



# Eppilog

SEPTEMBER 2008

The Official Newsletter of Edgemere Park Preservation, Inc.

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**Happenings in the 'Hood**

by Jann Hook, [president@edgemerepark.org](mailto:president@edgemerepark.org)

Lots of great things happening this month and much good news to report!

**Grant Awarded for Trees and Landscape** – We have just received news about the grant application submitted to the Oklahoma City Community Foundation in July for replacement trees in the park and plant materials for the 36<sup>th</sup> Street entrance project. In one of the largest Margaret Annis Boys Trust grants ever awarded, EPPI will receive \$15,000 to assist with these two projects. This is all part of the “big picture” for neighborhood improvements, which you can see at Oktoberfest! Keep reading!

**Strategic Plan** -- After many meetings and several revisions, the EPPI Board of Trustees adopted the plan at their meeting on September 8. While there were many ideas both short and long-term on ways to improve the neighborhood, the top priority items are tree replacement in the park, decorative street lighting, and increasing the balance of our endowment fund. The Resource Development Committee is already developing a funding plan that incorporates working on multiple goals concurrently. This will be a phased plan allowing us to make progress on several long-term goals. A summary of the strategic plan will be sent to all residents soon. The full version can be found on our web site at [www.edgemerepark.org](http://www.edgemerepark.org) or call me (524-2226) to get a copy.

**36<sup>th</sup> Street Entrance Landscape Project** – We are closer to reaching agreement with ODOT on the mechanics of receiving the \$40,000 funding. As you might guess, they can't just write us a check. With government, it's more complicated than that, but we are sorting through it. We are still hopeful the project can get underway this fall.

**Oktoberfest** – With the fall weather comes another fabulous Edgemere Park event. This year it will be held at the new

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)

pavilion. You won't want to miss the great brats, beer and entertainment. Also planned for this Oktoberfest will be the unveiling of plans for neighborhood improvements as outlined in the strategic plan. See event details inside.

**36<sup>th</sup> Street Neighborhood Coaliton** – Recent meetings of the Coalition have resulted in the appointment of a negotiating team to represent the neighborhoods in discussions with HREI to obtain a development plan that is compatible with and does not negatively impact the surrounding neighborhoods. Crown Heights representatives are Betsy Brunsteter and Mark Grossman, Edgemere Heights representatives are Suzanne Bockus and George McQuiston, and Sandra Harrison and I will represent Edgemere Park. The CH-EH board and EPPI boards have approved supporting a contract between CH-EH and an attorney for legal representation to support efforts of the negotiating team. Neither board anticipates funding the legal fees from their operating budgets, but rather from donations from individuals realizing the importance of this project and desiring a favorable outcome for the neighborhoods. Donations should be made out to CH-EH Improvement Inc. and are tax deductible. Edgemereite Susan Savage will be heading up this effort for Edgemere Park. If you wish to help or donate, call Susan at 525-7454.

## Help Keep Edgemere Park Safe!

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**Join us for delicious brats, snacks, desserts, and REAL Oktoberfest beer donated by TapWerks!**

**Edgemere Park will also use this opportunity to kick off its Neighborhood Improvement Campaign!**

**You asked for it...**

**Lights, Trees & the 36th Street Entrance.**

**Come See Our Future Plans and Catch the Vision!**

**Don't miss this exciting annual gathering of our neighborhood!**

**When: Sunday, October 5 from 5-7pm**

**Where: Edgemere Park Pavilion**

**Bring: Even-numbered homes bring a side dish**

**Odd-numbered homes bring a dessert**

**Entertainment by accordionist Dick Albreski!!**

**Don't miss the fun this year!  
To help with set-up or tear-down, call  
Lindsey 206-9575**



## EDGEMERE PARK PRESERVATION, INC.

Board of Trustees Meeting Notes

September 8, 2008, 6:30PM

Iron Starr Urban Barbeque

- I. **Welcome and Introductions.** The meeting was called to order by President Jann Hook at 6:35 PM. Attending: Richard Harrison, Sandra Harrison, Allen Brown, John Doddy, Mary Surbeck, Linda Clement, Denise Waters, Jann Hook, Elizabeth Bullen, Lydia Arguello, Joseph Arguello, Bernest Cain, Lindsay Neal, Jenifer Cawley, Rita Benischek, Cindy Garrett, Mark Clopton, Nancy Stalcup, Randy Stalcup, Randy Johnson, Linda Clement and Lindsey Pever and guest Dennis Gentry.
- II. **36<sup>th</sup> Street Neighborhood Coalition.** Clopton, Hook and S. Harrison presented information from a September meeting. Discussion centered on reconsideration by trustees of obtaining legal representation to support negotiation efforts surrounding the proposed development at the NW corner of 36<sup>th</sup> St and I-235. The trustees will be kept current on issues of the coalition.

