

FRONTIER

SUMMER 2017 NEWSLETTER

ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

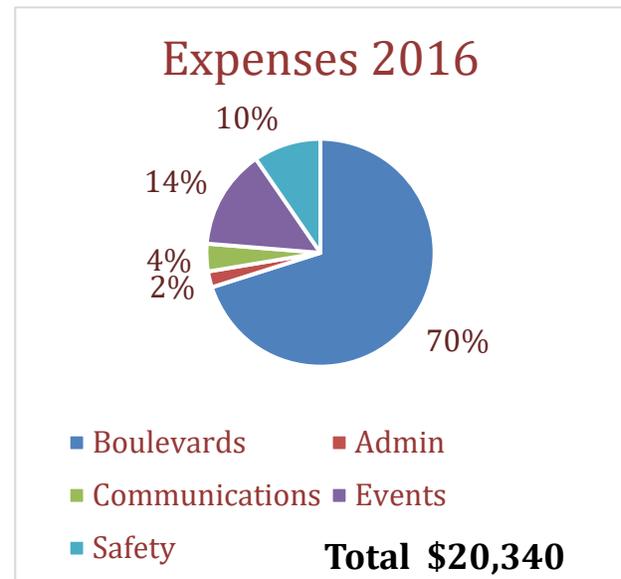
The Frontier Improvement Association annual meeting took place on May 10 at 7 p.m. at the LEAF building, and attendance was very light. We reviewed the association’s financial status and progress on initiatives for the year. Below are summaries of the material presented at the meeting.

Association Dues and Additional Contributions

2017	
Dues Paid	\$9,195
Additional contributions	\$1,005
Directory ads	\$0
Events	\$1,352
Grants	\$0
Total	\$11,552

2016	
Dues Paid	\$8,445
Additional contributions	\$1,970
Directory ads	\$3,040
Events	\$1,200
Grants	\$0
Total	\$14,655

Association Expenses



Projects/Activities Completed

- Boulevard spring and fall cleanup
- Boulevard makeovers on Monaca, Frontier, and Cherokee streets
- 17 trees planted
- Trimming of boulevard end cap bushes on 6th for visibility and safety
- Association website redesigned
- Neighborhood concrete replacement project
- Repair of 8th street entry signage
- Entry signage flower plantings

Thanks to all of the board members, contributors, and other volunteers who were part of getting these projects done. We couldn't have completed them without the additional funding contributions or the extra helping hands. Thanks also to all of the households that participated in the annual Day of Caring boulevard cleanup event. Unfortunately, we did not receive Sea Wolves tickets to pass out this year, but greatly appreciate the efforts of many households in clearing leaves and branches from the boulevards.

Open Discussion / Issues

During the open discussion part of the annual meeting several issues were discussed. The first issue was regarding several complaints that were received from association members concerning the increasing use of Nextdoor for communications beyond its original purpose, and the increase in messages from other neighborhoods. Although the board has published rules of accepted use for Nextdoor and procedures on how to filter out unwanted communications, the need for some training was expressed. As a result, we have coordinated with LEAF to schedule an initial free training session at the LEAF building on **how to use and set up Nextdoor** on **August 10 at 6:15 p.m.** There is a concert at the LEAF Amphitheatre at 7 p.m. on the same day, so those who attend the training will have the option to remain at the LEAF for the concert.

The second issue that came up for discussion was the ongoing condition of the boulevard lawns and end caps. The current annual dues rate does not support ongoing maintenance for the boulevard grass or end caps (such as mulching, fertilizing and spraying for weeds) - only spring and fall cleanups of the end caps and plant beddings. The board has been addressing a portion of the boulevard condition issues with the makeovers and through the efforts of the garden club and neighbors who periodically tend to the end caps. Unfortunately, this is not sufficient to keep the boulevards presentable throughout the year.

We estimate that an additional \$25 per household added to the annual \$50 dues will cover ongoing maintenance of the boulevards including upkeep of the trees, grass and endcaps (the city would continue to mow the grass). As an alternate option, we estimate that an additional \$5 per household will cover ongoing maintenance of the end caps throughout the year. The board would like to see if there is general support for one of these options among members. A poll will be circulated via Nextdoor in July to see if there is widespread support for this. If the poll results show substantial positive support, then the measure will be put forth for a vote at the next annual association meeting in 2018. Watch for the Nextdoor poll message in July and vote according to your preference.

