



December 2006 Newsletter

P.O. Box 5245, Naperville, Illinois 60567-5245

www.napervillehomeowners.org

In this issue we will preview our December 16th Joint General Membership meeting with the Mayor and City Council, provide information on changes to City 4-way stop sign placement, the upcoming NAHC Tradeshow and Homeowners Expo, and other topics.

This newsletter is an information conduit to our Member Associations, providing information you can use when managing your associations and to help you keep your members informed. Please provide your feedback to our External Communications Director, Bob Fischer, at rafischer1@aol.com

President's Letter from Chuck Schlabach

As you may recall, the NAHC Home Based Business subcommittee (Bob Fischer, Chair, with Dr. Bob Buckman and Mike Reilly) worked for the last six months with the Naperville Area Chamber of Commerce HBB Task Force (Bruce Lund, Chair, Kathy Wright, and John Williams), along with myself, to update the Home Based Business Codes 6-2-7, 6-2-8, and 6-2-20. We eventually reached agreement with City Staff on 6-2-7(Trailer/RV regulations), and 6-2-20 (Commercial Vehicle parking and machinery/equipment in residential zoned districts). This was not the case with 6-2-8, Home Occupation Regulations, where the opinion of the Homeowners and Chamber members was much different from City Staff. The NAHC/NAACC desire was to address the problems and not just the symptoms as other nearby communities had done. We did not want to restrict the growth of home based businesses, but at the same time recognized the need to protect the homeowner and be a "good neighbor". All of this was achieved. More details can be found later in this newsletter and on our website at www.napervillehomeowners.org.

This is the first time that the Chamber and Confederation have come together to work out an Agreement for the betterment of both the homeowners and businesses, and Council recognized that creative effort! This win-win result for the Naperville Community illustrates how effective the NAHC has been and can continue to be in promoting positive results for area homeowners. The Confederation is actively promoting homeowner involvement in civic affairs through participation in the NAHC programs and liaison committees, which are now forming.

For dynamic discussions we need your input and voice, so please plan on attending our **Saturday, 12-16, Joint City and NAHC event starting at 8AM with networking, coffee and doughnuts in Rooms A,B,C** at the Municipal Center. The formal meeting kicks off at 8:30AM with the Mayor, City Council, and City Staff there to answer your questions during our Open Forum on topic updates including, but not limited to, Home Business ordinances, potential Library Parking Deck landscaping and building facades, Downtown Train Station Transit Oriented Development Project, Ogden Ave Corridor Enhancement, future use of parcels of land in the Martin Mitchell Tract C, RTA "Moving Beyond Congestion", our 1-27-07 Trade Show, and NAHC Liaison Committees. (See draft Agenda enclosed)

Looking ahead, due to the Trade Show on January 27th, we will not meet in January, but will have another Joint City/NAHC Meeting on February 17, 2007. We are also planning future meetings with the Park District and the School Districts to review their plans and direction.

We need each NAHC HOA to be represented as your opinions and comments are key to informative meetings. Come and enjoy the Christmas spirit with us on 12-16. We hope you will be enlightened, and find it very interesting and educational for the homeowners in your Association!!

Thank You.

Chuck Schlabach

President, Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation, Chuckschla@aol.com

NAHC Meetings: *Your* Forum!

NAHC Meetings provide you, the homeowner, with an opportunity to speak directly *with* (not to or at) Councilmen, senior City Staff, and representatives of other "taxing bodies" including school districts, the Park District, Townships, etc. in a relaxed, informal environment. We are planning Spring 2007 meetings now and expect to have the Park District, Township Assessors, and School Districts in attendance. If you have questions or comments on our meetings, their structure, future topics, or speakers, please contact one of the members of the NAHC Board of Directors.

December 16th 2006

Naperville Homeowners Confederation General Meeting Preliminary Agenda

8:00 AM – Coffee, donuts and networking

8:30 AM – Call to Order & Introductions

8:40 AM – Welcome Message, Chuck Schlabach, President NAHC & NAHC Tradeshow Update (June Edlund, NAHC)

8:45 AM – Opening Comments, Mayor and City Council

9:00 AM – NAHC and City Staff Updates

- Home Business Ordinance (Bob Fischer, NAHC)
- Barbecue Grills and Smoke Free Ordinances (Bob Marshall, Asst. City Manager)
- Naperville's CERT Program (Pete Smith)
- Winter Operations (Dave Van Vooren)
- Caroline Martin-Mitchell Tract C Lands.- Questions on Usage - Marcie Schatz

9:45 AM – Transit Oriented Development Study – Downtown Train Station - Michele Johnson ECHO and Thom Higgins, Park Addition

10:00 AM – Open Forum with the Mayor, City Council, and City Staff

10:30 AM – Adjourn

Trade Show Update

Planning is well underway and this is going to be a great trade show, home expo and conference! You will want to mark your calendars now for January 27, 2007. Plan to spend a good share of the day with us as there will be seminars of interest to everyone. The final seminar of the day, at 2:00 p.m., will be a panel discussion. This panel is the precursor to the classes that the NAHC will offer in 2007 on setting up and running a homeowner association and how to be a good board member. (More information is later in this newsletter).

