COMMUNITY EVENTS

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING, Wednesday, March 2nd, 8:00 p.m. in the school library.

AGASSIZ COOPERATIVE KINDERGARTEN MEETING AND POT-LUCK SUPPER, Thursday, March 3rd, 7:00 p.m. at the Rupp's house.

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY CHILDREN'S SCHOOL PLAYGROUP MEETING, Wednesday, March 16th, 7:45 p.m. at the North Congregational Church.

MARCH RELEASE DAY, Wednesday, March 16th. Half-day of school.


AGASSIZ COMMUNITY COUNCIL NEWS

The following issues were discussed at the February 2nd Council meeting:

1) Elections. The Council re-elected Bill Mitchell as Chairperson, Harry Pskowski as Treasurer, Julie Snow as Secretary. We still need a Council Vice-Chairperson; anyone interested in the position is encouraged to volunteer.

2) The Function and Purpose of the Community Council. With an eye to maximizing community involvement in the Council, while getting necessary business handled efficiently, it was proposed that the Council alternate the major content of its meetings between a) Community School business and b) other community issues, such as: crime, traffic, housing, Harvard, etc.

3) Dogs. The issue of packs of dogs roaming freely in the Agassiz neighborhood was brought up by a Council member concerned about the possible danger to children and the intimidation of individuals. It was acknowledged by most Council members to be a problem and agreed that neighborhood dog owners should be made aware of it. THERE IS A CAMBRIDGE LEASH LAW, AND AGASSIZ DOG OWNERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO OBEY THAT LAW!

If people are concerned and feel more action should be taken, they should either call Julie Snow (876-9268, weekday afternoons) or come to the March Council meeting to voice their complaints.

4) Sacramento Field. Sacramento Field may soon belong to the City of Cambridge and be renovated and maintained for the Agassiz community's use! The City Manager has already approved the use of $100,000 in Federal funds (from the city's Community Development Department) for the purchase of the field from Harvard. Another $100,000 will still have to be allocated from other Federal park funds to make up the $200,000 thought necessary for the purchase, but barring any unforeseen problems, the purchasing process could be underway by summer.

This purchase was originally set...
COUNCIL NEWS, CONT.

forth in a Block Grant proposal, submitted to the Community Development Department by the Agassiz Neighborhood Planning Group last fall. If it goes through, it will be another testimony (in the wake of the Agassiz down-zoning victory) to the kind of control people can have in their own communities!

5) Whistles. We are trying to start and sustain a WHISTLE PROGRAM to help curb crime in the Agassiz neighborhood. At this meeting, people bought whistles and learned when and how to use them:

a. Whistles should be worn at all times outdoors, especially at night, and blown loudly in situations of danger.

b. People hearing a whistle blown should call 911 immediately and give the location of the sound.

c. People hearing a whistle should also blow their own whistles loudly out open doors and windows.

Allen Korb said that he would arrange for a representative from an ongoing whistle program to come to the early part of the March Council meeting and talk to us about possible problems, improvements in the procedures, etc.

6) Lastly, the Council voted to approve the use of After-School tuition funds for the purchase of a portable, electric typewriter for Community School use.

AGASSIZ COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS

On March 28th, the THIRD 12-WEEK TERM of the after-school program will begin. The week of March 21-25 is the registration week for this final term, and we would appreciate it if parents with children in the program would all re-register and pay for the term at that time. We have a waiting list of parents who would like to enroll their kids in the program, so if you don't re-register you may be risking your child's place in the program!

Here is the present schedule of afternoon activities:

MONDAYS:  Community School Room
- arts, crafts, games
Library
- puzzles, drawing, quieter activities
Gym and/or Outdoor Activities
Brownies (filled)

TUESDAYS:  Community School Room
Library
Gym and/or Outdoor Activities
Special Art Projects
- beadmaking, candle-making
Dance (filled)

Photography for 3-6 Grades

WEDNESDAYS:  Community School Room
Library
Gymnastics K-3rd grades (filled)
4th grade up
Outdoor Activities

THURSDAYS:  Community School Room
COMMUNITY SCHOOL NEWS, CONT.

