

| | |
|------------------------------------|---|
| Roll Call | <p>A neighborhood meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, April 20, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.</p> |
| | <p>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell Vice Mayor David Anderson Bob Cinabro Eric Cunningham Barbara Miller</p> |
| | <p>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Don Cooney** Jack Urban*</p> |
| | <p>Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.</p> |
| Commissioner Excused | <p>Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Cinabro, moved to excuse the absences of Commissioners Cooney and Urban. With a voice vote the motion passed.</p> |
| Miscellaneous Communications | <p>An opportunity was given for miscellaneous communications, but no communications were offered.</p> |
| | <p>*Commissioner Urban arrived at 6:01 p.m.</p> |
| Neighborhood Communications | <p>Representatives from the following neighborhood associations and community groups were present and addressed the City Commission:</p> |
| | <p><u>Eastside Neighborhood Association</u> Mike Seals, Board President Pat Taylor, Executive Director</p> |
| | <p><u>Northside Association for Community Development</u> Orlando Little, President Mattie Jordan-Woods, Executive Director</p> |
| | <p><u>Oakland Drive/Winchell Neighborhood Association</u> Peter Kushner, President Chris Bartley, Friends of Woods Lake</p> |
| Northside Neighborhood Association | <p>The Northside Association for Community Development representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - announced the Northside Neighborhood had been selected to participate in the MI Neighborhood Initiative and described the committees that had been created. |
| | <p>**Commissioner Cooney arrived at 6:03 p.m.</p> |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - distributed and reviewed a pamphlet entitled <i>Northside Cultural Business District</i>. |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - invited Commissioners to attend MI Neighborhood committee meetings on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of the month. |

- expressed concern about destructive, late-night cruising in the neighborhood and the associated quality of life crimes.
- recognized City staff who were involved in the MI Neighborhood Initiative.

Northside Neighborhood Association (cont'd)

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Anderson, Mr. Little described the X-train and stated it was difficult to categorize the participants using demographics.

Ms. Jordan-Woods stated ticketing and towing cars under a zero tolerance policy had been the effective tactics used in the past to address the X-train.

The Eastside Neighborhood Association representatives:

Eastside Neighborhood Association

- reported the Association had partnered with Kalamazoo Valley Habitat for Humanity and E-Net to develop a plan to create community partnerships and involve residents in neighborhood planning.
- stated the Association had hired a consultant to establish a funding plan and help with Board development.
- indicated people from outside the Neighborhood, including Eastwood, Burke Acres, and Spring Valley were coming to the Association seeking services because they did not have neighborhood associations of their own.
- thanked City staff for attending the meetings with Habitat for Humanity.
- reported on development activities in the Neighborhood.
- invited people to attend a fundraising grandparent/grandchild dance on April 25th called the Grand Dance.
- stated the Association had a new website but indicated residents appreciated having the neighborhood newsletter delivered to their homes.
- reported the Association was financially stable.

Commissioner Urban suggested the Association create an arrangement with Kalamazoo Township and to provide neighborhood association service to Township residents for a fee.

Commissioner Cunningham expressed support for the Grand Dance. Commissioner Cunningham announced Kalamazoo Youth for Christ was planning to put a youth center on the East Side.

Oakland/Winchell
Neighborhood
Association

The Oakland/Winchell Neighborhood Association representative:

- described the Association's Speakers Series, which was in its fourth year.
- reported 500 residents received a monthly e-newsletter, which passed along news and information from the City.
- invited people to the Neighborhood car show in May.
- stated Assistant City Planner Rob Bauckham had met recently with the Association and the West Main Hill Neighborhood Association to discuss the development of a stadium lighting ordinance.
- stated Woods Lake Beach Park was beautiful and requested the park be accessible for a longer part of the year.
- asked that decisions about reducing the scope of the Woods Lake improvement project be made in the near future.
- reported the Woods Lake improvement project would include signage to remind visitors to take their trash with them.

Commissioner Cinabro thanked the representatives for their work. Commissioner Cinabro thanked Mr. Kushner for his reasonable and collegial approach to the development of a stadium lighting ordinance.

Citizen Comments

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

Asha Kazhad, City resident, expressed support for Hillary Clinton for President.

Kevin O'Toole, non-resident, expressed concern that the City was considering the sale of Eastern Hills Golf Course.

Commissioner
Comments

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

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on May 4, 2015

Approved by: _____

Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor

Dated: May 4, 2015