

North Central Neighborhood Planning Council #2
Meeting Minutes ~ June 14, 2011 ~ Neighborhoods, Inc.

1. Call to Order & Welcome: Meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Samuel Gray, chair.

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

3. Approval of Previous Minutes and Agenda: Moved by AJ Jones & supported by B. Settles to approve the May 10, 2011 minutes as presented .Motion carried.

4. City Staff/BCPS/City Commission/Committee Report Updates:

- Officer Francisco reported: 1) Larceny and Breaking & Entering's are up this summer, spoke of one case at Springview Towers involving a Shelbourne Park resident's son. He also mentioned a B&E unit of the BCPD, 2) Sgt. Art McClenney will retire as of June 17, 2011, and 3) Spoke of SWET and its work, has done 3 raids in NPC 2 recently
- M. Gillette reported the code report includes structural damage from storm and tall grass/weeds continue to be high. D. Young asked for clarity about the resident who's water has been out for two weeks due to the storm and where does city's responsibility end and resident's begin
- D. Young & J. Dinkins also discussed frustrations with the 211 service in seeking support or resources for themselves or through others they know who had also complained. Overall, reported feeling like they got referrals to incorrect locations, operators who were perhaps rude or not helpful, and directed to places that in turn would refer them right back to 211. They felt this system was terrible, especially for those who are already frustrated by the position the storm has put them in in the first place and wondered why they had to go through 211 to receive a referral before someone would help them
- Commissioner Gray gave updates on the following: 1) Recent tax abatement committee meeting, 2) FY 2011-12 budget considerations, 3) marihuana moratorium will most likely be extended at next meeting, 4) deadline to get your storm debris out on the curb per guidelines provided is July 1, and 5) the next city commission morning workshop is tomorrow, June 15 at 7:30 a.m.

5. Strategic Planning Session III: A.J. Jones, facilitator, led the discussion:

We worked on a vision at last meeting, now we need to come up with a mission. A way to look at this is to look at what are you worry about when it comes to NPC 2. Items mentioned included:

- Growth
- No crime
- Healthy, thriving children
- Improved quality of life
- Preserve what we have
- Increase & elevate the voice of the residents, giving people a voice, everyone has a voice

Possible mission statements based on some of the words mentioned above:

- Improve the quality of life for NPC2 and grow by engaging the voices of people
- Improve the quality of life by engaging people
- Improving the quality of life & grow by engaging people

Members present agreed on the following mission statement for NPC 2:

- The mission of North Central Neighborhood Planning Council 2 is to improve the quality of life by listening and engaging residents

6. Public Comments/Member Comments:

- L. Gray pointed out we have two members who are not meeting the conditions of our bylaws as written regarding attendance. Moved by L. Gray & supported by AJ Jones to approve removal of Nina LaGrand and Cynthia Wyatt as members per the bylaws. 5 yeas, 1 nay, 2 abstention. Motion carried
- B. Philips reported on support available through a NIBC Disaster Relief Fund for those who have a genuine hardship because of the storm. Staff will work to verify resident qualifies for assistance
- K. Hillian recommended 23 Boyd St. for a BBCA. She also wanted tall grass & weeds addressed at the following properties: 1) corner of Howland St. and Champion St., 2) Corner of Cass St. and Van Buren St. and 3) corner of Manchester St. and Howland St.
- S. Lee stated his church Washington Heights UMC has been going door to door on Sunday afternoons in the summer about every 6 weeks. Didn't work very well for perhaps a couple reasons; church was doing it, residents not to responsive. Asked city staff to look into property at Kendall & Greenwood
- J. Dinkins concerned about vacant lots causing problems with rodents, tall grass, etc. at a home behind Jeffrey's house, 329 Wood St. Also Wood & Greenwood has tall grass
- S. Gray announced Juneteenth Family Day 2 day events. Officer Francisco offered to facilitate getting the barricades dropped off, will need a count and map of where they are needed

7. Next Meeting: Tuesday, July 12, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Claude Evans Park, bring your lawn chair. A.J.. Jones will facilitate submitting the media release & posting signage at the park to invite community members to attend.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. by Samuel Gray, Chair

Respectfully Submitted: Lynn Ward Gray, Secretary