THURSDAYS, Cont.

Library
Gym and/or Outdoor Activities
Drama (filled)

FRIDAYS:
Community School Room
Library
Gym and/or Outdoor Activities
Drama (filled)
Cooking

PLEASE don't forget to re-register your child(ren) during the week of March 21-25. New registrants may sign up for the waiting list at that time as well. Come to the library and see Julie Snow to do all this. THANK YOU. (Call 876-9268, weekday afternoons, for more information.)

ALSO, PARENTS! Please do try to come to the March 2nd Community Council Meeting and give us some feedback, criticism, ideas, support as we try to plan for a really effective, manageable after-school program for next year. Thanks, again.

WHISTLES!

The Agassiz Neighborhood Whistle Program will only work if lots and lots of people have whistles and know how and when to use them. We need help getting this off the ground. If you would like to volunteer to either make or put up posters, flyer the neighborhood, or even sell whistles, please call JULIE SNOW at 876-9268 weekday afternoons. Remember, numbers are essential to make this really work, and it can work if we really make the effort.

PTA NEWS * PTA NEWS * PTA NEWS * PTA

Thursday, February 17th, the Agassiz P.T.A. finally held its twice postponed meeting.

The topic of the meeting was Agassiz staff hiring and parent/teacher involvement. Mr. Thomas Johnson was our guest, representing the School Department as the Director of Personnel for the Cambridge Public Schools.

Mr. Johnson stressed a desire to keep open the lines of communication between his office and the hiring committee. His office is striving to make the hiring procedure more efficient. Applications will be screened by groups of interviewers at the School Department. This will ensure that applications are treated as equally as possible and complies with the portion of the residency ruling requiring that all Cambridge residents be interviewed. A "Job Line" is also being set up.

The Hiring Committee (of the Agassiz P.T.A.) presented its Proposal on Staff Hiring at Agassiz. The proposal sets up a Hiring Advisory Committee and interviewing committees. Each committee is made up of 3 parents and 3 teachers, plus the Master or Assistant Master. The proposal also provides suggestions for a smooth running hiring system. If anyone is interested in either of the committees or has any questions, please contact Dottie Lewis at 354-5926.

To assure that the Agassiz Hiring Committee remain active and effective, we need your involvement and support!

FAMILY FOLK DANCE AND GAMES PARTY 1!!

Friday, March 11th, 7-9:30 p.m. in the Agassiz gym. This will be a party for all ages. All activities will be taught by Carol Swann and will be fun and easy for everyone! Bring baked goods or beverages to share. $1 for families, 50¢ for individuals. For more info call Carol at 628-6880. THIS WILL BE FUN! BRING FRIENDS AND FAMILY!!!
March 1, 1977

Dear Parents of Children in the After-School Program (that means you!),

This is a request that you come to the Agassiz Community Council Meeting on Wednesday, March 2nd, to discuss the present and future goals and substance of the After-School Program. Since the program has grown so large so fast, some difficult questions need to be answered about the program. For instance: how many children can we accommodate in the program without sacrificing the quality of the program, how many staff members are necessary, what kinds of goals should the program have, how much should the program cost, what is the role of parents in this program, what specific improvements would parents like to see in the program in the future?

THIS ARE ALL IMPORTANT QUESTIONS AND WE NEED YOUR HELP IN ANSWERING THEM! The Community Council is open to all members of the Agassiz community and has as one of its specific functions the overseeing of the Agassiz Community School Program. We suspect that if we threatened to limit enrollment in the after-school program or to raise tuition fees drastically we would see the kind of turn-out at the Council meeting we're asking for now. Instead, why don't you just join us in a cooperative consideration of what's best for the After-School Program in the future.

SEE YOU ALL ON MARCH 2nd. IN THE AGASSIZ SCHOOL LIBRARY!

The Agassiz Community School Staff