

NBN6 Meeting Minutes
November 12, 2007
NET Office 846 S. Clinton Ave.
5:30 – 7 pm

Present: Ruth Andrews, Joanne Balliet, Sue Bellinger, Gary Bogue, Bob Boyd, Barb Case, David Chappius, Lt. Frank Churnetski, Allison Clark, Susie Cohen, Dave Halter, Chris Jones, 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, Roger Ramsay, Tony Sciarabba, Eilleen Thomas, Mike Thompson, Paul Urai

Notes: Joan

Community Sharing:

Joan Lindberg (Lilac) shared the November issue of The Lilac Letter.

Ruth Andrews (Lilac) complained about the smokers from Strong Hospital who use Mt. Hope Cemetery as their smoking location on Elmwood Ave. They leave butts and trash behind, desecrating the cemetery.

Roger Ramsay announced that the **Highland Park Neighborhood** has a new logo.

Rose O’Keefe said that her **Regional History Fair** did not receive a United Way mini grant because it was a special event not a community project. However, historic markers in Sector 4 were given a United Way grant, so Rose will apply in January 2008 for historic markers.

Sue O’Neil announced that the NBN6 website (www.NBNSector6.org) has a page for the **Azalea Neighbors**. Just click on Azalea on the Home Page.

Vern Lindberg (Lilac) said that JAVA will perform at the South Wedge Farmer’s Market benefit on December 2, 2007 at Boulder Coffee. ... As the NBN6 webmaster, Vern passed around screen shots of the latest pictures on the website. There is a beautiful collage of pictures from the State of the Sector Conference. David Driskell spoke at the conference about the importance of a sense of place. Please send pictures from your neighborhoods to Vern so he can update the home page with pictures that convey a sense of place. ... The paragraph “About NBN” is now on the website. ... Suggestions for the website are welcome. ... Vern explained that too many pictures can cause the website to load very slowly, especially if someone does not have high-speed internet access.

Eilleen Thomas thanked NBN6 for the opportunity for **SWPC** to present information on grants and loans at the State of the Sector.

Bob Boyd of **SWPC** announced that the house at 11 Nelson St. has been renovated and will be ready for sale by February 2008. ... A grocer will move into the former Green Grocer site at Gregory and South by February 2008. The grocer will sell prepared foods. ... The statue of Nathaniel Rochester is being cast in bronze and will be at the park at South and Alexander by the end of 2007.

Chris Jones announced that **BASWA** had received funding from United Way for banners. ... Swing in the New Year will take place at the German House on December 31. ... There will be a holiday decorating contest in the South Wedge Area. ... There will

be a Solstice Party on December 22 at the Nathaniel Rochester Park. Buddahood will perform.

Denise Lipa (Upper Mt. Hope) said that the neighborhood will meet with the developer of Mamasans. There are plans to build a larger Starbucks in the block of Mt. Hope Avenue between Elmwood and Crittenden. The former Record Archive will be demolished. Neighbors who live behind that Mt. Hope commercial strip are concerned about late night drive through traffic. Some Upper Mt. Hope Neighbors support the proposed plan; others are against it. It has become a contentious issue within the neighborhood.

Lt. Frank Churnetski announced an Open House on Wednesday December 12, 2007 at 5:30 pm at the East Side Command Center (630 N. Clinton Ave.). This event will be in lieu of a PCIC meeting. Everyone is welcome. Police officers from each shift will be present to answer your questions. Holiday refreshments will be served.

Mike Thompson of the **Highland Park Neighborhood** said that his organization donated money to the SAVE group which has been lobbying against the Highland Hospital Garage. ... Mike heard many positive comments about the State of the Sector Conference. ... The next Highland Park neighborhood newsletter will be issued before Christmas.

Matt Perdue (Swillburg) announced a volunteer appreciation dinner at St. Boniface Gentleman's Club. A NeighborGood Grant funded the community dinner for the volunteers. Thirty-five people attended. ... Swillburg held a very successful Spooktakular Halloween event at School 35 on October 27th. ... **Matt announced that David Chappius received the Dorothy Richardson Award from the Northeast District of NeighborWorks. The award was presented in Boston. Hooray! Applause.** David neglected to bring the award for everyone to see.

