

NBN6 Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2007
NET Office - 846 S. Clinton Ave.

Present: Joanne Balliet, Ofc. Brian Bannerman, Sue Bellinger, Abi Buddington, David Chappius Philip Duquette, Dave Halter, Chris Jones, Joan Lindberg, Vern Lindberg, Ed Lindskoog, Denise Lippa, Matt McCarthy, Rose O'Keefe, John O'Neil, Sue O'Neil, Matt Perdue, Victoria Posner, Allan Richards, Peter Saxe, Tony Sciarabba, Eileen Thomas, Mike Thompson

Excused: Gale Lynch, Geri Machado, Joe Machado, Roger Ramsay

Notes: Joan Lindberg

NET Update

Officer Brian Bannerman said that the Weekly Crime Report listed 5 incidents in Sector 6, including robberies, a domestic stabbing and an assault.

Rose O'Keefe said that beer bottles were smashed at Marie Daley Park. Pete Saxe responded that a meeting had been held to address the problem of young "ruffians" gathering in the park for mischief. Gale Lynch, Lt. Frank Churnetski, Pete Saxe, Pathways to Peace and the FACIT Team were at the meeting. An increased police presence around the park has had good results.

Graffiti continues to be a problem. Marie Daley Park and the Genesee Credit Union have become targets. Based upon video surveillance cameras, it took only 20 seconds to tag the bank. Taggers do a little graffiti at a time, coming back several times to complete the picture. David Chappius asked whether citizens can cleanup graffiti. Pete Saxe showed examples of two graffiti removers (Klean Strip and Goof Off). Safety data sheets are needed before citizens use these products. Property and business owners need to be diligent about graffiti removal.

~ Denise Lippa said that a person is covering graffiti in the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood with green paint. Not a good solution.

~ No arrest has been made in the shooting of the owner of the liquor store on S. Clinton.

~ Mike Thompon said that groups of teens were walking around from 1 to 3 am, breaking into cars on Rockingham. There is only one RPD patrol car assigned to the curfew detail, and Hillside Children's Center is no longer a drop off point for the curfew breakers.

Pete Saxe announced a neighborhood meeting on Tuesday August 14 at St. John's Home. Lilac, Azalea, and May St. neighbors will learn the rules regarding rental properties. Investors from as far away as Utah, California and Australia are purchasing real estate in Rochester as investments. If the owner of a property lives over 100 miles from his / her property, a local property manger needs to be hired. In rental units of 15 apartments or more, a superintendent needs to be on call 24 / 7.

~ The Park Avenue Fest was out of control, with real potential for a riot. Lt. Churnetski diffused the situation.

~ The Fall Clean Sweep on Rochester's east side will take place on October 20. The NET Office on Norton St. is the gathering space. Please inform Pete of potential projects.

~ Pete urged citizens to contact the NET Office with problems. Do not assume that NET knows about problems. Please be pro-active.

Community Sharing

~ **Lilac Neighbors** had a very successful Night Out Against Crime at the South Ave. Fire House on August 1. 77 folks attended, including friends from other neighborhoods.

~ **Joan Lindberg** asked if anyone would like to represent Sector 6 at the upcoming Rails to Trails project. The City Engineer is investigating the conversion of the old **Erie Lackawanna Railroad Bridge** into part of the Trails system. Pete Saxe is on that committee and will represent us.

~ Lilac Neighbors successfully petitioned the **Preservation Board** to allow the City to repair the pedestrian **ramp at Highland and Mt. Hope Avenues** (a preservation district).

~ **Geri and Joe Machado** (May St.) are attending the 13 week **Citizens' Police Academy** every Monday, and will, therefore, miss a few NBN6 meetings.

~ 50 May St. was broken into on 8/13. That is the third break in on May St. in 4 months.

~ Seventy people attended the **National Night Out Festivities at Geri and Joe Machado's** home on Aug. 7th. Guests included the mayor, the police chief and his wife, the deputy police chief, Fire House 3, and a city council member!

~ **Rose O'Keefe** continues to prepare for the Regional History Fair on Monday September 17 at the German House from 1 – 8 pm. Rose needs more vendors for the Fair. The Fair conflicts with the Savor Our Flavor event in the City.

~ **Joanne Balliet** said that **SEAC** set up an **Advisory Council** regarding Zoning Enforcement.

~ **SEAC** has formed a **Landlords Council**.

~ Merchants would like **SEAC** to expand **the Adopt-a-Block program**. This program pays teens to sweep sidewalks on commercial avenues during the summer. However, **SEAC** needs additional money to pay the teens in order to expand the project. Denise Lippa suggested that **SEAC** look into applying for a grant to pay the teens.

~ **Chris Jones** announced that **BASWA** has teamed up with the Monroe County Parks Department to promote **Disney Mania**. This event will take place at Highland Bowl on Monday August 20. Tickets may be purchased from Historic House Parts for \$20, with **BASWA** earning a small commission. **Disney Mania** is a fundraiser for the Seneca Park Zoo.

