

WESTALKE/PRAIRIEVIEW NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING COUNCIL #10
Meeting Minutes
May 23rd, 2011

The meeting was held at First Assembly of God Church, 800 S. 24th Street, Battle Creek Michigan

Call to Order & Welcome

Chair, Jeff Koteles called the meeting to order at 7:00pm
Cecil Salinas led the invocation.

Attendance:

In attendance: Chairman: Jeff Koteles, Secretary: Linda Patenaude, Diana Cole, Julie Davis, Jeff Domenico, Pete Francisco, Tom Frame, Karol Hennigar, Joyce Garrett, Cecil Salinas, Nancy Slocum, Mike Troutman , David Weaver

Commissioners: Vice-mayor-Chris Simmons, and Bill Morris

Guests: Mike Nofs, Robin Lester, Sharon Newell, Karol Quinn, Mary Lou Ramon, Bob Slocum,

City staff: Neighborhood Services: Marcie Gillette, Police Officer Winer

Chair Notes/Correspondence/Announcements: Jeff Koteles

Planning Commission Agenda was read aloud for their meeting scheduled on Wed May 25th.

The Bylaws Committee was held on Saturday the 21st with low attendance.

Additions or Deletions to Agenda: Linda Patenaude asked to place 2 items under New Business : bylaws revisions and vice-chair position.

Minutes

Mike Troutman motioned to approve the April NPC minutes as written with a second by Dave Weaver. The motion was unanimously approved.

Police Report:

Officer Winer passed out written police reports. He noted a lot of larceny during the 3rd shift. He reminded us to call police if you see something suspicious. Foot patrols are still in effect in our area when officers have time to walk in between calls.

Neighbors from south Woodrow Ave came to discuss bullying and harassment by neighbors. Officer Winer along with Vice-Mayor Simmons, and Marcie Gillette will all be working with them on the situation. Problem oriented policing (POPS) can help with this type of situation.

Public Service Announcements from Commissioners:

- Vice-mayor Chris Simmons: There is a large shortfall in revenue and the city will need structural changes not quick fixes to balance the budget. Questions were asked about combining police and fire and making public safety officers (PSO). The city is not examining it at this time, rather they are looking at collaborating with other municipalities.

-Bill Morris : He is working on Lynwood water problems. June 9th is the County Drain Commission meeting.

Spoke about the BID and concerns over storm water issues. The city is still working with Gary's Grinding Service building on a resolution. There will be a Memorial Day Ceremony at the Fort Custer National Cemetery. Many new flags were purchased through fundraising and grants.

Committee Reports:

a. Membership : Received some calls for excused absences. Many have been contacted about their memberships, we are standing at 19 members now. E-mail addresses were collected from members. Joyce motioned to add Jeff Delmonico to 2012 Tom Frame to 2013 for membership and was seconded by Dave Weaver. Unanimously approved.

Associate memberships were questioned and what they are specifically. Linda will look into the minutes from 2002-03 for more information. Consensus was that associate members were basically ceremonial positions.

b. Beautiful Battle Creek Award: Jeff proposed 176 S. Woodrow. Joyce will e-mail Linda one for next month.

c. CDAC: Linda Patenaude – residents will be asked to provide input later on in the summer

d. Neighborhood Planning- Planning Commission Agenda was read during Chair Notes portion of this meeting.

City Staff Report: Neighborhoods Inc.'s program of Working Together for Strong Communities information was passed around the table. Marcie Gillette passed out code reports and shared that property surveys were still going on. Now there were many enforcements follow-ups from the surveys. Lots of weed enforcements are on the list now. Please don't wait until the meeting to report these, because there is a several week turn-around time on this.

Old Business:

Woodland Park: The group will participate in Cereal Festival in the parade and have a booth & table at the breakfast. Joyce Garrett reported they have a consultant working on land management master park plan, use of the land.

New Business:

Nancy Slocum motioned to move Senator Mike Nofs up on the agenda seconded by Dave Weaver. Motion carried.

Special Presentation: Senator Mike Nofs- state senator spoke about work at the state level and the budget and answered questions from the council.

David Weaver agreed to accept the vacant vice-chair position. Joyce Garrett motioned to get volunteers for vice-chair and have elections next month. After discussion, Joyce withdrew her motion and then motioned to have David Weaver fill the position of vice-chair. The motion was passed unanimously to have David Weaver as vice-chair..

The bylaws were passed out and reviewed for changes. We looked at eliminating husband and wife members from the same household but found that was not legal. Much of the new proposed bylaws were taken directly from the city template bylaws. More discussion on the bylaws will continue next month before a vote. *See attachments*

Comments for the Good of the Order:

a. Public Comments: David Weaver would like to provide an excused absence for members with extended illnesses.

b. Member Comments- Jacaranda was provided first right of refusal from Scott Ganton on the possible phase 2 construction.

Next Meeting: Monday, June 27th , 2011

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 8:40 pm

Submitted by Secretary, Linda Patenaude