



PINECREST POST



The Newsletter of the East Lansing Pinecrest Neighborhood Association

March, 2005

ELPNA Annual Meeting

The Pinecrest Neighborhood Association will hold its **annual meeting** on Monday, April 11th. The two articles on this page highlight two of the main events at the meeting. Hope to see you there!

(OH, by the way, **REFRESHMENTS** will be served!)

City Official to Discuss Overlay Districts at April Meeting

Annette Irwin, Operations Administrator of Code Enforcement and Neighborhood Conservation for East Lansing, will answer questions about zoning overlay districts at the ELPNA meeting on April 11. This is an excellent opportunity to learn more about this idea, and to discuss it with your neighbors.

Briefly, residents of a neighborhood (or part of a neighborhood) can under Ordinance 1035C circulate a petition among property owners to request one of three forms of rental restriction. These vary in restrictiveness, with the strictest form prohibiting any new rental licenses. If at least two-thirds of property owners sign a petition, a process begins that may culminate in approval by City Council.

A number of East Lansing neighborhoods, especially those close to campus, have shown great interest in this process. Several have petitions under consideration, and at this writing one has been approved by City Council.

ELPNA discussed this issue at our January meeting, but several questions remained regarding the current status of rentals in our neighborhood and prospects for the future, and we decided to invite a knowledgeable official to address them.

For more information, see the link at <http://www.ci.east-lansing.mi.us/> (scroll down the home page to find it).

Election of ELPNA Officers: Volunteers Needed!

At its April meeting each year, the ELPNA elects officers to serve two-year terms. This year, three positions are up for election including , President, Secretary, and Member At Large positions.

Job descriptions and current nominees:

President: Preside over membership and board meetings, make presentations to the city on behalf of the ELPNA, appoint committees and their chairs subject to board approval, carry out policies adopted by the Board. Current President John Goddeeris is willing to continue, but welcomes other nominees.

Secretary: Maintain minutes of all meetings and other nonfinancial records, make these records available to voting members for inspection. No current nominees .

Member at Large: Participate actively in Board meetings, assist the other officers in the conduct of their duties. One Member at Large shall be the Block Captain Coordinator. One Member at Large shall be the Newsletter Editor. There are three Members at Large, and two positions are open and up for election. Current Member at Large Kathy Simmons is the only nominee.

Message from John Goddeeris: Time commitments are not large, centering mostly around attendance at quarterly meetings. Board members are involved in planning any Association activities, and will find other members very receptive to good ideas. Doug Pearsall has served very well as Secretary and Newsletter Editor for the past 5 1/2 years, but has decided to free up a little time for other commitments. Sharon Cramer has also served well as Member at Large but moved away. Please consider contributing your ideas and a bit of your time to the neighborhood.

If you would like to serve the Pinecrest Neighborhood in any of these positions , please call me at 332-6489 and come to the Annual Meeting.

Pinecrest: The Neighborhood Worth Returning To

(Editor's note: The following message came in January as an e-mail to the ELPNA President--it is worth sharing!)

My name is Colleen Shewchuck and I grew up in the Pinecrest Neighborhood (on Ramblewood where my parents still reside) and currently spend about half of my time here now at my parents. I handle the maintenance and upkeep (lawn, snow and general repairs) of my parents' home, and my two children have made so many friends in the neighborhood that it feels as though I still live here -and if given half a chance I would move back to this neighborhood in a flash!

With older neighborhoods such as Pinecrest, we are seeing a rejuvenation of the neighbors. Many of the original owners are leaving their homes of 40 years for health reasons, opting for retirement communities. But there are still many older residents who are healthy, but the cold, snowy and icy conditions of a Michigan winter does not allow them to move around easily outside. Now as I have stated, I take care of my parents, but not all of our elderly neighbors have that same kind of assistance or the means to pay someone for assistance. What worries me even further is the new ordinance by East Lansing that requires sidewalks and drives to be clear of snow within 24 hours and ice within 8 hours or suffer the \$75 consequence.

Which brings me to the reason for my message. I hope that you can include a note in the next newsletter about our neighborhood and what makes it great, and how we can maintain its current course as a very desirable and friendly neighborhood by helping each other out. Please put in a friendly reminder to everyone that if you see someone's drive is not clear, ask if they want some help or just shovel the drive for them. I know we are all busy with our own lives, kids, jobs, to do lists, etc., but eventually we will all be living in a neighborhood (hopefully still Pinecrest) and may need a little help now and again.

Colleen Shewchuck
former and future Pinecrest resident

ELPNA Officers for 2004-2005

President	John Goddeeris	332-6489
Vice President	Richard Hanna	332-6630
Treasurer	Steve Ueberroth	337-1745
Secretary	Doug Pearsall	332-2231
Memb-at-Large	Vacant	
Memb-at-Large	AnnMarie Schneider	337-0860
Memb-at-Large	Kathy Simmons	351-7572

UPCOMING EVENTS

Mar. 30 -April 3	East Lansing Film Festival
April 4	Spring Yard Waste Collection Begins
April 11	Free Collection of Yard Waste
April 11	ELPNA Annual Meeting, Pinecrest School, 7 PM

