

	<p>A neighborhood meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, August 18, 2014 at 6:01 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.</p>
Roll Call	<p>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby Hopewell Vice Mayor David Anderson Bob Cinabro Don Cooney Barbara Miller Jack Urban</p> <p>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Stephanie Moore</p>
	<p>Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.</p>
Commissioner Excused	<p>Vice Mayor Anderson, seconded by Commissioner Cooney, moved to excuse the absence of Commissioner Moore. With a voice vote the motion passed.</p>
Miscellaneous Communications	<p>An opportunity was given for miscellaneous communications, but no communications were offered.</p>
Neighborhood Communications	<p>Representatives from the following neighborhood associations and community groups were present and addressed the City Commission:</p> <p><u>Arcadia Neighborhood Association</u> Dave Bruininks, Secretary/Treasurer David Anderson, Board Member</p> <p><u>Edison Neighborhood Association</u> Bill Wells, President Tammy Taylor, Executive Director</p>
Arcadia Neighborhood Association	<p>The Arcadia Neighborhood Association representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - asked that housing inspectors keep an eye on homes that could possibly be unregistered rental properties. - expressed concern about the condition of streets in and near the Neighborhood. - requested that staff follow-up with calls for service, even if the City could not respond immediately. - discussed the need for the completion of sidewalks in the Neighborhood. - questioned whether driveway approaches needed to be blacktop or concrete. - asked that crime statistics for the Arcadia Neighborhood be reported separately from adjacent neighborhoods that have higher crime rates, so that Arcadia residents would not have to pay higher homeowner insurance rates.

- reported there was a "skunk invasion" in the Neighborhood and asked for any advice or assistance the City could give.
- discussed the possibility of the City arranging for a special trash pick-ups if residents periodically collected trash from the streets in the Neighborhood.
- distributed written copies of these remarks, which were filed with the papers for this meeting.

Arcadia Neighborhood Association (cont'd)

In response to a question from Commissioner Miller, Mr. Bruininks stated Monday was the trash pick-up day in the Neighborhood. Commissioner Miller suggested the Neighborhood align its street clean-up efforts with the regular, monthly bulk trash pick-up dates.

Commissioner Urban suggested the City track requests for service and create metrics for responding to these requests so that performance in this area could be measured.

The Edison Neighborhood Association representatives:

Edison Neighborhood Association

- distributed the July/August 2014 edition of the *Edison Voice* newsletter.
- reported approximately 250 people attended the National Night Out event.
- indicated the Association had deconstructed three houses in conjunction with the Go Green initiative.
- stated three building blocks projects had been completed, and over 200 tools had been loaned out through the tool lending program.
- stated volunteers had donated over 1100 hours of service to the Association.
- reported the Association had provided assistance with housing issues for 250 people.

In response to a question from Commissioner Urban, Ms. Taylor stated three organizations were partnering to move into the Bryant Mill site.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Anderson, Ms. Taylor reported crime had decreased in the Neighborhood, despite the publicity surrounding the shooting death of Michael Day.

Mr. Wells expressed concern that the Edison Neighborhood had been stigmatized by media reports of crime incidents, which were relatively isolated.

In response to a question from Commissioner Cooney, Ms. Taylor stated it appeared the new Washington Writers Academy would open in September.

Citizen Comments

Next, when an opportunity was given for citizen comments, the following people addressed the City Commission:

Asha Khazad, City resident, spoke about the Mexican market on Portage Street that was burned out and asked if there were plans for it to reopen.

Commissioner Comments

Finally, an opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments by City Commissioners, but no comments were offered.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on September 2, 2014

Approved by: _____

Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor

Dated: September 2, 2014

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