

Neighborhood Planning Council # 11
Minges-Brook / Riverside
Meeting Minutes....28 May 08

1. **Welcome and Opening....**The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Randall Champlin at 7:00 PM in the Riverside school library. Randall welcomed the NPC membership and guests.
2. **Attendance:**
 - a. **10 Members present:** Betty Arnquist, Susan Baldwin, Jan Barry, Randall Champlin, Frank Eglund, Jim Haadsma, Glenn Holmwall, Marcia Holmwall, Wendy Rominger and Ann Wyson.
 - b. **8 Visitors in attendance:** Cindy Ruble (Superintendent of Lakeview Schools), Kathleen Moore (Lakeview School Board), Ryan Hersha (City Commission), Christopher Hug (BCPD), Sgt Victor Pierce (BCPD), Stacy Skalka, Laura Williams, Gary Robins
3. **Additions or Deletions to the Agenda....**Noneone
4. **Approval of last month's Meeting Minutes...**Unanimously approved
5. **Official NPC Correspondence....**We had letters from: the City Planning Commission (meeting notice for 28 May), the Westlake-Prairieview NPC (meeting agenda), the color sample from Verizon (for their proposed cell tower) and the nomination of Wendy Rominger sent to Al Giguere (nominating her as our NPC's Community Development Rep)
6. **City Staff Reports:**
 - a. **Police Department...** Officer Hug explained the offenses shown on the handouts and compared them to other NPCs. Riverside construction has increased Capital Ave traffic substantially. There are lots of metal thefts within the City and then reselling them to the junk yards for cash. Catalytic converters of cars seem to be a new big target for theft. There were some parking issues for those living on Riverside Dr. Clear sight of on-coming cars combined with failure to "yield" and children safety issues around Edgehill and Edgehill Place were discussed. If there are any other NPC or citizen issues, call the BCPD front desk (966-3322)
 - b. **Code Compliance/Planning Dept...**No report
7. **City /County Commissioners' Comments...**
 - a. The Planning Commission tabled the Verizon request for a new cell tower on the East side of Riverside. 45 neighborhood members petitioned against it.
 - b. The new City Manager search will be starting soon and an interim one will be appointed.
 - c. City Commissioners are still working the budget very hard
 - d. There are problems with foreclosed and vacant properties that are lowering property values and encouraging crime
 - e. There are still questions on how the State Revenue sharing will be handled (3-4% or 0%)
 - f. Betty announced that she will not be running for County Commission re-election, but Jim Haadsma is running for that position
8. **NPC Committee Reports**
 - a. **Beautiful Battle Creek Award....**The May 08 award is 20 George Place (Anne and Ed Greenman)
 - b. **Membership...**No report
 - c. **Neighborhoods....**Covered by the City Commissioners.
 - d. **Schools...**No report
8. **Old Business...**None

9. New Business

- a. **This Month's Special Program...** Cindy Ruble announced that at Lakeview's last School Board meeting they recognized 15 students who won national or state-wide awards during the month of April. High School graduation will be on 7 Jun. She then introduced Kathleen Moore, Laura Williams and Stacy Skalka who came to share the history, vision, planning and final proposal to provide the school district with facilities that will support all the current and future Lakeview K-4 students, new teaching tools and procedures to prepare them for the 21st century. Currently the K-4 school buildings can't handle the technology, full day kindergarten, collaboration, and can't provide comprehensive physical fitness programs for all while saving energy. The two new building options were presented and discussed with many questions being asked and all were answered. The \$55M millage vote for this proposal is scheduled for Tuesday, 5 Aug. If approved, a house with a \$100,000 market value will have its taxes increased by \$110 per year.
- b. **The following Slate of 2008/2009 NPC #11 Officers was presented and unanimously approved...**
 - a. NPC #11 Chair....Randall Champlin
 - b. NPC #11 Vice Chair...Jim Haadsma
 - c. NPC #11 Secretary....**vacant**
 - d. Program Chair...Jim Haadsma
 - e. Membership Chair...Wendy Rominger
 - f. Beautiful Battle Creek Chair...Ann Wyson
 - g. Neighborhoods and Land use...Frank Eglund
 - h. Lakeview Schools Chair...**vacant**

10. Public Comments....none

11. Members' Comments...There will be a "Crime Watch" rally on Friday 30 May. Additionally, Neighborhood Inc. is running a "Best Of" contest to recognize beautification and improvement efforts by our Battle Creek residents.

11. Adjournment.....Everyone was thanked for attending and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 PM

12. Next Meeting..... Wednesday, 28 May 08

- Where?.....Riverside School Library
- When?.....7 PM
- What's the program?....There will be an expert to discuss Medicaid

Marcia Holmwall, Secretary NPC # 11...27 Jun 08