David Chappius said that **Swillburg's** Year End Presentation / Christmas Cookie Event will be held on December 11 at 7 pm at School #35. ... Swillburg will judge holiday decorations on December 10th; awards will be given on the 11th. ... Swillburg received a United Way grant to purchase solar lighting and educational plaques for the art panels on Pembroke St. Work on the lighting and plaques will begin in Spring 2008. Swillburg will work with the faculty of School 35 to make the Pembroke St. historic panels a destination for educational field trips.

NET Update.

Lt. Frank Churnetski said that the Zero Tolerance crime initiative is still in force and is working very well. ... Burglaries have increased in the Highland Park Neighborhood, usually during the day. ... The RPD follows career burglars and robbers who are released from jail. This is called the ROPE initiative and is very successful at apprehending repeat offenders. ... There has been a rash of car larcenies in the Park Avenue area. The next PCIC meeting for neighborhood representatives will take place on November 14, 2007 from 5:30 to 7 pm at the East Side Command Center (630 N. Clinton).

NBN Update

~ There will be no December NBN6 meeting.

~ Please make suggestions for ordering food for NBN6 meetings.

~ There is approximately \$2K in funds left from the NIP grants. This money must be spent by June 30, 2008. David Chappius will discuss using this money for NBN6 informational signs throughout the sector. Possible locations include Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood, the South Wedge, and the Monroe County in Bloom site at Monroe and Pembroke St. David suggested that John Grieco, an artist who works in salvaged metal, could design the sign(s). Crosby-Brownlie is a source of scrap metal. David said that there is money in the NBN6 budget for permanent signage. Lt. Churnetski suggested that the signs be attached very securely, lest they walk.

State of the Sector Conference.

- ~ David Chappius thanked the committee who planned and executed the SOS Conference. The committee met only 5 or 6 times.
- ~ The total cost of the SOS Conference was about \$3K. \$1.8 came from a NeighborGood grant. \$1K came from the U or R to underwrite the food. Historic House Parts paid for an ad in the SOS folders.
- ~ The event supported local businesses.
- ~ There were 125 attendees, plus the volunteers.
- ~ 80 people attended the morning sessions.
- ~ 36 people were still in attendance for the closing remarks.
- ~ 50 surveys were returned.
- ~ Folks wished that David Driskell could have given a class.
- ~ Vern Lindberg wondered how the attendance was for all three sections of the afternoon classes.
- ~ Eileen Thomas said that 6 or 7 people attended the loan and grant sessions, so that she could give one on one consultations. Eileen observed that the people that SWPC serves for grants and loans are not the population that would attend the SOS Conference.
- ~ Denise Lippa said that 7 people attended the Communication session.
- ~ Gary Bogue wished that the sessions could have been longer. It was the best event Gary ever attended!
- ~ Matt McCarthy said that Chuck Thomas stated that nothing in his experience even came close to our SOS. The speakers were excellent.
- ~ Dave Halter congratulated the committee on getting all the developers to agree to come. Dave also said that Highland Hospital did not bring its latest drawings for the Hospital garage. Dave commented that there is too much untaxable land in this sector. (\$8 million)
- ~ Matt Perdue was excited about the morning presentations. If we did this again, what would we change?
- ~ Dave Halter said that we still do not know the effect of CityGate on this area. Dave suggested working with the Town of Brighton regarding CityGate. The City of Rochester is the lead planning agency on CityGate.
- ~ Bob Boyd said that the content was excellent. We should do this again.
- ~ Vern Lindberg hoped for more timely reporting from the D&C.
- ~ Mike Thompson wished for more interactive dialog with the developers.
- ~ David Chappius said that we can bring individual developers to our NBN6 meetings.
- ~ Victoria Posner said that the developer's session should have had a mid-morning break.
- ~ Barb Case suggested a new theme for the next SOS, perhaps economic development, jobs, or integrating government initiatives.

- ~ Dave Halter suggested bringing people in to give a lecture.
- ~ Matt McCarthy said that Joe Schilling of National Vacant Properties Campaign is coming to talk about landscaping vacant properties.
- ~ Gale Lynch said that Sector 6 should share its talent and expertise with other sectors in the City.
- ~ David Chappius asked if the timing of late October or early November was optimal.
- ~ Early Fall would not conflict with RCSD Saturday School.
- ~ Rose O'Keefe said that having the Recreation Center open allowed Rose and her husband to enjoy the conference while her grandson enjoyed the Rec Center. It was very positive.

January Meeting:

- ~ Invite the U of R to discuss the smoking ban on campus and its impact on the neighborhoods. How many employees have given up smoking as a result of the ban?