

**NBN6 Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday March 10, 2008**  
**NeighborWorks Rochester**  
**570 South Avenue**  
**5:30 pm**

**Present:** Joanne Balliet, Sue Bellinger, Gary Bogue, Bob Boyd, Barb Case, David Chappius, Lt. Frank Churnetski, Allison Clark, Sylvia Johnson, Chris Jones, Barbara Korpala, Alicia Lamphron, Joan Lindberg, Vern Lindberg, Ed Lindskoog, Denise Lippa, Gale Lynch, Geri Machado, Joe Machado, Matt McCarthy, Rose O'Keefe, John O'Neil, Sue O'Neil, Matt Perdue, Victoria Posner, Amy Priestley, Roger Ramsay, Allan Richards, Lisa Rosica, Peter Saxe, Tony Sciarabba, Larry Staub, Eileen Thomas, Paul Urai, Carlene Woodward

**Notes:** Joan

**Guest Speaker Barbara Korpala – 311 Call Center.**

Barbara Korpala is the manager of the 311 Center. On February 29, 2008, the "One Call to City Hall" became a reality with the new 311 Center. Already used by the Rochester Police Department for non-emergency calls, the 311 number now answers calls formerly handled by the DES Office of Customer Service (428-5990). Located at 945 Mt. Read Blvd, the 311 Call Center answers 1200 calls per day. Using a knowledge-based system, 311 personnel can perform key word searches on a database of city information. The new system can answer user requests by sending out email or fax forms. They provide information on taxes and foreclosures; they can provide new toters or blue boxes. Staff answer NET phones when the NET office is closed. Cell phones can access 311 from within the City. In some rare cases, 311 may transfer the caller to a subject expert. Operated all day every day, the new 311 system tracks service request performance. For example, potholes should be filled with 24 hours of receiving a call. The goal is to answer 90% of incoming calls within 30 seconds. The 311 Center is working on a training manual for using the new software. The staff is bilingual. The 311 Center has the ability to transfer calls directly to 911 when necessary. After April when Barbara Korpala retires, Arleen Hyland will become the new manager of the 311 Call Center, which operates out of the Office of Budget and Management.

Denise Lippa wants to include a story on the new 311 Call Center in the next issue of the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood newsletter. Barbara said that 311 information can be obtained from the City's website or the 311 Call Center brochure.

**Community Sharing**

**Roger Ramsay** said that the **Highland Park Neighborhood** will be co-hosting Swillfest on March 28<sup>th</sup> this year. ...Roger also reported that the Highland Park Neighborhood had a very successful children's event at the Cinema Theater. About 100 people attended a Saturday morning screening of a popular children's movie. These children's movies (free but donations accepted) may become a monthly event.

**Matt McCarthy (City Planning)** said that City Council has requested information regarding neighborhood association meetings. Please contact Ruth Becker at the Planning Office. [beckerr@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:beckerr@cityofrochester.gov)

**Allan Richards (Representative Susan John's Office)** announced that Susan had secured \$80K to be used for graffiti removal. Applause!

**Lt. Frank Churnetski** announced the **RPD East Side Open House** on Wednesday March 12 at 5:30 pm. The East side Command Center is located at 630 N. Clinton Ave. All are welcome.

**Rose O'Keefe** reminded people of the **Regional History Fair** on June 14 at the Buckland Homestead on Westfall Rd.

**Chris Jones** announced that **BASWA** had secured funding for the Vintage Film Festival from Aug. 26 – 30, 2008 in Highland Bowl from Representative Susan John. ... In the SAVE law suit against Highland Hospital's garage construction, the judge ruled in favor of the Hospital so demolition of the Highland Family Medical Center's former site is proceeding.

**Denise Lipa (Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood)** said that the City is seeking a 6 month moratorium on construction on Mt. Hope Ave. (Elmwood to Raleigh) from City Council. ... A local doctor is seeking approval to construct a hospitality house (similar to Ronald McDonald House) within the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood.

**Pete Saxe** said that since Sector 6 is too big to fit in the conference room, he has space at the NET Office on the second Monday of the month for meetings.

**Sue O'Neil (Azalea & Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery)** announced the first tour of the year at Mt. Hope on March 22. Meet at the south entrance to the cemetery, opposite the Distillery at noon. The cost is \$4.

