

MINUTES

Minges Brook/Riverside Neighborhood Planning Council (NPC) #11

Riverside Elementary School Library

650 Riverside Drive, Battle Creek, MI 49015

Wednesday December 1, 2010

1. **7:00 PM – Welcome and Opening** Jim Haadsma, acting chair, welcomed everyone to the meeting.
2. **Attendance sheet:** Jim Haadsma, Jim Baldwin, Jan Barry, Elizabeth Fulton, Frank Egland, Rudy Barda, Marge Barda, John Godfrey, George Vallillee, Bev Vallillee, Dave Hawks
3. **Additions or deletions to this agenda - None**
4. **Approval of the October meeting's minutes** It was moved and supported by Barda, R;/ Egland to approve the October meeting minutes. Motion passed.
5. **Correspondence sent/received** The current NPC Membership list was circulated to ensure the information is up-to-date. Updates will be returned to Susan Bedsole to return to Dawn Hammond.
6. **City staff reports**
 - Police Department Report – No one in attendance
 - City representative – Susan Bedsole Susan reported that few code violations in our NPC. The rental ordinance is still in ongoing talking stages; future progress will be reported.
 - City/County Commissioners' reports- Elizabeth Fulton reported that the Riverside School traffic issue has progressed. Mr. Tsuchiyama, city manager, met with the principal resulting in the BC Police Department having more visibility during school start and end times. In addition, traffic data are being studied near the school site. Consumers Energy reported they repaired 600 of the 700 street lights needing repair; some of the remaining ones are underground and need additional work.
 - Jim Haadsma reported on the 10-28-10 task force meeting on the Enbridge oil spill. Little was accomplished at that meeting. On 12-03-10, Jim will be taking another 'field trip' of the river condition, attempting to monitor the ongoing work on the spill. The county's influence on the clean-up of the spill is somewhat limited, as other state/federal units have the first right to oversee the spill and clean-up. Jim also reported that county budget has its hearing on 12-02-10 at 7:00 pm and formal action will be done on the budget 12-16-10. The new commission takes office the beginning of January.
7. **Committee reports**
 - Beautiful Battle Creek Award – Ann Wyson – No information provided
 - CDAC and Membership – Wendy Rominger – No information provided
 - Neighborhoods and Land Use – John Godfrey - John reported on the planning commission's meeting earlier this evening that dealt with Michigan Marijuana Use. This bill provides for the use of medical marijuana for patients who have seen their doctor, have received a prescription, sent it into the state and received a card back from the state that he/she is a registered patient. This allows a patient to grow 12 plants in his/her home and to have a small amount of marijuana in his/her possession for medicinal use. If the patient cannot do this, the patient can delegate his/her rights to a caretaker who would be allowed to act for the prescribed patient with a limit of up to 5 patients. This issue can continue to multiple caregivers providing for multiple patients. The City's goal is to try to bring this bill to some type of regulation. John continued to provide

details of the bill. Question and answer session followed. This discussion of the marijuana bill will continue at future planning commission meetings.

- NPC 11 Programs – James Haadsma

8. Old business from previous meetings: None

9. New business

- **This month's program** - Karmel Puzzuoli is program coordinator for the Calhoun Child Abuse/Neglect Prevention Council. (a.k.a. The CAN Council). The CAN Council seeks to prevent child abuse by providing supports for at-risk families in Calhoun County.

Karmel provided an overview of The CAN Council, offering the purpose and benefits of the program. Its goal is to prevent child abuse and neglect in Calhoun County. The organization provides information, education and resources to parents and families and anyone who works with at-risk children and families.

10. Public comments - None

11. Members comments - George Vallillee requested information on the delinquent/back taxes roll that has been in the local newspaper recently. Susan Bedsole responded there are the most delinquent taxes than have been in years. She gave description about how the delinquent tax auctions take place and some of the challenges with delinquent tax properties.

12. Next meeting: Wednesday, January 26, 2011 7:00PM, Riverside Elementary Library

- Program Topic: Possibility on a speaker for the oil spill clean-up in Marshall/Battle Creek

13. 8:24 PM – Adjournment Meeting adjourned.