



The Official Newsletter of the Lafayette Place Improvement Association
April – May 2018 Issue

Westley Falcaro, Editor

Annual Meeting Summary

31 residents representing 26 properties attended this year's meeting. Business included the Treasurer's Report, which itemized expenses and income for 2017, and Budgets and planned spending for 2018; the results of last year's events; 2018 events and activities; and the slate of candidates for the Board of Directors for 2018-2020. As there were no nominations from the floor, the slate was unanimously passed. The Most Improved Property Award for 2017 was presented to Brock & Deedra Mauricio for their property at 309 Maple Grove.

Great comments and ideas were shared during the Good of the Order. One idea from resident Doug Guerin involved the participation of Lafayette Place in the Fort for Fitness race in late September, as the route passes our neighborhood on Calhoun Street. Various neighborhoods on the route show support with signage, water stations, or even a cheering section. Several residents agreed it would be good PR and community support to at least have a large sign indicating our neighborhood. The Board will investigate costs and the best way to show support for this event. A cheering section is encouraged!

We were pleased to have a surprise visit from State Representative Phil GiaQuinta. He highlighted the work done in the last legislative session including extension of the enterprise zone to the southern part of Fort Wayne, which includes Quimby Village and the Clyde Theatre, where major changes are happening. His report was well received and attendees had the chance to ask him questions.

A Privilege and a Duty

As we know from the countless advertisements on TV and articles in the newspapers, the **Primary Election Day is May 8.**

Don't make the mistake of thinking that a "Primary Election" is not important ... **it absolutely is!**

Make sure you're aware of who's running for a specific office and familiarize yourself with their platform. This is the time and opportunity to make your voice heard. If you don't vote, you can't complain about our various representatives!

All of Lafayette Place is in Precinct 680. Our location for voting is the First Christian Church at the corner of Calhoun and Pettit.

If you have questions or need additional information, you can call 449-7154 or go online to **www.allencounty.us/voter-registration**.

- Take I.D with you – driver's license or state issued photo I.D.
- Polls are less likely to be crowded during off hours: 10 -11:30am & 1:30 - 3:30pm.
- If you need help, ask a poll worker to assist you. That's why they're there!

**Whatever your party affiliation,
voting is an important privilege.
Use it on May 8th!**

Be A Good Neighbor

Although it's still a little chilly, warmer weather is just around the corner – really! It won't be long until we can open our windows and doors and spend more time outdoors. But summertime also brings out noises and activities that can be disturbing to our neighbors.

Make sure only YOUR household is listening to your music, laughter, and conversations. Sounds are magnified at night, so be considerate when you have outside gatherings and cookouts. And **please do not leave the volume cranked up on your car radio while it is parked outside.**

Racing and revving up vehicles (whether an automobile, motorcycle, moped, or whatever!) create a noise disturbance and a safety issue.

As always, we hope that neighbor talking to neighbor about a problem or disturbance will result in a happy ending for all!

A Big THANK YOU ...!

... To our volunteers who cleaned up our neighborhood during the Great American Clean Up on Saturday, April 21. A great job done by:

Phil Bogdon
Zack Grubbs
Matt Leblanc
& 4 yr old daughter Caroline
Cheryl McCarthy
Jeff McCarthy
Don Orban
Wayne Reeves
Andrew Wallace
Ashley Wallace
Chris Wood
Michelle Wood

**The weather is getting warmer,
get out and meet new neighbors
and catch up with the old ones!**

Dirt Day – Sat May 26

In Lafayette Place, we take advantage of the Memorial Day holiday weekend to plant flowers or add a flowerbed, fill in those holes from winter weather, and generally spruce up our yards.

To help with all that, the LPIA Board of Directors orders 6 cubic yards of peat & black dirt mixture and has it delivered in 2 large piles placed on the north & south ends of the Esplanade.

Residents may take one wheel barrel of dirt until 12noon, to ensure everyone has a chance to get some. After 12noon, you may take an unlimited amount.

Neighborhood Code Patrols

The City Neighborhood Code Enforcement Agency is starting their patrols for **grass and weed violations**, as well as **exterior house violations**.

Contrary to some perceptions, Neighborhood Code Enforcement is a **good thing for neighborhoods**, and Lafayette Place benefits from their vigilance.

Complaints go through the 311 Call Center, and the Code Inspectors are responsible for canvassing their specific territories. When a complaint is received, the inspector visits the property to determine if it violates code. In the case of tall grass, weeds, or noxious vegetation violations, a placard is placed in the yard, and a courtesy notice to abate is sent to the owner of record. Property owners then have five (5) days to correct the violation. If not corrected within that timeframe, the City's mowing contractors will cut the lawn and/or remove the noxious vegetation, and subsequently, the owner will be charged for the cost of the mowing, which will include an administrative fee. If the mowing invoice is not paid within 30 days, a lien will be placed on the property.

Complaints may also address peeling paint as well as failing gutters, porches, steps, and roofs, to name a few.

If you want to report a violation, call 311 or visit the 311 website. You will need to have the property's street address or specific location. Complaints may be made anonymously.

Lafayette Park
2018 Summer Playground Program
June 4 – July 27
Mon – Fri 9:00am – 5:00pm

Each year, the Fort Wayne Parks & Recreation Department provides a **FREE** summer program in Lafayette Park for children 5 years and older. Parks Department personnel supervise the program and children are free to come & go as they like, there is **NO** registration needed.

Various activities include sports and arts & crafts. **FREE lunches are provided by Fort Wayne Community Schools between 11am and 12noon.**

This program includes a Summer Carnival
Monday, June 18 from 5pm – 7pm

For more information, contact the
Fort Wayne Parks and Recreation Department 427-6000

2018 – 2020 LPIA Board of Directors

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Vice-President- Michelle Wood
Treasurer – Amy Grubbs
Secretary – Don Orban

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