

Roll Call	<p>A neighborhood meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.</p>
	<p>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vice Mayor David Anderson Bob Cinabro Don Cooney Eric Cunningham Barbara Miller</p>
	<p>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell** 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 Cinabro, seconded by Commissioner Miller, moved to excuse the absences of Mayor Hopewell and Commissioner 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>
Neighborhood Communications	<p>Representatives from the following neighborhood associations and community groups were present and addressed the City Commission:</p>
	<p><u>Oakwood Neighborhood Association</u> Lizzie Stuart, Board Secretary Cheryl Lord, Executive Director</p>
	<p><u>Parkwyn Village Association</u> Leslie Tung, President</p>
Oakwood Neighborhood Association	<p>The Oakwood Neighborhood Association representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- distributed the May 2015 edition of the <i>Oakwood Times</i> newsletter and the 2014 Annual Report.</li> </ul> <p>*Commissioner Urban arrived at 6:03 p.m.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- reported on the “ONA Café” event, which resulted in residents sharing concerns about the following items: the drainage pond at Kent and Benton; dead tree limbs on City property; and the lack of bus stops in the neighborhood.</li> <li>- reported the Neighborhood would have two Building Blocks sites in 2015.</li> <li>- described the bowl-a-thon fundraiser and the community garden.</li> <li>- announced the Association’s Annual Meeting would be held on May 19<sup>th</sup>.</li> <li>- invited Commissioners to the reunion weekend reception at Kazoo Books and the Neighborhood Reunion Picnic on June 27-28.</li> </ul>

Commissioner Cinabro requested a report on the issue of bus stops in the Neighborhood.

Oakwood  
Neighborhood  
Association (cont'd)

Commissioner Urban asked if it had been helpful to educate residents on the services offered by Metro County Connect.

Ms. Lord indicated there were a lot of residents who did not qualify for Metro County Connect or could not afford it, so that service was not an option.

In response to a request from Commissioner Cooney, City Manager Ritsema stated Public Services Director Sue Founé would follow up with the Oakwood representatives about the issue of dead branches on City property.

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Anderson, Ms. Lord explained the financial report was not an official report but a method for highlighting specific activities and fundraising.

The Parkwyn Village Association representative:

Parkwyn Village  
Association

- stated the Association was in the middle of an archival project to scan historic neighborhood documents and transfer the originals to the Western Michigan University Archive and Regional History Collections.

\*\*Mayor Hopewell arrived at 6:25 p.m.

- expressed concern about drivers who occasionally drove their vehicles through the triangle at the intersection of Lorraine Avenue and Parkwyn Drive.
- expressed concern about people using the private community open space as a public park.

Vice Mayor Anderson spoke about the issue of deer in the City and noted the Kalamazoo Nature Center had culled the deer herd there multiple times.

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

Citizen Comments

Jody Dozeman, City resident, spoke about a dog attacking another dog in Otsego and suggested that mean dogs wear red collars.

Jamar James and Terry Burroughs, City residents, invited people to the Hearing Voices Support Group at the Recovery Institute of Southwest Michigan and announced Public Media Network was airing videos by Ron Coleman regarding hearing voices.

Asha Kazhad, City resident, spoke about gun control.

Citizen Comments  
(cont'd)

James Kraatz, City resident, thanked City Commissioners and other elected officials for responding to his requests for information about local government. Mr. Kraatz requested the City Commission honor Vietnam veterans and their families. A letter submitted by Mr. Kraatz was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Alice Kraatz, City resident, expressed support for Mr. Kraatz's request and submitted a letter of support from the Ki-Ka-Ma-Sung Society of the National Society Children of the American Revolution. The letter was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Nancy Colburn, non-resident, presented a letter of support for Mr. Kraatz from the Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution. The letter was filed with the papers for this meeting.

Commissioner  
Comments

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

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling  
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on June 1, 2015

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor  
Dated: June 1, 2015