Motion (A Brown, seconded by R Harrison) moved and approved unanimously after lengthy discussion:

The trustees of EPPI will continue to support the efforts of the 36th St Neighborhood Coalition concerning the proposed development located at the NW corner 36th St and I-235 in the following manner:

- 1) Support two EPPI trustees in spirit as two members of a negotiating team composed of six resident negotiators, two each from CH, EH and EP (Edgemere Park). EP to be represented by J Hook and S Harrison.
- 2) Support CH-EH entering into a contract with Scott Spradling, Esq. of Spradling, Kennedy & McPhail as legal representative for and under the direction of the 36th St Coalition and,
- 3) To lend EPPI name in support of fund raising although EPPI, as a separate organization, is not committed financially. Donations would be made directly to CH-EH.

- III. **Strategic Plan.** Hook presented the updated version with more realistic target dates for the plan elements. L Arguello suggested that a "% Completion" be added to each task and was accepted. S. Harrison recommended that in Objective 2.3, the creek restoration be set for Spring 2009 and be coordinated (dates moved forward) with Humphreys' request to the Corps of Engineers to straighten the creek north of 36<sup>th</sup> Street. Motion carried and plan was accepted.
- IV. **Capital Campaign Plan.**
  - A. Waters and Hook presented streetlight options available through the City and OG&E. Although the lamps are not of the historic significance of the private lighting campaign that EPPI undertook in the 1990s, there are benefits to choosing an OG&E plan. EPPI would have to pay an upgrade cost for each light, but installation, maintenance and electrical power costs would not be borne by the residents or EPPI. The streetlight project is proposed in four phases. Brown advised that 80 ft spacing might provide excess candlepower and should consider approximate 150 ft spacing. A lighting study is underway. Trustees present unanimously approved the direction of the project.
  - B. Waters and Hook provided the financials for the EPPI Capital Development Campaign. Several top priority projects will be grouped and fundraising will take place in phases with goals being met in each phase. These objectives will be met by corporate and individual gifts, fundraising events and grants from tax-exempt organizations. Bullen suggested that residents be permitted to designate a specific project (trees, lighting, etc.) for their donations. Trustees agreed. The Capital Development Campaign was passed unanimously by the trustees as presented by Waters and Hook.
- V. **Committee Reports.**
  - A. **Communications.** L Arguello stated that newsletters were mailed and the EPPI website updated. News items are due by the Friday following each trustees meeting. All submissions should go to Hook for accuracy checks.

- B. **Edgemere School.** Clopton stated that resident Kelly Pearson started an Edgemere Elementary School Project separate from EPPI's efforts. Individuals who wish to help with the school's equipment and other needs should contact Kelly directly for information. Dennis Gentry, Edgemere principal, attended the trustees meeting and handed out a wish list prepared by the teachers. He indicated individuals are welcome to meet with him and the MAPS contractor each Thursday at 2:00 PM at the school. N Stalcup, an Edgemere teacher, indicated some additional needs of the students and teachers. Cain asked how Edgemere might become a "magnet school" which might incorporate or encourage a more stable student enrollment. The trustees are appreciative of Principal Gentry attending the meeting.
  - C. **Historic Preservation.** S Harrison stated no meeting was held in August. Next meeting is scheduled for Sept 28, 2008, 6PM at the Harrison home.
  - D. **Park and Public Improvements.** Surbeck stated that rains helped with our tree watering project in the park although if a drought occurs in the winter, the trees will require watering by residents. We will wait on the creek restoration project until we are apprised of information from the 36<sup>th</sup> Street Neighborhood Coalition about re-routing of the water flow. Residents are responsible for weeding the flower beds. Volunteers are welcome. Discussion concluded with concerns about bindweed in the cannas and use of a pre-emergent for weed seeds.
  - E. **Public Relations.** Garrett needs volunteers to gather and deliver items to new residents. She has developed a list of new residents over the past year.
  - F. **Resource Development.** Five donations to the endowment fund totaling \$1,000 have been received to date toward the \$5,000 goal.
  - G. **Security.** Clopton apprised the trustees that the security members are in favor of the rate increase. Small yard signs will be distributed to members and Robert Lee will have a dedicated cell phone for security members use.
  - H. **Social.** Pever reviewed her list of helpers for Oktoberfest. Entertainment and drinks are provided. Each family attending should bring a covered dish (pot-luck), The brauts will be made by the Naumann family, our residents. Pever needs residents to provide grills and the cooks to provide the labor. Oktoberfest is October 5, 5-7 PM in the park by the pavilion.
- VI. **Approval of Minutes.** Unanimously approved for August 2008.
- VII. **Treasurer's Report.** Hook for J Jungman. The funds from OCCF's "Get Moving OKC" walking program were used for the plants at the pavilion in the park. Jungman paid the balance of the landscape design fee for the entrance project at NW 36<sup>th</sup> and Robinson. Income Statement, Aug 2008, Balance Sheet and Budget vs. Actual as of August 31, 2008 were accepted unanimously.
- VIII. **President's Report.** The annual report of the OKC Community Foundation will highlight Edgemere Park Preservation, Inc. as an organization growing its endowment fund. *Oklahoma Today* included a photo of the Edgemere Park cannas.
- IX. **New business.** Deferred.
- X. **Next meeting.** October 13, 2008, 6:30PM, Iron Starr
- XI. **Adjourned** at 8:40 PM by Hook.

