

**Neighborhood Planning Council – 4**  
**July 21, 2010**  
**Maple United Methodist**  
**342 Capital Ave., NE**

**Minutes**

Attendees:

NPC 4 Members and Residents: Dave Nielsen, Jana Anderson, Sandy Calderone, Mary Conklin, James Dixon, Kaytee Faris, John Hennink, Dave Salerno, Laurie Sullivan, Helen VanValkenburg, John Walton, George Wilson

Guests: Susan Bedsole, Jim Haadsma, Ofc Stuart Bell, Sgt Perrin, Lt. Todd Madsen and Chief Jackie Hampton, John Kennifik.

Chair Dave Nielsen called meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Minutes: Upon Motion and Support from John Walton and John Hennink the June 2010 minutes were approved.

Police report: Officer Stuart Bell and Sergeant Perrin. Prostitutes are decreasing in the heat of the day but back out in evening. Potential drug house on Central St. Littering increasing especially with liquor bottles at corner of Calhoun and Orchard. Chadwick's parking lot is serving as a drop off location. Alley way blocking parking tickets- call police. Lt. Todd Madsen, is the northside supervisor. His email and cell number are as follows and residents are encouraged to contact him directly if they are having continuing issues or concerns. [Tmadsen@battlecreek.mi.gov](mailto:Tmadsen@battlecreek.mi.gov) cell 269 420 0410, nonemergency #966-3363 #2 A street fight happened on Harvard and residents called in to 911, yet 911 didn't answer. The 911 system has been going through a major reorganization. There have been a number of growing pains. Please contact the 911 manager, Jeff Troyer and inform him of 911 related issues so he can learn about and make plans to address the problems people are having with the system.

Program: Jackie Hampton, Battle Creek Police Chief One of the newer policies with the department is to increase of foot patrols and general visibility of officers. The issue of Surveillance cameras was raised and Jackie informed the NPC that Dave Smolinski is the chair of this effort. The purpose of the committee is to provide police real-time surveillance of certain areas both as a deterrent and as a way to help prosecution of criminals. They are looking at getting portable units rather than permanently installing them in certain locations. The committee is researching the possibility of getting grant funding from WKKF. At this point there is not an effort to include community members regarding the use of these cameras.

The Police department is starting to communicate with the city code department and there is now a system being used to begin alerting each other regarding various issues and also so the property owners can be notified and can begin to also deal with the issues.

Code compliance: The code report was distributed. Susan Bedsole explained that weeds are the largest area of code complaint. Susan also explained a new category to the report – the Rental Nuisance Abatement. Registered rental permit holders will get a report weekly if there were any calls for service at their registered properties. Serious complaints are dealt with separately so domestic violence and paramedic calls will be monitored separately as to not prevent people from calling for fear of losing housing. All other serious events will need to be dealt with. After a property is listed 3 times with issues the landlord/ owner will be contacted to meet with the city and remedy the situation. After fifth time the property is listed the rental certification will be suspended and legal actions will begin. This is a new system designed to help the city, police and property owners to communicate.

Another new category added to the city code report is "NSP demo and Rehab." This is reporting activities with the demolition and rehabilitations of the blighted properties the city has received funding to correct. Soon part

two of the program will be received and there will be another category added. The code report can be run at any time by you at [www.ci.battle-creek.mi.us/npc.npcreport.cfm](http://www.ci.battle-creek.mi.us/npc.npcreport.cfm).

City Commission Report: Laurie Sullivan reported that at last Tuesday's meeting that the monies for NSP-1 round 2 was approved.

Beautiful Battle Creek: 44 Poplar Street was approved by acclimation.

Neighborhood Association updates: Nothing at this time.

Old Business:

Northside Master Plan: Mark is not here tonight and the previous committee has not met again. Dave distributed out to the group the list again. Please review and bring comments to the August NPC meeting.

Marcus Trammel is working in this area for community building and outreach through the Creating Change organization.

New Business:

CDBG: Dave received a letter requesting the NPC 4 representative for the Community Development Block Grant committee. CDGB monies are distributed yearly to a number of local organizations and the committee is partially comprised of NPC members. Roselyn Goff served in previous years but since she has moved is not able to continue in the role. A decision will be made at the August meeting.

Comments:

Saturday, July 25<sup>th</sup> 3<sup>rd</sup> annual neighborhood picnic at Salvation Army. More information from the Salvation Army website.

Agenda Suggestions:

Invite the Fire Chief to attend a future NPC meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:10p.m.