

NBN Sector 6 Meeting Minutes
August 11, 2008 -- 5:30 – 7 pm
Monroe Co. Parks Building
171 Reservoir Avenue

Present: Sue Bellinger, Bob Boyd, Denise Cambisi, Barb Case, David Chappius, Mykeisha Crawford, Ruth Donis, William Gerling, Dave Halter, Amy Happ, T Hopkins, Chris Jones, Cynthia Knox, Alicia Lamphron, Joan Lindberg, Vern Lindberg, Gale Lynch, Geri Arno Machado, Joe Machado, Matt McCarthy, Rose O’Keefe, Destiny Parkes, Matt Perdue, Mark Quinn, Lisa Reagan, Brandi Remington, Allan Richards, Pete Saxe, Tony Sciarabba, Larry Staub, Eilleen Thomas, Mike Thompson, Paul Urai

Notes: Joan

I. Community Sharing.

Joan Lindberg (Lilac Neighbors) reminded folks that the deadline to submit final NeighborGood Grant Reports was back in June. Final reports for the 2007 round of grants must be submitted before applying for a 2009 grant. ... There is a grant opportunity that focuses on children’s health. It is called “Let’s Get Kids Moving and Eating Healthy.” Go to www.thegrhf.org for more information. ... The Lilac Neighbors Ice Cream social took place on August 7 at the South Avenue Fire House. ... The Azalea View and The Lilac Letter are available to share. ... If your neighborhood would like to apply for flower bulbs, please contact Stacey Estrich Stacey.Estrich@CityofRochester.Gov before September 26. Daffodil and tulip bulbs will be available to neighborhoods on Saturday October 4th.

Allan Richards (Rep. Susan John’s Office) announced that the Rochester Police Department received a Byrne grant to purchase new PAC TAC equipment. ... The S. Clinton Escape Committee unveiled a new informational sign on July 30th. Please contact SEAC if you need letters to change messages on the sign.

Sue Bellinger invited everyone to the **Azalea Neighbors** Ice Cream Social at Laney Rd. and Arbor Drive on August 21 at 7 pm. The rain date is 8/28.

Alicia Lamphron (Azalea Neighbors) reported that 15 ANA households participated in community garage sale held jointly with the Lilac Neighbors on July 19th.

Bill Gerling (NYS Property Owners Coalition) said that he is interested in property and lead paint issues.

Cynthia Knox (Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood) said that their community had a very exciting ice cream social on the night out against crime. The fire trucks were called away to a fire! Cynthia brought copies of The Neighborhood View to share.

Gale Lynch (South Wedge Neighborhood Council) said that Wedgestock, “not your ordinary annual meeting,” will be held at Highland Bowl on August 24 from 1 to 6 pm. JAVA and two other bands will perform. The event is free and all are welcome. There will be food vendors, activities for children, a chance to meet the new board members, and SWPC’s annual report. ... Gale will be stepping down from the SWPC Board.

Barb Case (Highland Park Neighborhood) said that work continues on creating a block club for Rockingham St.

Ruth Donis discussed Walmart's initiative of giving "positive tickets" to youth who are caught "Doing the Right Thing." The positive tickets are Walmart gift cards.

Larry Staub (Monroe Co. Parks) urged people to visit the sunflower meadow at S. Goodman and Highland. ... Larry said that Monroe Co. Parks is submitting the "Let's Get Kids Moving and Eating Healthy" grant for a playground project in Highland Park. ... Larry announced that ARC is hosting a free concert in Highland Park South on September 7 featuring Peter Yarrow of Peter, Paul, and Mary.

Mark Quinn (Monroe Co. Parks) said that the sunflowers are at their peak. Don't miss them. ... The reconstruction of Lamberton Conservatory should be complete by the end of October.

Amy Happ (U of R) shared the good news that 8 faculty and staff members have used the University's Homebuyers grant to purchase homes in Sectors 4 and 6. That initiative is only 4 months old! ... The U of R, Rochester's largest employer, will discuss job opportunities at the RochesterWorks Career Center on August 20 at 1:30 pm.

Lisa Reagan (Cypress – Linden) said that 110 people attended a recent block party. In addition to all those neighbors, Mayor Duffy, Elaine Spaul, Joe Robach and Rick Dollinger made a visit.

Geri Machado (May St. Block Club) said that 62 people celebrated National Night Out Against Crime at her house on May St. on August 5th. JAVA performed. The police chief came, and Channel 10 interviewed the chief in the Machado front yard.

