

AQCA Monthly Membership Meeting Notes

Annual meeting / Elections

Thursday, January 17, 2008, 7:00pm (122 Chestnut)

Guest speaker:

Thomas Walsh, Director for Constituent Services, City of Springfield

Robert Louder, AQCA President, called the meeting to order and made several short announcements. He expressed thanks to the Springfield Cultural Council for AQCA's 2008 summer concert series grant, and sorrow about the recent Essex Street housefire. Also announced the Wednesday, Feb. 6 Sector E meeting that will meet at Maple Commons (6:00pm). Maggie Tucker, Chair of the Membership Committee, thanked all who have paid their 2008 dues, and announced that instead of a House Tour, AQCA will organize a Church Tour for the weekend of this year's Mattoon St. Festival. Anyone interested in helping plan this event can contact Maggie at mbtucker@verizon.net or 746-1656.

I. Thomas Walsh, Director of Constituent Services 787-6100 twalsh@springfieldcityhall.com

Thomas is a lifelong Springfield resident who graduated from Central High, AIC, and the Massachusetts School of Law. He now lives in Forest Park and has been active in the Forest Park Civic Association. In his new position, which was created by the Sarno administration, Thomas will be heading up a "flex squad" which has been charged with overseeing quality of life issues across the City. He will primarily be following up on issues which require coordination across two or more City Departments. Residents should feel free to contact his office with concerns, especially if they are unsatisfied with the response they get from a particular Department.

Several issues were raised by audience members which have been of concern in our neighborhood: everyone agreed that the City needs to think through the Snow Ban procedures – to set up a better notification system, and provide more quality control with the snow plowing. People also expressed the need for more consistent law enforcement in the area, including under-cover follow-up at amazing.net.

Thomas has also been assigned to be our Neighborhood Liaison to the Mayor's Office, and pledged to attend AQCA monthly meetings regularly.

II. Annual Elections

The following slate of Officers was presented for 2008:

Carol Costa and Robert Louder, Co-Presidents

Robert Glasgow, Vice-President

Gerry Enright, Treasurer

Anna Brandenburg, Secretary

There were no challengers for these positions and the slate was unanimously accepted by the members present.

The following Committee Chairs were appointed for the coming year:

Membership: Maggie Tucker and Charlie Knight, Co-Chairs

Newsletter: Dianne Little

Programs: Steve Baribeau

Community Improvements: Whiting Houston

Nominating Committee: Mike Tuckey

Next monthly meeting will be held at Classical Condos on Thursday, February 21st, at 7:00 pm.

Notes submitted by Anna Brandenburg, AQCA Secretary