

**Red Bridge Homes Association
Annual Meeting Minutes
October 28, 2004**

The Red Bridge Annual Meeting was held from 7:00 PM-9:00 PM at Red Bridge Elementary. Approximately 50 people were in attendance. President Mike Bremson welcomed everyone and introduced current board members.

Sgt. Hudson from KCMO Police South Patrol gave a report on our crime statistics. Crime is actually down in the Red Bridge area, with the most common crime being gas station drive-offs. Next most common crime is theft from vehicles, which generally occurs at night. She gave the following tips to residents:

- If you have a garage, park your car in it. If you must park in the driveway, be sure to remove all valuable items from sight, especially briefcases, computers, purses, etc.
- Be sure to keep your garage doors down and your house locked when you are doing yard work. It is very easy for a burglar to slip into your garage and/or house while you are busy or your back is turned.
- Be vigilant and neighborly! Most burglaries happen during the day, most theft from vehicles happens at night. If you are up late, or at home during the day, and see something that just doesn't seem right, call your neighbors or the police.

There has also been very heavy activity in counterfeit bills recently in the area. It appears that these bills are being passed at local businesses and garage sales in particular. They would also like to question this person in relation to some area burglaries. The police are looking for a suspect described as being a black male, medium build, 6' tall, 180 lbs, driving a later model gray Mitsubishi Gallant. If you see a person of this description driving this car, please call the police so they can check it out.

Barbara Robertson presented the 2003 Annual meeting minutes for discussion and approval. Minutes were approved. Barbara also gave an update on the neighborhood directory. Information forms for the directory will be mailed with the annual dues statement on December 1st.

Sally Ryan, Joe Hamilton and Barbara Robertson were all re-elected to a 3 year term on the board. Mike called for nominations or volunteers to join the board; there were none.

Joe Hamilton gave an update on Markers and Islands over the past 2 years, and plans for 2005. Prior to 2003, Islands were in poor repair, with overgrown shrubs, broken statues, and heavily weeded. In 2003 & 2004, overgrown shrubs and trees have been trimmed back or removed, 2 major islands were re-landscaped, vandalized statues reset, flowers planted in markers (perennial program started in 2004), major repair and weather sealant was applied to markers, reseeding of damaged areas, contracted for improved mowing and fertilization programs for islands, and excessive tree overhang trimming has been completed in many areas. Plans for 2005 include finishing the tree program, more perennial plantings, changing flower seed mixes for 3-season blooming, full assessment, cleaning and repair of statues, repair island borders, landscape at least 2 more islands, and seek help from the City on drainage ditch repair. Joe noted that the City had been contacted several times about trimming excessive tree overhang in the easements to no avail. He also asked residents to let him know if they see a marker or island in need of extra attention.

Sally Ryan gave the treasurer's report, showing the 2004 budget and 10 months actual expenses (Red Bridge's fiscal year is December 1-November 30). She noted that the budget called for a net loss of \$10,367 (from reserves), and Red Bridge will most likely do better than that this year. Primary reasons include no snow plowing last winter (the city did our residential streets, although this has not been reliable in the past), and less cost on island maintenance than expected (thank you Joe for getting us discounted prices). Sally reported that the board of directors had discussed raising dues to \$50 per year. Finishing the Islands and Markers projects, as well as the need to redesign and replace the markers in the next few years due to age, as well as increasing costs make it prudent to augment and keep our reserves strong for anticipated expenses in the next few years. There was discussion of the issue, both for, against, and a compromise raise. Motion was made on the floor to raise the dues to \$50 per year, seconded, passed by those in attendance, 27 yes, 16 no.

Mike Bremson gave the community updates: The maintenance provided gated community geared to those age 55 and up to be located in the empty acreage next to Burger King is still in process. These homes will be in the \$200,000-\$250,000 range. The plans for replacing Red Bridge are still in the works, and still on the drawing board. The goal is to have a current bridge that takes into account traffic, the neighborhood and the railroad while keeping with the historical aspects of this landmark. The vet currently residing in the Red Bridge Shopping Center will be moving to the old Kentucky Fried Chicken building. Red Bridge Kennels will stay where they are. McDonalds is building where the old Pizza Hut used to be, and there are several new tenants and potential tenant activity in the shopping center itself. Mike also gave an update on the marker at 115th and Wornall that was severely damaged in an auto accident. The driver's insurance is paying for the repair, work scheduled to start as soon as the weather allows. The ownership of the burned house at McGee & Oak seems to have been resolved, and hopefully some kind of work will be started soon.

Many door prizes were handed out—special thanks to Lipari's Sun Fresh, Ace Hardware and Red Bridge Theatres for supporting our neighborhood association.

Sharron Hill gave an update on several community issues, including 3 houses being built at 109th and Holmes (the builder has had problems in the past, when contacted about the construction waste dumping, the owner said he would either remove or go to the Board of Zoning Adjustment (BZA) for a variance to bury the waste on site), and the new McDonalds wanting to decrease parking spaces and put in a double drive-thru window. She also suggested several ways to get more involved in the community, including attending BZA and Center Planning meetings.

There was also lively discussion on the board's role, attendance records at board meetings, the deed of restrictions and by laws, boats on driveways, rented houses, etc.. There were several suggestions of additional things the board should do, including updating the deed of restrictions, setting up an electronic bulletin board (tried several times in the past, with little or no interest), more communication and newsletters, more neighborhood meetings than a single annual meeting.

With renewed interest in the board and getting involved in the neighborhood, Mike again called for volunteers to join the board. Rob Nelson, Sharron Hill and Roger Fisher all volunteered, and were approved by those still in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM