

# **North Central Neighborhood Planning Council #2**

## **Meeting Minutes**

### **Tuesday, April 8, 2008**

#### **Call to Order & Welcome:**

The Meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by Chairperson Rosetta Sanders

#### **Attendance:**

**Members Present:** Chairperson Rosetta Sanders, Verna Hooper, Steven Lee, Ocella Cummings, James Gibby Jr., Vice Chair Adora Johnson, Lee Jones, and Betty Settles.

**Guests Present:** John Kenefeck and Mary Lou Ramon.

**City Staff Present:** Eric Morris (Neighborhood Services) and Officer Doug Chad Fransisco (BCPD).

**Additions or Deletions to Agenda:** None.

#### **Approval of Previous Minutes:**

It was moved by Betty Settles, supported and carried to approve the March 2008 minutes of North Central Planning Council.

#### **Correspondence, Announcements/WHCH:**

Rosetta read of a shopping trip and tour to New York leaving Battle Creek on May 18<sup>th</sup> sponsored by Affordable Getaway Travel.

Betty Settles announced that Urban League will have Silent Auction at the Hunt Club on April 13, 2008.

Rosetta received and read a letter from Fremont/McKinley NPC inviting the other NPC's to participate in a meeting with Carl Word to discuss gang violence in Battle Creek on April 15<sup>th</sup>. A comment was made that it appeared that once again there was a move to consolidate all Planning Council's into one NPC. This idea wasn't well received by the members present. Another comment was made that Fremont/McKinley should solve their own problems and possibly share the results because what worked for one area of the city wouldn't necessarily work in another area of the city. After discussion it was agreed Steve Lee would look into this matter; time permitting.

Rosetta noted that she would attend a Community United meeting on March 12<sup>th</sup> to discuss summer programming.

Rosetta also announced that the Washington Heights Community House would hold a fund raiser dinner on May 17<sup>th</sup>. They would be serving Fish, Chicken dinners for \$6.50 a plate. They would take delivery orders. This would be walk-in, call-in, or purchased tickets in advance. Rosetta would be cooking the greens and Adora would be making the desserts. They would also be taking donations for purchasing the meat.

The city's Spring Clean up would be May 5<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup> this year. The Battle Creek Community Foundation was seeking volunteers to join as Ambassadors on April 30<sup>th</sup> at Commissioner Susan Baldwin's home.

**Police Reports:**

Officer Fransisco shared the police report and took concerns from members. There was a brief discussion regarding a Liquor control issue at the party store on Hubbard Street. The city conducted an inspection and there were numerous property violations noted by the city and it was hoped that the owner would relocate to an area more on the main drag with higher visibility so that ongoing problems in the parking area would diminish. It was also expressed that there was a need to have some type of food sales store with no liquor license in the neighborhood for residents who may not drive. This building would need a lot of work, however, so it might not be rehabilitatable.

**Speaker:** None.

**Membership:**

Betty Settles noted that the membership list, with terms, was still not corrected by Neighborhood Services. It was also noted that the members who had expired in 2007 were just now being reinstated. Betty had submitted these names in October 2007. Also, some members were listed as renewed when their terms had not even expired. It was also noted that other councils were having the same problem with Neighborhood Services not presenting resolutions adding or re-appointing members in a timely manner to the city commission.

**Beautiful Battle Creek Award:** None.

**CDAC:** None.

**City Staff Reports:**

**Code Compliance:**

Eric Morris passed out the Golden Service report of code issues which showed numerous "property surveys" being done by the Code Compliance department. It was noted by Rosetta that this was Systematic Code all over again for home owners. In doing the Systematic inspections now, they were only giving people 30 days to correct violations instead of the up to 60 days the ordinance allowed. She also stated that, if you were given a write up in mid October for exterior violations and had 30 days to correct, the clock started ticking again in April with only the remaining time being given, like 15 days, in April to finish. If the work wasn't done in the time specified, the city was issuing civil citation tickets with fines. This was actually worse than Systematic the first time around. Eric didn't have an answer on how many rentals Neighborhood Services had inspected to date.

**Commissioner Comments:**

There were no Commissioners present.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** None.

**Public Comments:** None.

**Member Comments:** None.

**Next Meeting Date:** May 13, 2008 at 7:00 p.m..

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m. by Chairperson Rosetta Sanders.