Submitted,

Rita Benischek  
Secretary

## Get to Know Your Neighbor



Lydia and Joseph Arguello were married in June of 2006 and bought their first home together in Edgemere Park in November of 2007. They reside at 416 W Hill Street. Lydia is a Project Architect specializing in healthcare facilities with REES Associates, Inc. in Oklahoma City and Joseph is a Technical Consultant with LSG Solutions, LLC in Edmond.

Lydia and Joseph enjoy playing indoor soccer one or twice weekly at HatTrick, travelling when they have time and contributing to the community. They are currently serving on OVAC's 12 x 12 Art Show Steering Committee and volunteer annually for the American Institute of Architects Architecture Tour. Joseph and Lydia have one dog, Sydney, a 4-year-old hound-shepherd mix.

Lydia is a 2003 graduate of the University of Oklahoma. She enjoys spending time with family & friends, almost any outdoor activity, and escaping on long weekends to the Ouichita National Park in SE Oklahoma to visit her 90-year-old Grandmother. Joseph is a 1996 graduate of Oklahoma State University. Joseph also enjoys spending time with family and friends as well as watching and playing sports. You may see him running around Edgemere Park as he is training for the 1st Annual San Antonio Half-Marathon in November.

Lydia and Joseph have recently assumed the position of Edgemere Park's Communnunication Committee Co-chairs responsible for the newsletter & website, and are excited about being a part of the Eppilog legacy!

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## The Duckmasters of Edgemere

### September, 2008 Yard of the Month

Committed Edgemerite, Jay Martin, bought the gray house at the corner of 34<sup>th</sup> and Hudson, rented it to a friend and moved into a home across the park. However, eighteen months ago Jay married Lisa; and the couple moved into the gray house at 401 N.W. 34<sup>th</sup>. The sparse landscaping provided a canvas for the couple's creativity.

Jay combines an interest in plants with engineering skill to create and manage their landscaping. One unique creation delights everyone that knocks on the front door. Jay built a planter of French drain tubing for plants and irrigation. Petunias, impatiens and ferns grow around the arched doorway, greeting visitors to the house.

At the corner of Hudson and 34<sup>th</sup>, a huge water oak reaches for the sky. Lisa and Jay worked hard to save the tree from disaster during the December ice storm. Because water oaks don't lose their leaves in the winter, the Martin's oak became dangerously heavy with ice. Jay cut off the top limbs which modified the tree's reach, but ultimately saved it.

Jay and Lisa have also showered the flower beds with affection. The front bed next to the porch displays hydrangeas and ground cover. Marigolds, purple salvia, and lamb's ear surround a privet and a dedora cedar in front of a trio of arched windows. A raised bed along the property line features three crepe myrtles, nestled into phlox, which explodes into mounds of lavender in the spring. At the end, a weeping bumblertub winds upward through marigolds. The side yard facing the park is a spectacular fusion of colors, shapes and textures. Azaleas bloom near the house (during azalea-blooming time, of course!). Elephant ears and cannas guard a privet hedge between the windows. An "Invention by Jay" keeps the sweet potato vines in the window boxes hydrated during dry spells. Deodora cedars play starring roles, supported by lantana, hostas nandinas, oak leaf hydrangeas, and black-eyed susans. In the courtyard around back are more hydrandreas and inpatiens. I think if you asked Lisa and Jay to vote on their favorite plant, they would elect their live Christmas tree that they planted following the holiday as best of show.



About a year after they married, this energetic and fun couple decided to start their family. Jay and Lisa adopted two babies-ducklings, that is. "Nibbletts" and "Ming-Ling" experienced rapid growth in their new environment, delighting their parents with their ducky antics. To relax, M & N swim in the fountain in the courtyard. To dine, they march across the street, accompanied by the doting parents, for dinner at the creek. Lisa reports that they prefer organic field greens. In the evening, M & N retire to their secure quarters. Although Jay asserts that M & N are pets on par with dogs, he admits that any housebreaking is unlikely.

# Edgemere Park Events

**Sunday, September 28**  
HP Committee Meeting  
Sandra & Richard Harrison's  
3600 North Harvey Pkwy  
6:00 pm

**Sunday, October 5**  
Oktoberfest!  
Edgemere Park  
5:00 pm

**Tuesday, October 7**  
Edgemere Elementary Night  
Irma's Burger Shack  
1035 NW 63rd Street  
**10% of proceeds go to Edgemere  
Elementary PTA**

**Monday, October 13**  
EPPI Board Meeting  
Iron Starr Urban Barbecue  
6:30 pm

**Sunday, October 26**  
HP Committee Meeting  
Sandra & Richard Harrison's  
3600 North Harvey Pkwy  
6:00 pm

**Monday, November 10**  
EPPI Board Meeting  
Iron Starr Urban Barbecue  
6:30 pm

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EPPILOG  
is published monthly by  
Edgemere Park Preservation, Inc.

Submit materials to  
Richard Harrison  
([eppilog@edgemerepark.org](mailto:eppilog@edgemerepark.org))

Vol. 0808