

A neighborhood meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, December 21, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.

Roll Call

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby Hopewell  
David Anderson  
Don Cooney  
Terry Kuseske  
Barbara Miller  
Stephanie Moore

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Vice Mayor Hannah McKinney

Also present were Deputy City Manager Jerri Barnett-Moore, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.

Commissioner Excused

Commissioner Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Moore, moved to excuse the absence of Vice Mayor McKinney. With a voice vote, the motion passed.

Miscellaneous Communications

An opportunity was given for miscellaneous communications, but no communications were offered.

Neighborhood Communications

Representatives of the following neighborhood organizations were present:

Northside Association for Community Development

Mattie Jordan-Woods, Executive Director  
Deborah Fields, Resident  
Anthony Poplar, Resident

West Main Hill Neighborhood Association

Bob Stauffer, Vice President

Northside Association for Community Development

The Northside Association for Community Development representatives:

- stated they did not have any complaints with City departments.
- noted the Association was collaborating with many other community organizations to work towards their common goals.
- reported the Northside Neighborhood plan would be unveiled at an special event. Ms. Jordan-Woods noted the consultants developing the plan had discovered residents' opinions of the Neighborhood's needs had not changed since the 1990's.
- indicated a Request for Proposals (RFP's) for a grocery store operator had been sent out, and two proposals were accepted. Ms. Jordan-Woods stated the Association would decide on a future direction during the week of January 4<sup>th</sup>.

In response to a question from Commissioner Kuseske, Ms. Jordan-Woods stated she was working with Andrea Augustine to incorporate the neighborhood plan into the City's Master Plan. Ms. Jordan-Woods indicated lighting improved in the neighborhood over the past year.

West Main Hill  
Neighborhood

The West Main Hill Neighborhood Association representative:

- commended Association President Steve Terranella for his work.
- remarked on the success of the USTA picnic in August.
- reported the Association had sponsored an ice cream social, a winter carnival, and a neighborhood garage sale.
- thanked Public Safety Officers for attending the Association's monthly meetings.
- stated residents were concerned about the proposed downtown sports arena and the historic homes to the west of the proposed site. Mr. Stauffer reported one Association meeting featured a presentation on the sports arena, which was well received.
- discussed the residents' relationship with WMU students and remarked on the debate about the use of neighborhood streets as access routes to businesses on the hilltop.
- expressed concern about issues with student rental housing in the triangle to the south of Lovell Street and the east of Monroe.
- described the challenges and opportunities regarding long-range planning for the hilltop commercial area due to the convergence of Kalamazoo Township/Kalamazoo City in this area.

In response to a question from Commissioner Anderson, Mr. Stauffer stated the Association had not received concerns or complaints about the process for renovating historic homes in the Neighborhood.

Citizen Comments

Next, an opportunity was given for citizen comments, but no comments were offered.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling  
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on January 19, 2010

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor  
Dated: January 19, 2010