



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AGASSIZ NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL



Due to several years of hard work by the committee, and continued support by residents, the Mass. Ave. Rezoning Petition, reported on in the October edition of The Whistler, was accepted by the City Council unanimously, and all the City Councillors voted. The fact that all councillors voted favorably reflects the fact that residents in our neighborhood, as well as Avon Hill and North Cambridge called city councillors and convinced them of the importance of the petition.

This is the first major rezoning of our neighborhood, and it is a victory for residents. We can now turn our attention to petitions that protect specific sites (as the petition supported by Frank Duehay and Mt. Vernon St. residents downzoned parking lots across from Sears that Wasserman intends to develop in the future). The Whistler will keep you posted, and you should contact the neighborhood council if you want further information.

next council meeting . . .

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 12
7:30 Agassiz Community Center

Traffic and Safety on Oxford Street
Porter Square Licensing Wrap Up

Lauren Preston from the Traffic Department will respond to our concerns and recommendations regarding two danger spots in the neighborhood: Oxford St. at Wendell and Oxford St. at Sacramento Sts. City Councillor Alice Wolf has been active on this issue, and will try to attend the meeting. We hope to also have a representative from the Police Department.

*** FINAL LICENSING MEETING ON SEARS SITE 11/6 ***

The Licensing Commission will have a final meeting on the fate of the Sear's site in regard to liquor and cinema licenses in Porter Square. At this meeting, to be held on 11/6 in the North Congregational Church, 1803 Mass. Ave. between 6:30 and 8:30 the commission will hear final public comment and take a final vote on the agreement developed by the Porter Square Advisory Committee appointed by City Manager Healy last spring.

The tentative recommendations were presented to the community at a hearing on October 7 at the North Congregational Church, attended by about 100 people. The points of the recommendations were reported in Cambridge papers, and they have not been significantly changed since their presentation on 10/7, however many points have been firmed up. Changes can be made until the November 6 meeting, when these recommendations will be presented to the licensing commission. (Please contact the neighborhood council for more information)

There is no guarantee, however, that Peter Wasserman/CDIA will accept the agreement.

CAMBRIDGE COUNCIL ON AGING

The council seeks volunteers to serve as visitors to the homebound elderly to chat or take short walks. Meet an interesting new friend who will really value your companionship. The volunteers offer friendship, enrichment, and assistance to older people on a one to one basis. They receive training, supervision, and on-going staff support. Call Sandy at 498-9039.

The Agassiz Gym has available space on Tuesday evenings after six for a YOGA class. If enough people are interested in yoga we can form a class. Please contact Terry DeLancey at 498-9056.



-Council Notes from 10/8 Meeting

** Division Head, Cambridge Department of Human Services, Eileen Keegan, was a guest at our meeting. She described her various current projects which include council and staff training, and City wide facilitation of school building use by the community.

** Hayat Imam spoke and was joined by George Potter, residents of 89 Hammond St. They had come to request that the council help support efforts to plant a tree at the site of an old, large tree which was lost on Hammond Street during hurricane Gloria last fall.

The Agassiz Neighborhood Council has purchased trees for the neighborhood every year for the past 5 years, and it was voted to place this year's tree at the Hammond Street site. It will be planted this spring.

Last year the council purchased one tree which was placed on Sacramento Street near Oxford, and shared the cost of a second tree for Gorham Street with a resident.

Trees are purchased through the Cambridge Committee on Planting. Most trees cost \$110, and this includes spring planting by the City of Cambridge. Trees must be ordered now. For more information, call City Hall at 498-9000, and ask for the Committee on Planting.

** It was agreed to reactivate our committee to review the continuing problem of safety on Oxford Street, and to pick up from last spring. The traffic committee was eclipsed by the Porter Square issue which was seen as a greater safety threat to the neighborhood. Since then at least two children have been taken away by ambulance from Oxford St. near the tot lot, and there have been a variety of traffic accidents on the corner of Oxford and Wendell.

** Faye LeCompte advised the council that Newport Road residents who rent parking spaces behind the buildings on Frost Street were informed that they would be without parking while the owners built on the site, but that the parking would be replaced at a later date.