Chris Jones (BASWA) said that she needs volunteers for the August 26 – August 30th Vintage Movies in Highland Bowl. The celebration includes both live music and movies.

Rose O'Keefe distributed fliers for Artist Row at the Public Market on Sunday September 21 from 10 am – 4 pm. The entry fee is only \$15! Artists, artisans and authors are invited to participate.

Bob Boyd (SWPC) said that 40 people attended the Hamilton St. Block Party. Gregory St. will have its block party on August 30th.

David Chappius (Swillburg) said that 85 people attended the RPO Brass Quintet performance at Otto Henderberg Park on July 30. ... On July 31, between 300 –and 400 people attended the Swillburg Carnival at Otto Henderberg Park. Next year the National Association of Town Watch is planning to move NNO to September because it's too hot in August in most of the country. Swillburg will keep the Carnival in July. Vendors were new to the carnival this year. There was lots of food and fun.

Mike Thompson (Highland Park Neighborhood) said that the Regional History Fair was very successful. The Highland Park Neighborhood is talking with the Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery about the possibility of mounting a semi-permanent exhibit of their historical display. ... Highland Park Neighborhood is working on designing a 2009 calendar as well as a new brochure and flags. ... The Highland Park Neighborhood will host its 2008 Taste of the Neighborhood on September 14th. Local restaurants are invited to participate.

II. Planning Process Update

Matt McCarthy outlined the next steps in the Sector 6 planning process.

Please see the attachments for Matt's detailed presentation.

The City will make comments on the draft plan to sector team leaders and activities will be tweaked as needed. The plan was very well received. Only two items caused concern. Bike racks might pose a theft problem. Sidewalk recycling might cause problems for DES.

The next task is tracking and measuring progress toward the goals.

Barb Case asked what the time frame was for achieving the goals. A: 18 months.

Pete Saxe said that a coordination meeting will take place before the next NBN6 meeting.

Dave Halter asked if City Gate was considered in these goals. A: No, the goals are short term with an 18 month horizon.

Dave said that CityGate will impact South, S. Clinton and Mt. Hope Avenues. Now is the time to focus on CityGate.

Matt Perdue asked, "What would the action be?" Traffic and feasibility studies need to be completed soon.

Rose O'Keefe said that public input for the RiverPark Commons project had great input in changing the architect and the design plan.

Dave Halter asked, "Who is the advocate from the neighborhood? Big projects do not leave space for public comments. SEAC is the umbrella organization covering CityGate.

Full time advocacy and agitation is needed for change.

Matt Perdue said that NBN6 has already engaged CityGate at the November 3, 2007 State of the Sector Conference.

The Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood is invited to a general CityGate meeting at the end of October.

There will be meeting among NBN6 team leaders and City staff. The final NBN6 Plan should then be approved by the general membership of NBN6. After that final approval, work on the NBN6 Budget contract can begin.

III Budget

The 2007-2008 \$5K Budget just closed. David made a \$1250 mistake and the budget was under spent. However, David is working on a solution that will allow NBN6 to receive this \$1250. David will send out an email explaining how neighborhoods can use the \$1250 funding.

Problems with the budget process include:

~ Receipts were not handed in to David in a timely fashion. They were requested by June 16th, two weeks before the 6/30/08 deadline.

~ The process is a slow one because the City uses one fiduciary for all 10 sectors. That fiduciary is The Community Foundation. The City can only release \$5K to The Community Foundation at a time. All ten Sectors were submitting receipts at the end of June or early July, thus creating a bottleneck in the flow of reimbursement funds.

Swillburg and BASWA will reimburse people who are owed contract money, so that they will not have to wait an overly long time.

Regarding the additional \$2,500 grant to the sectors from the City Parks Department, the rules for accessing this money were never explained. After the announcement of the funding, there was no follow-up from the City. Therefore, there is no contract to disburse this money.

IV. Bylaws and the Executive Committee

As stated earlier in the year, David Chappius' term as chairperson of NBN6 will end on Dec. 31, 2008. Roger Ramsey is the current vice-chair. Roger will need a new vice-chair in January. Joan Lindberg will relinquish her role as NBN6 secretary at the end of the year. Anyone interested in the secretarial role is invited to call Joan at 244-1217. Victoria Posner asked when the next State of the Sector will be held. A: Spring 2009.