~ **BASWA** is working with **The George Eastman House** to present 5 nights of classic movies in Highland Bowl in 2008. These classic movies are aimed at adult audiences and will be free.

~ **BASWA** is sponsoring **Art and Music Happy Hours** from 6 to 10 pm on the third Thursday of the month, starting in September. Events will be at Nathaniel Square Park and Star Alley in addition to several merchants on South Avenue.

~ **The Cypress-Linden Neighbors** will celebrate their 30th annual block party on Sunday August 19.

~ **Philip Duquette** said that there are 4 areas on the **South Wedge kiosk** where neighborhoods can advertise upcoming events. Submit an 8.5 x 11" pdf file to Philip by Friday afternoon. philipduquette@msn.com. There is one poster sized display area. Bring the poster to Philip (same time constraints). The kiosk will be updated every Monday. The neighborhood displays are restricted to Sector 6 neighborhoods.

~ **Eileen Thomas** said that **Wedgestock** will be held at Highland Bowl on Sunday August 26 from 1 to 6 pm. Music, tie dye, a local chiropractor, and a henna artist are some of the features of **SWPC's** annual meeting.

- ~ **SWPC** has been awarded its third **Main Street Grant** (\$200K) for work on S. Clinton Avenue from Byron to Gregory Streets.
- ~ **Vern Lindberg** said that the Southeast softball season is well under way. Visit **SEFCsoftball.com** and take a look!
- ~ **Dave Halter** said that the **Cinema Theater** is in Phase I of investigating ground contamination. Many upgrades to the theater have been accomplished: New air conditioning, digital sound, digital projectors, annexing the store next door, a new roof, and hiring a business manager. The Cinema is privately owned.
- ~ **Denise Lipa** said that the **Upper Mt. Hope Celebration of National Night Out Against Crime** was moved to Thursday August 9th, due to inclement weather on the 7th. There was a great turnout.
- ~ **UMHN** continues to have problems due to the **U of R's campus smoking ban**. UMHN will meet with the U of R.
- ~ **Merchants along Mt. Hope Avenue** are concerned about the plans to install a **median** that will inhibit access to businesses. The merchants claim that the City is not supporting businesses. The Mt. Hope reconstruction project needs the U of R's support to move forward, but the U of R is working with SWPC rather than the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood.
- ~ **Mike Thompson** said that the next issue of the **Highland Park Neighborhood newsletter** is going to press.
- ~ The **HPN's Taste of the Neighborhood Potluck** will be on September 15 at the Meigs / Linden Park. The event is partially funded by a NeighborGood grant. Neighborhood restaurants will participate. HPN is looking for a rain site. They expect 200 – 300 people to attend.
- ~ **HPN** meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month at NET.
- ~ **HPN** continues work on a new logo and brochure.
- ~ **HPN** suffers from the smokers around Highland Hospital. The neighborhood is working on a **Healthy Neighborhood Campaign**.
- ~ **Highland Parkway Neighbors** are planning an anticrime strategy meeting for Aug. 23.
- ~ **David Chappius** said that the **Swillburg Carnival** was held at Otto Henderberg Park on July 26. 350 people attended. Although corporate sponsorships are down, the food concessions made up the difference. It was a wonderful event.
- ~ **Swillburg will "Rock the Park"** every Tuesday in September at Otto Henderberg Park. Free band concerts will begin at 6:30 pm and food will be available to purchase.
- ~ Professional photographers are using the Otto Henderberg Park **gazebo** as the setting for many photo shoots.
- ~ The **City's Housing Study Presentation** will take place on Wednesday August 15 at the Lake Riley Pavilion at Cobbs Hill Park. The presentation begins at 7 pm.
- ~ Mayor Duffy's **Literacy Initiative** will be presented on Wednesday August 22 at the Lake Riley Pavilion of Cobbs Hill Park, beginning at 7 pm.

Whew! There is a ton of stuff going on!

STATE OF THE SECTOR Conference.

The State of the Sector Conference is made possible by a \$1800 NeighborGood grant from the Rochester Area Community Foundation. The Conference will take place on Saturday November 3. Save the date. The SOS committee is busy planning the details. Developers within the sector are invited to speak about their projects. Questions for developers will take place during a poster sessions at lunchtime. The afternoon will offer seminars on community building. Choose two from among six classes. Keynote and closing speakers will bookend the event.

Please let David Chappius know your newsletter deadline so that he can advertise this event in neighborhood publications.

Budget.

Our current NBN6 budget of \$5K runs from July 1, 2007 to June 30, 2008.

This year's budget will have a "green" (i.e. environmentally friendly) focus. Think energy star fluorescent lights and mulch.

David Chappius will e-mail the budget to the NBN6 distribution list shortly.