

**NBN Sector 6 Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday October 8, 2007**  
**NET Office 846 S. Clinton Ave.**  
**5:30 pm**

**Present:** Joanne Balliet, Sue Bellinger, Bob Boyd, Barb Case, Lt. Frank Churnetski, Peter Hahn, Dave Halter, Chris Jones, Joan Lindberg, Vern Lindberg, Ed Lindskoog, Denise Lippa, Geri Machado, Joe Machado, Matt McCarthy, Rose O'Keefe, John O'Neil, Sue O'Neil, Victoria Posner, Roger Ramsay, Pete Saxe, Tony Sciarabba, Ellen Micoli Soffa, Mike Thompson, Paul Urai

**Excused:** David Chappius, Matt Perdue, Allan Richards

**Notes:** Joan

**Community Sharing**

**Vern Lindberg (Lilac)** said that the Southeast Softball League is now in the playoffs. The final game and a cookout celebration will take place on Saturday October 13.

**Geri and Joe Machado (May St.)** reported that they are still attending the Citizen's Police Academy. Their graduation date is November 5<sup>th</sup>.

**Barb Case (HPN)** reported that the Cinema Theater is waiting for NYS approval before further work can proceed on the theater.

**Rose O'Keefe** reported that her oncologist's report was wonderful. Applause! ... Rose asked Pete Saxe to look into the placement of the "No standing" sign at the curb cut outside the South Ave. greengrocer. (South and Gregory). Pete will review.

**John and Sue O'Neil (Azalea)** proudly announced the publication and distribution of The Azalea View. Applause!

**Victoria Posner (Lilac)** reported on a very successful Furman Crescent Block Party on a cold and rainy September 15<sup>th</sup>. In spite of the weather, 25 people participated. The food was fabulous and plentiful.

**Chris Jones (BASWA)** announced the annual Historic House Parts Tent Sale on October 27, at 540 South Avenue. In addition to amazing bargains from HHP, the sale will include a garage sale table to help defray the legal costs surrounding the Highland Hospital garage issue.

**Roger Ramsay and Mike Thompson (HPN)** spoke about the very successful Taste of the Neighborhood event held on Saturday September 15<sup>th</sup>. About 300 people attended. The success of the day was ensured by many hard working volunteers. Dave Halter manned the grill. Many children participated. It was so well attended that they ran out of food! ... The next HPN meeting will take place on October 23 at the NET Office at 7 pm. A new logo for the Highland Park Neighborhood will be chosen from among 4 options. The new logo will be on display at next month's NBN6 meeting.

**Paul Urai (HPN)** announced the next Highland Park Neighborhood PAC TAC walk on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Denise Lippa (Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood)** announced a General Meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup> at the St. Anne Community Center (1600 Mt. Hope Ave.) Topics will include the reconstruction of Mt. Hope Avenue and getting a neighborhood grocery store.

**Bob Boyd (SWPC)** announced that 111 and 113 Hamilton St. are available for rent. Each house has two bedrooms. Rental prices will be in the range of \$600 to \$750, depending

upon the renter's income. A ribbon cutting on these two properties will take place on October 26<sup>th</sup>. ... Bob also said that 11 Nelson St., a CHODO house, is available for purchase. Persons with incomes in the \$30K to \$40K range are eligible to purchase this house. Monthly payments would be approximately \$700.

### **NET Update**

~ **Pete Saxe** reminded folks that the East Side Clean Sweep will take place on October 13<sup>th</sup>. If you have a neighborhood project in mind, call Pete ASAP. People will gather at 500 Norton St. at 9 am and then disperse throughout the neighborhoods.

~ If your neighborhood wants **bulbs for fall planting**, please contact Pete. 900 bulbs have been allocated for each sector. Some neighborhoods may have contacted Stacey Estrich directly, so Pete is not sure exactly how many are still available.

~ Due to the recent surge in crime, four NET Offices will be open from 8 am to 8 pm. Our S. Clinton NET Office is not one of the four. However, Pete Saxe and his staff will be helping to cover the extra hours at the Webster Ave. NET office.

**Lt. Churnetski** said that 20 extra officers have been assigned to problem areas: (1) Monroe – East – Alexander, (2) S. Clinton Ave., and (3) South Ave. Street lighting studies have been completed and trees have been trimmed where necessary. Many street robberies occur after the bars close. Drunken bar patrons are the victims. The RPD has met with bar owners and urged them to call a cab for patrons who are tipsy. ... The area around Gregory St., and S. Clinton and South Avenues is now considered an “entertainment” district that the police will patrol on a routine basis.

Barb Case asked whether long white tee shirts are gang attire. Lt. Churnetski said that the price of tee shirts (3/\$5) might have something to do with their popularity. Denise Lippa said that the long tee shirts are gang identifiers.

Lt. Churnetski reported a list of commercial robberies: Pontillo's Pizza, 495 South Ave, 1810 Mt. Hope, 709 S. Clinton Ave., and 404 Mt. Hope. All robberies occurred in the evening and all involved a gun.

Lt. Churnetski reported a shots fired event on Oct. 6 on Nelson St. A long gun was fired. The suspect left in a Honda.

