

May 1, 1978

COMMUNITY EVENTS

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING,
Wednesday, May 3rd, 8:00 p.m., in the
school library.

COMMUNITY GARDENS MEETING, Wednesday,
May 3rd, 7:30 p.m., in the school
library.

FOLK DANCING FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY,
Tuesday, May 16th, 7:00-9:00 p.m.,
in the gym. 75¢ per person.

AGASSIZ COOPERATIVE KINDERGARTEN
MEETING, Tuesday, May 16th, 8:00
p.m. See Liz Lawrence re location.

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

Minutes from the April 5th Meeting-

1. Norton's Woods - Robert Campbell, architect for the American Academy of Arts and Sciences spoke to the Council about their proposed plans for Norton's Woods. The Academy has now chosen Norton's Woods as its preferred site over sites at U. Mass, Tufts, and the Lechmere Canal.

The activities of the Academy at the site will consist primarily of small meetings, according to Mr. Campbell. There will occasionally be meetings of the entire membership. The area of the proposed building is 38,000 square feet, which is about half of the two acre site which the Academy will occupy.

The remaining three acres would be left open to the community as park land for "passive recreation." It could also be used by the Agassiz summer camp program as it has been in the past. An entrance would be placed on the Beacon Street side to open the area to Somerville residents. The entire park area will

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS (Cont'd)

be fenced and locked up at night. The Academy will have its own guard to patrol the property at night.

Questions were raised about the Academy's commitment to maintaining the open space. Harvard is not willing to give any written commitment to keep the space open, but the Academy says that it is morally committed to keeping the space open. Some people questioned Harvard's past performance on "moral commitments."

Campbell pointed out that the Academy will require a use variance from the Zoning Board of Appeals, and that such a commitment could be made a condition of the grant of that variance. It was apparent though that there were still problems with getting a firm commitment for the preservation of the open space.

Mr. Campbell also said that the Academy was also willing to have a community advisory group which would have some input into the planning process. This group will contain at least one resident of the Agassiz neighborhood and representatives from Shady Hill and Somerville.

2. Police Task Force - Alan Korb suggested that we try to implement a "neighborhood watch" program to cut down on crime in the neighborhood. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next Council meeting.

Agenda for the May 3rd Meeting:
(1) Lieutenant Feeley from Newton Police Department will present information on "operation housewatch."

COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS (Cont'd)

- (2) Planning for Nortons Woods Summer day camp.
- (3) Discussion of Parent's Group at Sanctuary.
- (4) Mellon St. Down Zoning effort.

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

NORTONS WOODS - We will be finalizing plans for this summer's program at the May 3rd Council meeting. All parents wishing to help with the hiring of camp staff should speak with Ken Basler or Julie Snow immediately (876-9268). We hope to have all staff people hired by June 1st, and we need parent participation to make this process most effective. Thanks.

FAMILY FOLK DANCING - This has turned into a great monthly event! Join us in the school gym on Tuesday, May 16th at 7:00 P.M. Bring friends and family! (And 75¢ per person). See you there!

SPRING MUSICIANSHIP CLASS

Martha Rogers and Cindy Cohen will be offering a second series of classes in music and movement after school on Tuesdays, starting April 25 at Sanctuary. The first series in the winter dealt with several basic musical elements, including: beat, tempo, texture, dynamics, pitch, use of space and form. Children learned songs, dances, games, participated in stories and movement exercises, and generally had fun with music.

The spring series will continue to develop these areas, and when possible, will take advantage of sunny days to hold activities outside. The classes will go for eight weeks through June 13, and the tuition will be \$32.00. Tuition is

SPRING MUSICIANSHIP (Cont'd)

negotiable in order not to exclude children who would otherwise want to enroll.

If your child is interested in enrolling or if you have further questions about the class, please feel free to call Martha at 628-9573 or Cindy at 547-5506.

COMMUNITY GARDEN NEWS

On April 5th, we held an organizational meeting for the Sacramento Street gardens. The turnout was high and many people expressed interest in improving the gardens this year. The following items were discussed.

- 1) It was agreed that each gardener would make an annual contribution of one dollar for upkeep. If you haven't done so already, this money can be given to Julie Snow or Ken Basler of the Community Schools.
- 2) Plans were made to construct a bulletin board and a compost bin. It was also agreed to purchase a couple of trash cans.
- 3) We may have access to a source of free manure this year. Plans are being made for transporting it to the gardens.
- 4) We may plant flower beds in the grassy area along the street. Any one interested in working on this should speak to Harry Pskowski (491-3919).
- 5) Soil samples have been recently taken from each plot to test for lead content. The results should be known by the time this is published. Although previous tests have shown a lead level within safety limits, the current tests will be much more thorough and complete.
- 6) Free packages of seeds have been made available to Community Garden through Mass. Dept. of Agriculture.

GARDEN NEWS (Cont'd)

If you would like and need seeds drop by the Agassiz School Mon-Fri 2:30-5:30 and ask for Julie Snow.

CAMBRIDGE RIVER FESTIVAL

The Agassiz Community School will be participating in this year's River Festival May 14-20. In addition to special weekday performances after school in the tot-lot such as clowns, Brother Blue, music, etc., the after-school program, grades 4-7 will be building a 15-20' skateboard float and instrument making workshops will be scheduled for all those marching in the parade to the river. If there are any parents interested in working with a group of children on making banners or on any ideas for festival week, get in touch with Ken or Julie at 876-9268. More information will be forthcoming as the schedule is finalized.

COMMUNITY NOTICES

Roomate Needed - in cooperative house in Boxborough - 45 mins West of Cambridge. Need a responsible person for June, July and August to share space with 4 others. We have land, garden and much outside space. Rent is \$130.00 with utilities included. If interested call Annie 1-263-4268.

Apartment Needed - I am looking for a 5-6 room apartment in the Agassiz neighborhood for June 1st or August 1st. Call Julie at 876-9268 afternoons. Thanks.

For Sale: Enlarger - Omega B22. Extra lens' and equipment. \$150.00. Call Ronnie, 492-8658.