood, with feedback from CDOT; there a few options which may involve mailing costs to the residents or lots of volunteer leg work. City Council member at large, Claire Fallon (who happened to be in attendance) stated that currently the city has NO funds to pay for neighborhood street lights and that safety concerns are focused on police and fire funding.

Mr. Sehi Volevakha who is a Fulbright Scholar in the Psychology Department at UNC-Charlotte addressed the audience. He is researching how leaders and members of community / grassroots organizations can make positive changes in their communities. He is seeking participants for an online survey taking approximately 5- 7 minutes to complete, anyone interested in participating supplied their contact information.

Guest Speakers

Meg Fencil, Sustain Charlotte

Meg educates, engages and unites communities through Sustain Charlotte programs and is actively engaged in fostering partnerships with the community. Sustain Charlotte is a non-profit outreach organization with a mission to inspire choices that lead to a healthier and more vibrant

community for generations to come. They are an organization that works with neighborhoods and schools to solve problems locally on a grass-roots level. The organization has helped neighborhoods to compile Sustainable Vision Plans by empowering them to set measurable sustainability goals in the neighborhood such as reducing household energy use, improving access to healthy food, reducing the amount of waste going to the land fill and getting more residents out of their cars and into public transportation.

The organization priority issues include air quality, job / income, energy, food, land use, equity / empowerment, transportation, waste and water. Did you know Charlotte is the second fastest growing metro area of the United States? In our region we drive an average of almost 20 miles per person every day, compared to less than 11 miles per day in 1982. The resulting increased congestion costs us \$525 million per year in wasted fuel and lost time or \$876 annually/person. For more information go to <http://www.sustaincharlotte.org>

Karen Howard, The Gifted Gardener Program

The Gifted Gardner program is part of the Therapeutic Recreation Section of Mecklenburg County Park & Recreation Department. It is housed at the Marion Diehl Recreation Center located at 2219 Tyvola Road. Adults with developmental disabilities, ages 18 and up (out of high school) can spend weekday morning enjoying a variety of instructional classes. All classes are from 10AM until 12 Noon. The program helps the participants with job and living skills. They employ 7 therapeutic workers, and always looking for volunteers. They program will also take donated pots and plants (not shrubbery). For more information you may reach Karen at 980-314-1303 or email her at karen.howard@mecklenburgcountync.gov

Reminders

- Principal Pegram of Pinewood Elementary came in to remind us that Genius Hour occurs the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month from 6 PM to 7 PM. ALL Madison Park residents are encouraged to participate or volunteer for one of the programs. The program includes gardening, yoga, art, bikes, chess, cooking, animal care, service projects. For more information go to: <http://pinewoodgeniushr.weebly.com/>
- Next General Meeting will be Monday April 13th @ 7:00 pm at Pinewood Elementary. Scheduled speakers: Mike Davis, CDOT and Joe Frey, XCLT.
- Next Neighborhood Social will be on April 10th at The Olde Mecklenburg Brewery, 4150 Yancey Road, starting at 5:30 pm. For the OMB social, we are getting complimentary soft pretzels for our group and we are to meet at the main bar in the designated area for Madison Park. Also, we may schedule a Private Brewery Tour (starting at 6:00) for \$10 per person (with 10 person minimum). If anyone is interested in the Tour we will need to receive payment to the HOA by March 27 to allow us to secure the timeslot for our group. The HOA will need to pre-pay 1 week prior to the social
- For additional information see us on the web at www.madisonparkcharlotte.org

Closing

Ms. Bernice Ledford addressed the group about her concerns of the association meeting being moved from Wedgewood Church to Pinewood Elementary and how people without email are contacted about community events. The board will work to find a way to distribute minutes to those without email or computer access.