She was unable to reach the Inspectional Services (previously Building) Department by phone, so she went down to City Hall in person to learn the status of the building permit. She was told the permit had not yet been issued. Faye asked that the neighborhood council look into the matter, and the council agreed to act immediately. (see following article)

***** FROST STREET BUILDING PERMIT REVOKED DUE TO ZONING PROBLEMS *****

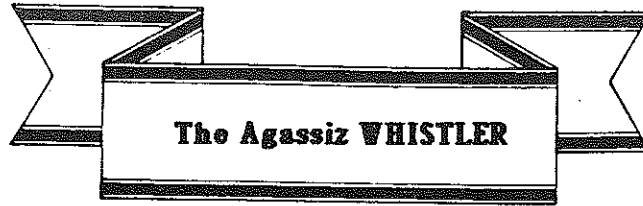
The Neighborhood Council looked into the status of a building permit for 7-17 Frost Street. Residents of Newport Road were concerned because this site had been established as accessory parking for Newport Road. They had already fought against loss of parking spaces on that site, and they had won on the basis of a unanimous decision by the Board of Zoning Appeals in 1983 which did not allow reduction of accessory parking as requested in a special permit by the owner, Stephen Robb.

Faye LeCompte had seen Inspectional Services on October 8, and she presented the documentation from 1983 to them. She was told a permit had not yet been issued. That evening she explained this to the neighborhood council, who agreed to look into the matter.

Upon further investigation, it was found that a permit to build 5 wood frame houses at 7 Frost Street had already been issued. However, in a letter to Frost Associates dated 10/15/86, Ranjit Singanayagam, Zoning Specialist for Inspectional Services revoked the permit on the basis of the 1983 Board of Zoning Appeals decision.

On October 20 Councillor Alice Wolf introduced a order which was adopted by City Council that the City Manager take steps to prevent violation of the zoning code regarding parking for Newport Road at 7-17 Frost St.

Meanwhile, several residents of Frost Street, Newport Road and the Agassiz Neighborhood Council have been meeting with the new owner of 7-17 Frost Street to see if an agreement can be made.



JOBS***

Lesley College has extended a Special Invitation to the Agassiz Community to apply for a variety of both full and part time jobs at the college. Examples of jobs include Administrative Assistants, Secretaries, Receptionists, Administrative Staff, and temporary personnel pool.

For more information, call 868-9600 x210 or stop by the personnel office at 37 Mellen St

***** Lesley College Winter Bazaar**

Lesley College is pleased to announce that it will be sponsoring a Winter Bazaar on Friday, December 5 from 11 AM to 7 PM in the Raizes Center Mezzanine and Charlie's Snack Bar.

Winter Bazaar is a craft fair open to the public. Vendors are invited to Lesley to sell their wares, and both the Lesley and Agassiz Communities are encouraged to stop by and shop.

Admission to the Bazaar is a donation of one canned good which will be given to a local shelter.

For Sale:

Atari 800XL \$150 or best offer/ Two girls bikes and one womans bike, \$75 each or best offer/Roller skates Size 2, custom made, were \$125, now \$50 or best offer/Bed- single with three drawers and a trundle under-new Sealy mattress Bed \$250, Mattress \$50, trundle mattress \$25 For more information or to see items, call Joyce at 547-0909 and leave name number and time you can be reached.

ANYONE FOR VOLLEYBALL ???

Several members of the Agassiz Community and beyond wish to begin a volleyball night. Since volleyball can't be played in the Agassiz Gym, we have contacted Peabody Community Schools, and they have available gym space on Thursday night between 7:50 and 9:20. This is an ongoing program, and the cost is \$2. per session. Beginners are welcome; come and learn. If you are interested please contact Terry DeLancey at 498-9056.

*****CRIMEWATCH*****

This is a listing of crimes reported to the Cambridge Police

SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER

Sacramento Street: There were three thefts from cars (two of which were unlocked), one hit and run of property and one incident of malicious destruction of property

Forest Street: One unarmed street robbery.