You won't want to miss the vendor fair with all the good merchandise being offered for sale while the home expo will help everyone plan for next year's home improvement projects. Finally, we will again feature selected, top-quality Naperville area restaurants serving samples from their delicious menus for lunch. Bring your neighbors! We are looking forward to seeing all of you there

Home Based Business Ordinance Update

At its November 21st meeting, the Naperville City Council reviewed proposed language for the ordinances related to Home based Businesses including motor vehicle parking restrictions and the regulation of business types and activities. As you are aware, the Homeowners Confederation partnered with the Chamber of Commerce to prepare and present ordinance language that would protect the rights of neighbors, while providing an environment conducive to the growth of home based businesses that are compatible with a residential neighborhood.

While the final ordinance language is still being prepared, we were very pleased that the Council agreed with our position that regulation should address the cause of problems, and not just visible actions or measurements. Key to our presentation and recommendations were:

- Strict limitations on business activities, but not on numbers of employees. In particular, we felt that business activities should be conducted within the residence and should not “spill over” into the neighborhood.
- Business traffic should be regulated, but residential traffic should not be combined with business traffic.
- Business vehicles parked overnight in driveways should be primarily operated by residents of the address and should meet vehicle weight restrictions

In meetings with the Council members prior to the meeting, we explained the rationale behind our approach and worked to address concerns of the Council members. We also promised that if the proposed new ordinance language was found lacking, we would be in the forefront of those clamoring for imposing tighter restrictions and penalties on the egregious outliers. The joint NAHC/NACC position paper that was presented to City Council during our meetings can be found at:

<http://www.napervillehomeowners.com/NAHC/NewsDoc/NewsDoc8539.doc>

We feel very positive about this turn of events and we will continue working with City Staff on the final ordinance language that will go before the Council for approval in the upcoming weeks.

Frontier Park Recreation Center Update

During 2006, the Naperville Park District talked to residents and key leaders throughout the community regarding its plans to build a recreation center in Naperville. The Park District received a lot of great feedback and suggestions, and several of these recommendations were incorporated into the design plans. Now, the Park District is taking the opportunity to present their current plans as they prepare to go before the Park Board for formal approval.

You are invited to view the current design plans for the Frontier Recreation Center before the regular meeting of the Park Board of Commissioners on Thursday, December 14, 6:00 p.m.-7:00 p.m. City of Naperville Municipal Building at 400 S. Eagle St. outside Council Chambers.

Plans showing the interior and exterior views with design details and facility amenities will be available. Additionally, Park District staff and representatives from Gilfillan Callahan Architects and TMP Associates will be on site to answer any questions.

Additional information on the planned recreation center can also be found on the Park District website at <http://www.napervilleparks.org/New%20pages/CommunityRecreationCenter.htm>

Nichols Library Parking Deck Update

The City of Naperville will host a public meeting to introduce the proposed landscaping and building facade options for the Nichols Library parking deck. The meeting will be held in an open house format on Thursday, December 14, from 4:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in meeting rooms A, B and C in the lower level of the Municipal Center, 400 S. Eagle Street.

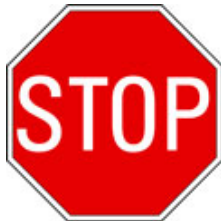
The position taken by the NAHC Board, and ratified by our membership at the November 18th general meeting, is in support of a 4 story deck (one below ground, three above) that would be architecturally consistent with the residential neighborhood.

The proposed new parking deck is estimated to increase the number of parking spaces to 458 versus the 130 that currently exist. The new parking facility will provide additional parking for the library as well as employees and visitors of downtown Naperville.

This informational meeting is open to the public and all residents and business owners are encouraged to attend. Representatives from the City of Naperville and the city's consultant will be available at the public meeting to discuss the project and answer questions on an individual basis. If you have questions or comments regarding this project, please contact project engineer Kim Grabow by phone at (630) 548-1199 or by e-mail at grabowk@naperville.il.us.

Additional information has been posted to the city's website, www.naperville.il.us and the meeting materials will be placed on the website the week of the meeting.

Proposed Stop Sign Placement Changes



The Transportation, Engineering & Development Business Group (TED) has performed a review of the current, Naperville City Council adopted, program for establishing all-way stop controls at intersections of two residential/local streets. The city is seeking your input on proposed revisions to the current program which has been a model used throughout the United States to determine the appropriate places for STOP signs.

While one of the most common requests by Naperville residents is to install STOP signs in hopes of controlling traffic speeds on residential streets, the purpose of a STOP sign is not to control the speed of traffic, but rather to stop the least number of vehicles necessary while maintaining a safe traffic environment. The recommendation memo going forward to the Transportation Advisory Board at their December 2, 2006 meeting, which updates the current program by taking into account current conditions, can be accessed on the NAHC Website (www.napervillehomeowners.org) by using the Navigation menu under News & Info and then clicking on Residential All Way Stop program.

