

**WARD PARKWAY HOMES ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

OCT. 9, 2012

At Ward Parkway Presbyterian Church, 74th St. and Ward Parkway

Present among board members were President Frank Haar, secretary Jon Rand, Laura Lavallee, and Carol Gould.

Sixteen residents also attended.

Mr. Haar called the annual meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Haar presented a slate of board members for 2012-2013: Frank Haar, Gaye Tillotson, Alison Baker, Maureen Hardy, Jon Rand, Mike Allmon, Laura Lavallee, Dennis Young and Carol Gould.

Fur Finley from Google fiber made a presentation. He said Google Fiber is 100 times faster than most Americans use. He said the average download speed in Kansas City is 5.8 megabits per second and Google Fiber speed is 1,000 megabits per second.

He confirmed that installation in the WPHA area will start in summer 2013. He reviewed the three packages, including the Internet and TV option, their fees and the hardware that is included. He also explained the installation process outside and inside the home.

Mr. Finley answered questions about the plans and installation.

Sarah Darmetzel gave a presentation on behalf of the Friends of Hale Cook, who are trying to reopen Hale Cook School at 73rd St., between Jefferson and Pennsylvania, as a primary neighborhood school. She related the group's efforts since 2009.

She said the group already has received 530 responses to a feasibility survey. The Friends' goal is to reopen the school by fall, pending discussions with the Kansas City, Mo. School District.

Ms. Darmetzel also said her group would welcome letters of support from residents and businesses, and that she appreciated a letter of support written by Mr. Haar on behalf of the WPHA. She also encouraged Hale Cook alumni to get involved.

She also reported receipt of a partnership grant to beautify the school grounds.

She said she expected the work to fix up the school building would be mainly aesthetic and would not be prohibitively expensive.

She was asked about the possibility of restoring lighting on school grounds.

Detective Brent Parsons explained how the private security patrol employed by WPHA works. Members pay \$50 a year for two four-hour security shifts each week.

Detective Parsons encouraged more house lights for security after dark. He encouraged making homes less obvious targets for burglars by trimming shrubs around windows, among other measures. He said his officers are available to stop by homes and suggest security tips.

He encouraged people to call 911, even if a complaint doesn't seem like an emergency. He stressed that the 911 system cannot be abused by non-emergency calls because it operates on a priority basis.

He addressed the loose-dog issue. He said that if residents see a loose dog, they should call 311 for Animal Control. He said that police do not take loose-dog calls unless a dog is threatening or attacking people.

Detective Parsons also told members who also pay security dues to contact the WPHA Board arrange for extra vigilance for their homes when they are away on vacation. He said incidence of crime is decreasing inside WPHA boundaries, and three people suspected of multiple car thefts have been apprehended.

Second sub-district School board candidate Gunnar Hand addressed the meeting. He said he wanted to bring the neighborhood back into the school system. He

said only way to focus on achievement is for everyone to have a stake in the schools. He asked for residents' support and vote.

Stephen Himes, also a candidate, teaches at St. Theresa's. He was a law student at the University of Kansas and has trial and cross-examination skills that he expects will come in handy on the School Board. He also received a graduate degree at Missouri and said he has trained to understand how school accreditation processes work. He is currently involved in accreditation reviews at St. Theresa's.

Mr. Haar adjourned the meeting at 8:15.