Prentiss Street: One incident of malicious destruction of property

Museum Street: One incident of Breaking and entry (daytime), and one larceny of an unlocked car.

Wendell Street: There were two night time incidents of breaking and entry, one larceny from a person, and one hit and run to property

Goreham Street: One incident of malicious destruction of property

Mellen Street: Assault and battery on Police.

Carver Street: One nighttime breaking and entry, one theft from an unlocked car.

Hammond Street: Malicious destruction of property, one nighttime breaking and entry, and one theft from an unlocked car

Harris Street: One theft from an unlocked car

Howland Street: Malicious destruction of property, and theft from an unlocked car

Mass. Ave.: There were three traffic arrests including driving under the influence, there were two assault and battery incidents both around Sacramento Street, there was one theft of a car, one theft from an unlocked car, one theft from a building, and one hit and run to property and malicious destruction of property. The majority of incidents occurred between Everett and Sacramento Streets.

Oxford Street: The most serious crime was the armed robbery of the Oxford Spa on a Sunday evening around closing time. There was a rape at the Harvard-Lesley end of Oxford St, there was one incident of breaking and entry, there were two stolen cars, one stolen bicycle, two incidents of malicious destruction of property, two hit and runs to property, and one incident of trespassing

***** ANNUAL THANKSGIVING POT LUCK DINNER *****
The Agassiz Neighborhood Council would like to invite all
neighbors to our Annual Pot Luck Dinner

6:00 PM

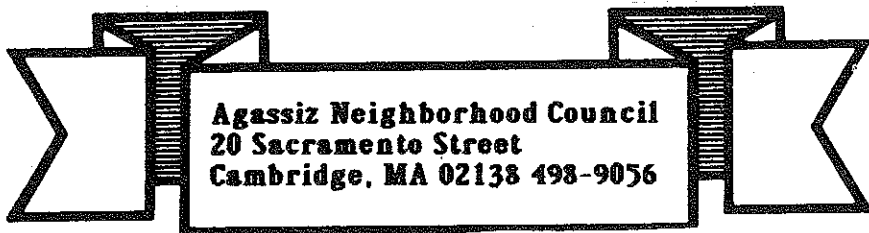
Tuesday November 25
AGASSIZ SCHOOL GYM

We provide the turkey, you provide the side dishes. Please bring a Pot Luck dish for your family plus six. This dinner is a fine time to share an ethnic speciality or a family favorite with your neighbors, and it really is fun when we have a lot of real home cooked food to sample. (We never have enough salads, vegetables or casseroles)

We will have films in the library for the children, but remember parents your children are with YOU, and you need to supervise them.

*****Would you like to volunteer and cook a turkey???**

If you have the time to cook for us, we will deliver a fresh turkey (about 10-15 lbs) on Monday at your convenience. If you can't carry it to the school, we can help. Call Terry DeLancey at 498-9056



Agassiz Neighborhood Council
20 Sacramento Street
Cambridge, MA 02138 498-9056

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- NOVEMBER 6 Cambridge Licensing Commission Vote on Recommendation for CDIA/Wasserman development at Sears Site
- 6:30 PM North Congregational Church, 1803 Mass. Ave.
- NOVEMBER 11 Veterans Day * No School * No Afterschool
- NOVEMBER 11 Agassiz Reading Series * POETRY * Margaret Johnson and Fanny Howe
- NOVEMBER 12 7:30 PM Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St.
- NOVEMBER 18 Agassiz Neighborhood Council Meeting OXFORD ST. SAFETY
- NOVEMBER 25 7:30 PM Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St.
- Agassiz School closes. Afterschool opens 12:45
- Agassiz Reading Series * PROSE * Rod Kessler and Pat Harrison
- NOVEMBER 25 7:30 PM Agassiz Community Center, 20 Sacramento St.
- ANNUAL THANKSGIVING POT LUCK DINNER
- NOVEMBER 26 6:00 PM AGASSIZ SCHOOL GYM * See article above
- NOVEMBER 27-28 Agassiz School Closes. Afterschool Opens 12:45 PM
- THANKSGIVING BREAK * No school or afterschool