PCIC meetings will change venues and agenda after the Wednesday Oct. 10<sup>th</sup> meeting at St. John's Home Sunrise Room at 6 pm. A community-wide PCIC meeting will occur in December at the Eastside Command Center. Date and time still to be determined.

### **Guest Speaker – Ellen Micoli Soffa**

Ellen works for EDR – Environmental Design and Research. EDR is conducting a feasibility study regarding the use of the old **Erie Lackawanna Railroad Bridge** as a connector to the Genesee Trail. The bridge crosses the Genesee River and connects Sectors 4 and 6. The bridge would be incorporated into a multi-use trail that would not preclude a possible light rail component in the future. As a trail connector, the bridge would be used only during daylight hours. However, the U of R is interested in lighting the bridge so that it can be used both day and night. The U of R is a landmark destination. Finding a new use for the bridge will improve the waterfront. This project is a high priority for the Genesee Valley Trails system. Once the EDR study is complete (this winter), work can begin on securing funding for the project. The old Vacuum Oil site on the west side of the river has serious environmental issues. It cannot be remediated

sufficiently for residential housing. However, it can be remediated and used for parkland. The late Larry Stid, Rochester City Planner under the Johnson Administration, had a vision for the entire trail system. A seven-member citizen's advisory committee is working on this project. Ellen will advise NBN Sector 6 about the next public forum meeting.

Someone suggested that Ellen should attend the State of the Sector Meeting on November 3 and display her maps and plans at the luncheon.

### **State of the Sector Update**

Joan gave an update regarding the activities of the SOS committee.

- ~ The developers who will speak at the morning session have been contacted. The one confirmation that has not been nailed down is the one with the current owners of the Psych Center on Elmwood Ave. Matt McCarthy and Allan Richards continue to work on that contact.
- ~ Descriptions of the afternoon breakout sessions are on the website. Someone wished that those class descriptions had been included in the orange flier.
- ~ Barb Case suggested that NBN Sector 6 invite neighborhood leaders outside the Sector to the afternoon classes. The SOS Conference was announced at last Month's Sector Leader meeting. It should be announced at this month's Neighborhood Presidents meeting.
- ~ Breakfast and lunch will be purchased from restaurants within Sector 6. Spending NeighborGood grant money locally is a stipulation of the Rochester Area Community Foundation. The U of R has offered to pay for lunch.
- ~ There will be no questions and answers during the morning presentations. People will have opportunities to dialog with developers during the lunch period.
- ~ The brown field discussion will take place during the luncheon session.
- ~ The librarian from Rundel Library was delighted to speak on all the grant opportunities available in her database.
- ~ Lt. Churnetski and Pete Saxe will teach the "Code of Conduct," based upon City Code and the noise ordinance.
- ~ SEAC, SWPC and NeighborWorks Rochester will present the "Home Loans and Grants" session.
- ~ Action for a Better Community will present three classes: Neighborhood Building Basics, How to Run a Meeting, and Neighborhood Communication.
- ~ Tom Huonker will present the session on the 2008 Tax Reassessment.
- ~ NeighborWorks Rochester will show the importance of "Keeping Your Balance" when volunteering in the community.
- ~ The Recreation Center at School 12 will open early so that the children of attendees can play. Babysitters for children ages 2 – 5 have been hired.
- ~ Joan called for volunteers to make the day run smoothly. Thanks go to the SOS Committee as well as others who signed up to help. We will be contacting all of you.
- ~ Keep checking the [www.nbnsector6.org](http://www.nbnsector6.org) website for news regarding the SOS Conference.

## **Sector Website**

Please visit [www.nbnsector6.org](http://www.nbnsector6.org). Look at the website with a critical eye and send suggestions to Vern Lindberg ([vwlsps@rit.edu](mailto:vwlsps@rit.edu)). Jessica Morrow created the website. Vern Lindberg, with Jessica's help, is maintaining the website.

~ Sue O'Neil asked if The Azalea View could be posted on the website. Sue saved it in PDF format.

~ Joan Lindberg would like a web page devoted to each neighborhood that currently does not have its own website. It could include contact information, pictures, current events, maps, etc.

~ Joan would like the Sector map to read "Southeast Rochester, NY." The map should have a compass rose.

~ Vern said that the calendar feature will be functional very soon. (It is functional now.) Contact Vern with calendar items.

~ Someone suggested that the website keep track of visitors.

~ Someone suggested a photo gallery.

~ The minutes should be archived since they do not take up much room.

~ NeighborWorks Rochester should be added to the "Neighborhood Preservation Companies" on the main page.

~ The current NBN6 Budget should be easy to find on the website.

~ The websites of other important organizations within Sector 6 could be linked from the website, e.g., Friends of Mt. Hope Cemetery, the University of Rochester, the Al Sigl Center, the Monroe Co. Parks Department, etc.

~ The website should have a "Last Updated" line.

~ The website should have a "webmaster" link.

~ Vern Lindberg said that "About Us" should have a paragraph regarding what Neighbors Building Neighborhoods is and does.

## **Coloring of the map.**

Denise Lippa outlined the boundaries of the Upper Mt. Hope Neighborhood. The Sector 6 map is complete.