

**North Central Neighborhood Planning Council #2**  
**Meeting Minutes ~ April 11, 2011 ~ Neighborhoods, Inc.**

**1. Call to Order & Welcome:** Meeting was called to order at 7:09 p.m. A.J. Jones, Facilitator.

**2. Attendance-Members present:** Jeffrey Dinkins, Lynn Ward Gray, Samuel Gray, Kitty Hillian, A.J. Jones-FHC, Steve Lee, Keith McDonald, Sheryl McDonald, Bill Phillips-NIBC and Rosetta Sanders **Members Absent:** Nina LaGrand, Betty Settles, Cynthia Wyatt and Dorothy Young **City Staff:** Marcie Gillette, Officer Chad Francisco

**3. Approval of Previous Minutes:** Moved by K. McDonald & supported by R. Sanders to approve the March 8, 2011 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

**4. City Staff Report:**

**City Staff Representative:**

M. Gillette reporting. Passed out demographics document and asked us to review for discussion at May meeting.

**5. Strategic Planning Session:** A.J. Jones, facilitator, stated we have a mission as an NPC based on the overall mission of NPC's as a whole. So we began to brainstorm our NPC's vision for 2011, what was shared is listed below, those with an "X" by them indicates one or more of our members felt this was an area of high importance:

- Safe, safe areas - X
- Beautiful parks and recreation
- Outreach
- More information connected to resources - X
- Reduce crime
- Peace & quiet - X
- Stop decay/housing, keep properties up, beautification programs - X
- Comply with city ordinances, ie: loud music
- People to take ownership
- Everyone knows about NPC2
- Increase percentage of home ownership – Come back home
- Want for our residents/fellowship, engaged, healthy, beautifying assistance
- Jobs & activities, economic development, have money to spend - X
- No policeman are needed because we have safe neighborhoods
- See churches come together – strong faith community
- Organized activities, sports, ie: Irving Park disc golf or perhaps challenge events with other NPC's
- Partner with Washington Heights to do activities with kids
- After hours (3-7pm) activities for the kids to keep them busy in a positive way, need an inventory of what is in place for after school activities/events/sports, etc. for our children
- How do we engage our seniors, senior mentoring program - X
- Something geared for families in the neighborhood, keep them intact: literacy, parenting skills
- Drug free community – no drug houses
- Resource guide of what's available in NPC2
- Friendly towards one another, friendly environment
- Teaching each other skills, resources, sharing skills with each other, ie: sewing, cooking, landscaping, etc.
- Engaging kids and getting them involved in the community such as painting a house, gym equipment, keeping things up
- That people have a transit system that meets the needs of NPC2, a mobile community, can get to jobs, groceries, etc
- People will have pride & ownership in the community
- Youth development & engagement, no gangs, violence, have jobs, etc. – XX
- No more loud music - X

We will continue our strategic planning session at the May meeting by discussing “values,” such as:

- Seniors
- Ethics & morals
- Healthy living
- Treat people with respect and dignity
- Values of faith
- Transparency, open communication

Once the strategic planning process is complete, we’ll put it into a book or format that will be an easy reference for each member. It will include our decided upon mission, vision, values, bylaws, a map of NPC2, etc.

#### **6. Public & Member Comments:**

- R. Sanders announced an upcoming Washington Heights Community House Easter event, flyers provided
- J. Dinkins announced fundraiser for NAACP ACTSO competition and requested NPC membership support
- J. Dinkins announced NAACP ACTSO competition dates/locations: April 27 at 5p.m.-Ann J Elementary; April 30 at 5p.m.-Washington Heights UMC
- Officer Francisco gave follow up response to question about where the patrol car is positioned downtown. Due to the positive feedback received from business owners, BCPD will continue to place a patrol car in visible locations downtown, ie: Kellogg Community Federal Credit Union
- M. Gillette gave a follow up response to the question about the damaged billboard on Dickman Rd. Sign cannot be rebuild due to zoning. Owners are required to remove debris, the Zoning Board of Appeals will hear owners appeal this week
- L. Gray reported an update on BCPS participation at NPC2 meetings. William Burton, BCPS board member and NPC2 resident, agreed to attend NPC2 meetings when he is available and will let the chair or secretary know if he will be absent. William shared with Lynn his understanding of how BCPS board members began participating at NPC meetings, but agreed board members are not participating as they had in the beginning. He agreed to send an email to the board chair to revisit this issue.
- L. Gray announced some upcoming events: Election Day is May 3, please vote; Let’s Move event hosted by Delta Sigma Theta at Dudley School on May 14, 10am-12pm
- L. Gray nominated 81 Boyd for the Beautiful Battle Creek Award

**7. Next Meeting:** Tuesday, May 10, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Neighborhoods, Inc.

**8. Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 8:14 p.m. by Samuel Gray, Chair

Respectfully Submitted: Lynn Ward Gray, Secretary