**Larry Staub (Monroe Co. Parks)** invited the NBN6 group to use the Park's Department Chapel at 171 Reservoir Avenue for meetings! Next month, NBN6 will meet there! Thanks Larry. ... Larry announced that the Rochester Omnium (an international bicycle race) will take place in Rochester from August 8 to August 10<sup>th</sup>. The City of Rochester is sponsoring this event with \$100K. Larry had some concerns about the third day, a road race that will begin in Honoye Falls and proceed north to the City. Race planners had hoped that the finish line could be at Highland Bowl, where people could celebrate. The event organizers anticipate a crowd of 25,000 people. The total route for this road race is 105 miles. Certain City streets would be blocked off from 2:30 to 3:45 pm on Sunday August 10<sup>th</sup>. Larry has concerns with this plan, especially with a final destination at Highland Bowl. Parking is a major problem. NBN6 members, many of whom supported the idea of the Omnium, suggested that Genesee Valley Park or Frontier Field would be better locations for the finish line.

**Joanne Balliet (SEAC)** said that Phil Banks of the City's Economic Development Office was ill after surgery. Please send cards and best wishes.

**Sylvia Johnson (Boy Scouts)** said that there is only one Boy Scouting unit in Sector 6. There are no cub scout units. Sylvia said that 49% of the members of the Boy Scouts are actually girls in the Learning for Life program. The Scouts need volunteer support. There is a waiting list of children to join after school programs. The Scouts need an organization to be a scouting partner. Five individual volunteers are needed for a pack (group). The pack at St. Boniface is without a leader. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Sylvia at 241-8535 or [sylvia.johnson@otetiana.org](mailto:sylvia.johnson@otetiana.org).

**Bob Boyd (SWPC)** announced the rehabilitation and sale of 11 Nelson St. Bob distributed fliers for this property. Prospective owners must meet certain income requirements. First chance at ownership will go to Rochester police, fire or school personnel. ... Crime Stoppers is offering a reward for the arrest of graffiti artists. ... Bob said that SWPC still needs volunteers to remove graffiti. ... Bob said that the demolition of the building at the Highland Hospital garage site will begin around April 1. However, the Hospital cannot get a final construction permit until there is a sign off by neighborhood leaders.

**Matt Perdue (Swillburg & ESCAPE Committee)** said that the City published its Draft Housing Policy today (3/10/8). The Policy goes before City Council for approval next month. ... The ESCAPE Committee applied for a United Way grant to beautify traffic control boxes on S. Clinton Avenue with art.

**Joan Lindberg (for Amy Happ of University of Rochester Medical Center).** Amy sent the following email regarding the smoking problem at Strong Campus:

After discussions and considering those concerns raised at the Sector 6 meeting two meetings ago, we are now creating a new smoking area at Strong Hospital on our side of Elmwood Avenue, down toward the Medical School. We just need to wait for the snow and

ice to clear to establish this area. We are hoping that this new area will address a number of concerns raised at the Sector 6 meeting, including keeping smokers (and their trash) away from Mt. Hope Cemetery, limiting the need for them to cross the road due to safety concerns, and trying to prevent smokers from wandering into the surrounding neighborhoods by providing them with a closer alternative. We hope this new area will help to limit some of these (and other) problems, but we will continue to re-evaluate as this policy and its boundaries are being adapted as needed.

Paul Urai asked if there was a similar solution for Highland Hospital and the Highland Park Neighborhood. We will follow up on that question with Amy.

**David Chappius (Swillburg)** distributed the latest issue of The New Yorker. ... David also said that he had tickets for Swillfest on March 28 at 6 pm at the German House. Adult tickets are \$16 (children's tickets are \$8) for a full dinner, an evening of line dancing and a live band. There will also be a silent auction and a cash bar. ... Swillburg is raffling off a 37" Sharp Aquos LCD flat panel TV. Only 500 tickets will be sold. Tickets cost \$5 each. There will be a second prize of \$300 cash. The drawing will take place on December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2008 at the Swillburg Holiday event, or before then if all 500 tickets are sold.

**Gale Lynch (Hickory NUTS)** said that neighbors and landlords will meet on March 26, 2008 for a social event at 25 Hickory St. This is a proactive event where residents and absentee landlords can meet to solve or prevent problems.

#### **NET Update**

**Pete Saxe** said that two properties need attention on Clean Sweep day. Volunteers who can do light carpentry, window replacement or painting should call Pete. (428-7642)

Pete said that the Spirit Parade will take place on June 7 beginning at 11 am. The parade route is the same as last year, beginning at the Covenant Church on S. Clinton and ending at the Baber Church on Meigs St. ... The Landmark Society Tour of Highland Park Neighborhood homes occurs on the same day – June 7<sup>th</sup>.

