

8-6-09 Minutes of the Rental Housing committee meeting

The July minutes were reviewed and, if needed, modifications were made for the NANA website.

Follow up will be done with the neighborhood police officer on these issues:

1. 3901 Reading Road - need contact information on the owner. Letters to the addresses on the Auditor's Page were returned unopened.
2. Downtown Properties requested information on the peddler whose operation has been stopped on Burton Ave.
3. 3850 Reading Road - The apprehension of a suspect was observed there on July 24th. A CPD car and officer came. What information can we get and what are the rules about these incidents? How is the neighborhood notified when a suspect is apprehended? What if other agencies are involved? Shouldn't neighbors be told after this happens? Sometimes these people are released soon afterward. Isn't this a safety issue?

Responses to the letters sent to Dana owners:

One landlord sent an email address. We appreciate that.

One owner listed issues as he sees them and has not been disturbed by the problems on Dana that were identified in the letter.

One owner has experienced the street lights on Dana as going on and off for a minute or two at night. He believes this is for cost savings and is concerned about safety.

Another owner who does not live in the neighborhood feels that only people who live on Dana should care about that street. He said that when he was rehabbing his building people who did not live on the street complained to building inspectors and he was fined.

THE COMMITTEE SEES MUCH NEED FOR EDUCATION OF THE COMMUNITY REGARDING RENTAL HOUSING. Everyone who lives in the neighborhood is impacted by their neighbors' behavior and how they maintain the property they are responsible for. That is the reason violations get reported.

Rental housing is a business for whoever owns the property and the law defines responsibilities of both Landlords and Tenants. Landlords can be our friends or family, people we meet at social events, or us.

Tenants are our neighbors or us. Whether they pay all their rent or it is subsidized the landlord must do the checks necessary to evaluate them as a potential tenant. The eviction process must be used when indicated. The law also spells out tenant responsibilities.

To have the quality of life deserved by all residents of the neighborhood, we all need to pay attention. Rental housing will be an increasing part of our neighborhood in the present economy. Saying, "No, No, No" will do nothing.

These fliers were passed out to student houses on Dana:

"What Were You Thinking?"

Did You Know?