



All Parks Alliance for Change ■ APAC

An Organization of Manufactured Home Park Residents



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Upcoming Events

Sept. 16 – APAC Benefit night at Ten Thousand Villages

Sept. 18 – APAC Annual Meeting

APAC's Board of Directors meetings and Legislative Committee meetings are typically held the third Saturday of each month.

Announcement

You can support APAC online at **GiveMN!**

To Learn more, contact us at 651-644-5525 or (866) 361-2722 (for Greater MN) or

info@allparksallianceforchange.org

APAC Holds Annual Member Meeting in September

Please join us on September 18 for APAC's Annual Member Meeting and Legislative Summit. This free event will include food, door prizes, opportunities to meet residents from across the state, information about your legal rights, and tips for organizing your community. The primary business of the meeting will be to set APAC's priorities for the 2011 state legislative session. Do you think APAC should push bills to license park managers, control rent increases, encourage park sales to residents, or establish a program that resolves disputes without going to court? Our members' votes determine what APAC will push at the State Capitol. For more information, go to: <http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=node/682>

2010 Relocation Trust Fund Collections Begin

In 2007, the state of Minnesota established the Minnesota Manufactured Home Relocation Trust Fund to provide manufactured home owners with reasonable relocation compensation in the event that all or part of their park closes. In 2009, Minnesota changed the collection method for the Trust Fund so park owners are invoiced up front and then allowed to collect the \$12 from residents as either a single annual amount or an additional \$1 with monthly rent. Money is due from park owners by September 15. If you have any questions, call APAC (651-644-5525), attend our annual meeting on September 18, or go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=legislative/relocationtrust>

APAC's 2010 Legislative Victories

Standing together, APAC and residents have won some major victories at the State Capitol. These victories were not easy. In the last four years, the industry group – representing park owners, manufacturers, and dealers – has registered seven lobbyists and spent over a quarter of a million dollars trying to stop us. In 2010, some APAC victories include: the right to choose your home installation option rather than having to accept the most expensive option; manufactured homeowner access for the first time to the Right-of-Way Acquisition Fund (RALF) when road projects take their homes; and property tax treatment comparable to the lower rate for site-built homes for homeowners who live in resident-owned parks. To learn more, go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=legislative>

Programs

- Community Organizing
- Community Preservation
- Elections & Voter Resources
- Legal Advocacy & Hotline
- Legislative Advocacy
- National Resident Organizing
- Newsletters and Reports

Get Involved

There are many ways you can get involved with APAC.

- Volunteer
- Become a Member
- Form an APAC Chapter
- Become a Citizen Lobbyist

Metro News

Burnsville Residents Organize in Arbor Vista

The residents of Arbor Vista in Burnsville have struggled over the years with a disengaged, out of state owner, less than helpful park managers, and a variety of park problems. In May, APAC held an all-park resident meeting that drew about 50 residents. They have held follow up meetings, including a Spanish language meeting in July for some of the park's Latino residents. They are now in the process of forming a resident association. To learn more about forming a resident association, go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=organizing/residentassociations>

Greater MN News

Disturbing Trend: Park Owners Defaulting on Water Utility Payments

Three parks in very different parts of the state – Edgewood Estates in Mora, Green Valley in St. Peter, and Hy-View Estates in Redwood Falls – have one thing in common. They are all part of a disturbing new trend of park owners defaulting on water utility payments. When the park owner defaults, the city moves to shut off service, which can trigger pulling an owner's license and forcing the closure of the park. In Edgewood, after negotiations failed, APAC got a court order directing lot rent payments to the city. In Redwood Falls, with another unresponsive park owner, APAC got a court order directing lot rents to the bank that holds the park's mortgage, which will pay the utility bills. In St. Peter, APAC is serving as mediator between the park owner and the city in order to try to keep this out of court. If you have reason to believe your park is also defaulting on its water bills, contact APAC at 651-644-5525.

National News

APAC Organizes National Manufactured Home Owner Conventions

Since 2006, APAC has helped to plan and organize conventions of the Manufactured Home Owners Association of America. MHOAA conventions are an opportunity for manufactured homeowners and our allies to share expertise, benefit from professional trainings, network, strategize, and raise the profile of manufactured housing in the United States. In 2007 and 2008, APAC hosted the conventions in Minnesota. MHOAA also contracted with APAC to organize the convention in 2009, which was held in Seattle, Washington. With 130 attendees from 21 states, last year's convention was the largest and most positively evaluated event so far. The 2010 MHOAA National Convention is October 22-23 in Salt Lake City, Utah. For more information, go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=MHOAA>

APAC News

APAC Sees Staff Transition

During the last year, APAC has welcomed some new staff, but we have also had to say good-bye to some long-time staff members. This includes new community organizers, Sarah Paige and Nicole Kearns, and APAC's very first law clerks, Anjie Flowers, Susan Ronau, and Matt Lindeman. If you are interested in learning more about them, go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=staff>

APAC had several staff depart in 2009. Hannah Garcia, Democracy Project Organizer, wrapped up her one-year position and now works at the Minnesota Center for Neighborhood Organizing. Greater Minnesota community organizers, Martha Hernandez and Sureshi Jayawardene, are now both in graduate school at Winona State University and Moorhead State University, respectively. Ned Moore, Organizing Director, wrapped up six years with APAC and is now the social justice program coordinator at the College of St. Catherine. Krystal Klein, Community Organizer, is now a union organizer with SEIU. Both Kelly Diouf, National Project Director, and Julia Wells, Office Manager, also left to pursue other opportunities.

APAC Welcomes New Board Members

In 2010, APAC has welcomed six new board members from four different communities. They are Henry Miller from Apple Valley Estates (Apple Valley), Doug McNeil and Paul Westveer from Bonnevista Terrace (Shakopee), Leslie Ann and Sylvia Caballero from Fischer Gardens (Sauk Rapids), and Doris Onstad from Paul Revere Park Cooperative (Lexington). If you are interested in learning more about them, go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=staff>

APAC Asks for Your Support

You know times are tough. You've seen it at your employer and felt it in your pocketbook. APAC has not been immune to these changes in the economy. In the last year, APAC was forced to eliminate several staff positions in response to deep reductions in support from foundations and other funders. We appreciate the support of our members and allies and ask you to consider making a donation of any size to support our work now – when our services have never been in more urgent demand. To learn how you can give, please go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=node/702>

Membership Information

Because APAC is the only organization of its kind in Minnesota, we need your help to continue to work on your behalf. We hope you will consider joining APAC by becoming a member. To learn more about becoming a member, please go to:

<http://www.allparksallianceforchange.org/?q=member>

APAC Staff

Executive Director – Dave Anderson
Legal & Policy Director – Justin Bell
Community Organizers – Sarah Paige &
Nicole Kearns
Law Clerks – Susan Ronau & Matt
Lindeman

APAC Board of Directors

President – Bev Adrian
1st Vice President – Chris Lustig
2nd Vice President – Pat Therrien
Treasurer – Paul Wissmiller
Secretary – Pat Freeman

Other Members

Leslie Ann, Sylvia Caballero, John Freeman,
Doug McNeil, Henry Miller, Doris Onstad,
Duane Sheaser, Raye Steiner, Paul Westveer

Supporters

Otto Bremer Foundation
CFED/Ford Foundation
Catholic Campaign for Human Development
Community Shares of Minnesota
Greater Minnesota Housing Fund
Headwaters Foundation for Justice
McKnight Foundation
Minnesota State Bar Foundation
Jay and Rose Phillips Family Foundation

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