The City will be accepting input on the proposed up to December 16, 2006.

The Residential All-Way Stop Warrant Sheet (the planning tool used for determining where stop signs are justified) can be viewed on the city's website. The Warrant Sheet is essentially the program, so you will need to review it to weigh in on this matter. To find the Proposed Residential All-Way Stop Warrant Sheet click on: <http://www.naperville.il.us/emplibrary/tab120306.pdf>. There you will see the TAB agenda for December 2006. Scroll down to the highlighted item and click. That will take you to the worksheet in PDF format. Questions can be addressed to Steve Cope (420-6066) or CopeS@naperville.il.us



Naperville Park District Notes

Airoom's Santa House

Take a magical trip to visit Santa right on the Naperville Riverwalk at Jackson Avenue and Webster Street where his special little house will reside for the holidays, courtesy of Airoom and the Naperville Park District. Musical entertainers and storytellers will enhance your visit and holiday experience. Have your picture taken with Santa Claus and placed in a commemorative photo folder. Photos are available for purchase for \$8 each or 2 for \$15. Don't miss this unique opportunity to visit with Santa this year!

December 1-17: Fridays: 5 PM.-8 PM., Saturdays, Sundays: Noon-6PM.

December 18-22: Monday-Friday: 5:00 p.m.-8:00 p.m.

Holiday Sports Camps

Looking for something to do over winter break? Why not stay active and have some fun in one of the Naperville Park District's holiday sports camps? Choose from Holiday Baseball Camp, Holiday Basketball Camp, Holiday Football Camp, Holiday Open Gym, and Rock Climbing Winter Break Camp. See the Winter 2007 Program Guide or visit www.napervilleparks.org for details.

Park District Customer Advisory Panel

We're looking for interested residents to serve on a Customer Advisory Panel for the new Frontier Park Recreation Center. This group, which ideally will be comprised of individuals with diverse recreation interests, will work with the facility manager to provide insight regarding operations and will focus on continuous customer feedback and improvement processes. If you are interested, please contact Brad Wilson, Director of Recreation, at 848-3532 or via e-mail at bwilson@napervilleparks.org.

Sledding and Ice Skating in our parks

Sledding: When the snow falls in abundance, be sure to visit one of our seven neighborhood sled hills located at Arrowhead Park, Brook Crossings, Gartner Park, May Watts Park, Riverwalk Sled Hill, Springhill Park, and Country Lakes Community Park. Snowboarding is allowed only at Weigand Riverfront Park. The sledding season runs from Dec. 1-Feb. 28, weather-permitting.

Ice Skating: Centennial Park, located near west Jackson Avenue, features two lighted hockey rinks as well as a lighted free skating area. Additionally, a community park rink for free skating is located at Gartner Park. Please note that skating rink availability depends on specific weather conditions. A minimum of 72 hours of constant 15-degree or below temperatures is necessary before the ice-making process can begin. The skating season runs from Dec. 15-Feb. 15, weather-permitting.

Please see the Winter 2007 Program Guide or visit www.napervilleparks.org for sledding and ice skating rules and regulations.

Recreation Winterfest

Sat., Feb. 17 from noon-5:00 p.m. at Cowlshaw School

Come inside where it's warm and cozy and spend the day having fun, getting fit, and learning about everything the Naperville Park District has to offer. The event is free and for all ages!

- Sample selected Park District programs and enjoy program demonstrations
- Check out the Scholastic book fair featuring new books and gifts for purchase
- Learn about our program offerings for toddlers, youth, teens, and adults of all ages
- Find out about upcoming District-wide improvements
- Enter to win fun and fabulous door prizes
- And much more!

For more information on these and other Naperville Park District programs, visit www.napervilleparks.org or call 848-5000.

NAHC Homeowners Education Program

The Confederation has established a Board committee to develop a series of educational programs for member Associations. Topics that will be included in this series are:

- Financial Matters;
- Legal;
- Operational;
- Homeowner Education;
- Board Education and Transition;
- Communications with HO Members.

These seminars will provide value to both Voluntary and Mandatory associations as they address those areas where associations may lack individual expertise. It is expected that these presentations will begin in the February/march timeframe and more details will be forthcoming on the Confederation website and in this newsletter.

An additional output of this educational program could be a welcome/reference packet that the Confederation could provide to new and existing members. It could also be referenced by the City when they encounter HOA questions and direct the associations to the NAHC for more information.

Questions and suggestions should be addressed to committee members including June Edlund, Marcia Straub, Dan Bulley, Boyd Briscoe, Mike Reilly, and Chuck Schlabach.

Seasons Greetings

***From your Naperville Area Homeowners Confederation
Board of Directors***

***For up-to-date information on upcoming meetings
Please check out our website at:
www.napervillehomeowners.org***

Watch for the January newsletter during the week of January 8th!!!!

See you at 8 AM on December 16th!!!!!!!

***Bob Fischer
Newsletter Editor &
Director - NAHC***