

Neighborhood Planning Council – 4
February 16, 2011
Maple United Methodist Church
342 Capital Ave., NE

Minutes

Attendees:

NPC 4 Members and Residents: Mark Jones, Jana Davis, Marcia Austin, Sandy Calderone, John Hennink, Dave Salerno, Szenoria Smith, Sherry Sofia, Laurie Sullivan John Walton, George Wilson

Guests: Susan Bedsole, John Cash, Jim Haadsma,

Vice Chair Mark Jones called meeting to order at 7:10pm.

Minutes: Upon Motion and Support from John Hennink and Sherry Sofia, the January 19, 2011, minutes were approved.

Police report: The police report was distributed. There was not an officer present. Susan Bedsole asked the members present if the current police report was helpful. NPC asked the March report be sorted by address. The NPC also requested that whoever comes to the NPC meeting be aware of the area, the large events of the past month and the report. Susan will relay this request to the Police Department.

Code compliance: The code report was distributed. The code department tri-annual property surveys have started. There was a complaint about snow removal from area businesses and city owned properties. There seems to be issues with sidewalks being cleared in a timely manner and the piles of snow from lots being pushed into sightlines for cars and pedestrians. There were also comments regarding drain cleaning and the back-ups.

City Commission Report: Laurie Sullivan reports that the budget process has started. The city is again looking at a deficit. The rental Property ordinance (1463) is still pending. The commission is looking into potential options to minimize the impact to residents of the water department rate increase.

Beautiful Battle Creek: Laurie Sullivan submitted a list to Dave Nielsen.

Neighborhood Association updates: Merritt Commons: John Hennink reports that the association is back. It has been slow, but there have been a couple meetings.

Freedom Acres: Marcia Austin reports that the next meeting will be held on Monday, February 21, 2011, at 5:30pm at the neighborhood center at 104 Calhoun.

Old Business:

Northside Master Plan: The February program featured a discussion regarding the Northside Master Plan and what topics the NPC would like the committee to work on next. After much discussion the top two areas are Zoning- especially in regards to increasing the number of single family homes and a reduction in the number of rentals and units within rental properties, along with a consistent approach to zoning throughout the NPC in regards to special requests and variances. The second topic includes economic development in the area.

New Business: Executive committee change: With regret Jana Davis has tendered her resignation as Secretary for NPC 4. Sherry Sofia and Laurie Sullivan moved and supported and by acclamation the resignation was accepted. A request was issued for any nominations to fill the role. There were no nominations. This will be addressed again at the March 2011 meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.