**Lt. Frank Churnetski** said that the PCIC crime notes will be distributed. ... A recent drug investigation resulted in the confiscation of 1 pound of marijuana. ... Citywide, there has been a 14.6% reduction in violent crime. ... Oakland St. residents have had recent mail thefts, both incoming and outgoing mail. These postal thefts can mushroom into identity theft, bleaching of names and dollar amounts on checks, and fraud involving credit card checks. Please deposit outgoing mail in a postal drop box. ... The USPS offers [http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/idthft\\_ncpw.htm](http://www.usps.com/postalinspectors/idthft_ncpw.htm) with information on identity theft and prevention. There are downloadable PDF brochure's available here too. <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/edu/microsites/idtheft/> is the Federal Trade Commission as it relates to ID THEFT.

#### **Public Art in Sector 6**

**Matt McCarthy (Planning)** is collecting a list of public art within Sector 6. Please send the locations of statues and murals to Matt (with the name of the artist and the installation date, if known – [mccarthy@cityofrochester.gov](mailto:mccarthy@cityofrochester.gov)). Matt also said that a larger database of public art can be found at [www.rochesterpublicart.com](http://www.rochesterpublicart.com).

#### **Budget**

**Sue O'Neil of the Azalea Neighborhood** submitted a Request for Expenditure for \$250 to purchase a sign and locking cable for use in her neighborhood. The location of the sign, to announce community meetings and events, will be at the corner of Arbor and Azalea Streets. The sign is an example of "going green," since it reduces the need to flier everyone in the neighborhood. NBN6 will be acknowledged on the sign. The sign will be removed as soon as the advertised event is over. The group approved the RFE.

**Gale Lynch (Hickory NUTS)** submitted an RFE for \$200 for a meeting with residents and landlords on Hickory St. The event will take place on March 26 at 25 Hickory St. This social event will be a way to engage absentee landlords and proactively address problems with tenants and quality of life issues. Approximately 10 landlords will be invited. The \$200 will cover food and mailings for the event. Gale promised to report back on the Landlord / Resident dinner so it can be used as a model for other neighborhoods. Up to \$200 was approved by the group.

**NBN6 Budget Balance.**

David Chappius reviewed the balance on the NBN6 budget contract. This contract ends on June 30, 2008. Therefore, funds must be spent and receipts submitted by the June 30<sup>th</sup> date. This is a use the money or lose it situation. We are within the last three months of the 2007 – 2008 budget contract.

David declined to “table” the discussion of expenditures, since the Sector needs to move ahead on spending the money. Members asked whether the funds could be used for a watering tank, plastic lawn chairs for front porches, for floats for the Spirit Parade, or a power washer. Matt McCarthy answered, “No.” CDBG funds cannot be used for equipment or for private residences. Money may be spent to create a new public garden but not for garden maintenance.

**(1) Base Contract**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Balance</b>
Start		5,000.00
Food (Y-T-D)	530	4,470.00
Food (April, May, June)	500	3,970.00
Mulch	750	3,220.00
RFE’s	2000	1,220.00

**(2) Special CDBG Funding  
Neighborhood Improvement Projects**

Unused funding from the two rounds of funding that we awarded in Nov. 2005.	2,100.00
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**(3) Additional Sector Funding**

This funding was just announced at the Feb. 08 Sector Leaders Meeting	2,500.00
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**Projected** RFE’s within the next 3 months include: rehabilitation of the Goethe statue in Highland Bowl, an Educational expenditure in the Highland Park Neighborhood, planting material for a veteran’s memorial in Highland Park neighborhood, a block party on Linden St., and other small expenditures added up to approximately \$2000. (See RFE number in Base Contract).

The remaining \$5,820 (the Balance from #1, #2, and #3) will be used for a sector-wide signage project. Metal artist John Grieco is fabricating informational signs for S. Clinton (funded by the ESCAPE Committee), and on Byron St. (funded by NYS Main St. Grant). NBN6 finds would allow for 2 or 3 additional signs by John Grieco. Two possible locations for these signs are at Field St. / I 490, and somewhere in the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood. These are gateways into the Sector. These signs are in keeping with the Green Budget, eliminating the need for fliers and mailings.

**Next Meeting  
Monday April 14  
Monroe Co. Parks Department 171 Reservoir Avenue  
5:30 pm**