Given the light attendance at this year's annual meeting and the associated lack of sufficient numbers of required approvals for the slate of directors, the board sent a poll message through Nextdoor to collect additional approvals. Although this method worked, it just barely worked so the board has been discussing ways to increase participation at annual meetings. Adequate participation levels are important for voting activities such as approval of the annual slate of directors or changes to the by-laws. Starting next year, we will combine the annual association meeting and winter social events, and hold both at the Erie Yacht Club sometime in March. The annual meeting

will precede the annual social so that attendees of the meeting can have the option of staying for the social.

Board of Directors Approved

The new slate of directors for 2017/2018 was officially approved and officers were appointed by the board.

Jeff Stempora – President
Robin Mascharka – Vice President
Christina Katen – Treasurer
Joy Stempora – Boulevards
Bill Fox – Website
Mike Wyrosdick – Advisor
Bryan Spry – Advisor

Joe Schember, who was on the original approved slate of directors, will no longer be able to serve on the board so we are looking for a few more board members. Please private message Jeff Stempora on Nextdoor or call 454-3242 if you are interested in serving on the board.

In addition to the directors, there are a number of other people that assist in many ways throughout the year to accomplish the tasks of the association.

Emails	Aimee Nicolia
Directory	Debbie Gross
Welcoming/Hospitality Committee	Carla Muller, Christina Katen, Faye Markovich, Becky Weiser
Block Captains	Tom Necastro, Cindi Heasley, Dave Glennon, Becky Weiser, Donna DeMarco, Carla Muller, Mary Bahn, Dale Robinson, Susan Kanonczyk, Christine Pardini, Becky Humphrey, Aimee Nicolia, Pam Davis

We would like to thank these people and the others that assist on an ad hoc basis for volunteering their time and effort toward maintaining the activities of the association.

ASSOCIATION PROJECT UPDATES

The finalized list of projects for 2017 have been approved by the board and includes:

- Spring and fall boulevard end cap cleanups
- Boulevard makeovers for Shawnee, Seminole, Mohawk, and S Shore
- Planting of 5 missing boulevard trees
- Replacement of 2 dead boulevard trees

Once again, the city will be contributing a few of the trees needed for the boulevard plantings this year so we will be able to save a little money on that effort. Additionally, due to the generosity of Joe Hilbert in picking up the cost for boulevard maintenance on Frontier Drive, we will save money on that effort as well. Combined, these savings and additional contributions for boulevard maintenance allow us to add S Shore Drive to the makeover project for this year versus waiting until 2018.

Spring cleanup got off to a late start this year and will begin in a few weeks along with the boulevard makeovers. Tree plantings will be performed in the fall sometime around Labor Day.

ANNUAL FRONTIER DAYS PICNIC

The annual Frontier Days picnic is scheduled for **July 9 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.** This is a great day to come out, enjoy the weather, have some fun, and meet your neighbors, especially if you are new to

the neighborhood. This year we are trying something new and are holding the picnic at the LEAF building in Frontier Park which has the advantage of cover in the event of rain and the playground for kid's activities. Furthermore, if the new venue works out well, we can think about resuming the inter-street sports competitions. The winner's trophy hasn't seen any action for a few years, and it would be great to add a few more winner's labels to it.

Families with last names beginning with A-G should bring a covered dish to share. Families with last names beginning with H-Z should bring a snack, appetizer or dessert to share. Please bring your own place settings, beverages and lawn chairs. House guests are welcome.



ASSOCIATION REMINDERS

Summer Safety Reminders

With summer (and nice weather) fast approaching, it is appropriate to be reminded of ways we can keep our neighborhood safe and secure.

1. Turn lights on! At least one light in the front and one light in the back of your house is recommended.
2. Check to make sure your car doors are locked every night!
3. Close and lock the doors and windows in your home:
 - a. At least the first floor every night.
 - b. Whenever you are not home.
 - c. Lock your front door / close your garage door when you are working in the back yard.
4. Use the www.nextdoor.com website to alert neighbors in REAL TIME, of any suspicious activity you see.
 - a. You can also call the Erie Police non-emergency line at 870-1125.
 - b. Of course, call 911, if you see a burglary in progress, or something similar.
5. Clean debris away from storm sewers near your homes. This will allow rainwater to drain appropriately, instead of pooling in our intersections. (Help a neighbor in need)
6. Trim low hanging branches from trees in front of your home. This will allow more light to shine on our sidewalks.
7. Don't post your vacation or other home vacancy information on social websites.
8. Mind the speed limit while driving in the neighborhood.
9. Keep dogs on a leash when walking them.

UPCOMING EVENTS

7/9 - Frontier Days Annual Picnic 2 p.m. - 5 p.m. at LEAF Building
8/10 - NextDoor Training 6:15 p.m. at the LEAF Building - free admission