

**NBN6 Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday February 8, 2010 - 5:15 p.m.**  
**Monroe Parks Department - 171 Reservoir Avenue**

**Present:** Joanne Balliet, Julie Beckley, Ellen Brenner, Bonnie Cannan, Barb Case, Ruth Danis, Harry Davis, Bill Gerling, Officer Brad Goater, Dave Halter, Helen Hogan, Dan Hurley, Cindy Knox, Joan Lindberg, Geri Arno Machado, Colleen McCarthy, Matt McCarthy, Aaron McGowan, Robert Morris, Nancy O'Donnell, Matt Perdue, Victoria Posner, Mark Quinn, Pete Saxe, Peter Siegrist, Larry Staub, Jared Strohl, Eilleen Thomas, Michael Tomb, Paul Urai, Carlene Woodward, Marcia Zach

**Community Sharing:**

**Jared Strohl of NeighborWorks** distributed information regarding loans for home energy conservation and home energy audits.

**Joan Lindberg (Lilac Neighbors)** said that the Rochester Area Community Foundation is aware that the City has stepped back from the Neighbors Building Neighborhoods process. In the past, NeighborGood grant applications have been tied to goals set through NBN. The Community Foundation may modify its NeighborGood grant application for the 2010 (Eastside) round.

**Hickory N.U.T.S. News.** On Sunday February 28, the residents of Hickory Street will be gathering at Calvary St. Andrews Church at 5 p.m. to share "Comfort Foods" (stews, soups, breads, salads, wine, etc.), to catch up on neighborhood news, and to provide a break from the winter blahs.

**The South Wedge** distributed the recent edition of The Wedge.

**The Highland Park Neighborhood.**

- 1) A New Issue of **The Buzz** is out and is available on-line at <http://blog.highlandparkrochester.org/2010/01/20/new-year-buzz-get-it-and-deliver-it/>
- 2) An Open meeting of the Neighborhood's Traffic Calming Team is planned for **Tuesday, February 23, 2010 at 7 pm, NSC Office at 846 South Clinton Ave.**
- 3) The Highland Park Neighborhood Association and The Cinema Theater are sponsoring another **Saturday at the Cinema** Event. The second movie this year is on: Saturday March 6 at 10 AM. The movie is Bolt. For more info <http://blog.highlandparkrochester.org/2010/02/11/saturday-morning-at-the-cinema-family-movie-on-march-6th/>
- 4) The next in our series of **Highland Park Tree Tours** is on Feb 20 at 1 pm starting outside the Lamberton Conservatory.
- 5) A PAC-TAC Walk (with free pizza) is planned for Feb 24th starting at 6:30 pm at the **NSC Office at 846 South Clinton Ave.**
- 6) Check our News and Event Blog at <http://www.buzzblastandblog.com> for the latest info.

Minutes: Nancy O'Donnell

**NBN Meeting - February 8, 2010**

NBN Chair Carlene Woodward announced the meeting might be shortened because many in the audience wanted to attend a University of Rochester long-range plan for upper Mt. Hope. The meeting starts at 6:30 p.m.

### **River Challenge**

The two-day event (Half Marathon, 5K, Duathlon, Triathlon) is planned for Saturday, April 24, 7:30 a.m., Genesee Waterways. The Flower City Half Marathon Mayor's Family 5K will be held on Sunday, April 25, 7:30 a.m.

They will publicize the event via newsletter, Facebook, flyers in area stores.

Volunteers are needed: for water stops, etc.

The course begins at Blue Cross Arena. It will travel through East, Park, left on Goodman, and Mt. Hope Cemetery.

The police have asked for a 3-½ hour cut off. The organizer will get a chart out and time frames for the event.

The organization is 95% complete (there will be port-a-pots), but they don't know yet if all S. Goodman is going to be closed nor any proposed detour routes.

The City of Rochester is the primary supporter.

For more information, contact Ellen Brennan [ellen@fleetfeetrochester.com](mailto:ellen@fleetfeetrochester.com), 697.3338

Some 1000 to 1,200 participants are expected.

(website: flowercitychallenge.com)

### **Crime report**

Report from Officer Brad Goater

A murder at 209 Sanford St. was ruled a homicide.

It wasn't a random act. It is still under investigation.

The victim was stabbed several times in the chest

### **Linden/Meigs St. Park shooting**

Police know who the parties are who were involved and the car used in the shooting. A house across from the park was hit. "No one involved wanted to be own up."

The victim doesn't want to say he was shot at. Both victim and shooter live in the neighborhood.

The police are trying to get the gun. They found no casing or weapons at the scene.

### **Strategic Plan for the Quadrant**

Peter Siecrest discussed a number of projects: f Art Walk 2

Citygate (canal)

Culver Road Armory

River Park Common

Alexander Park

College Town

NY Main St. Project/Winton road

East Avenue Wegmans

Siecrest outlined the members of the core team of people: Pete Saxe, Matt McCarthy, John McMann, Julie Beckley, Corey Brown (officer),

Diane Powell

Quad model puts all the members of the team together to enable quick change. Access to extended team, code compliance. Real estate, building,

Four key result areas

1. customer service

2. education – school district improvement plans, questions about which schools will close? charter schools.

(Comments were made to that each change affects the neighborhood and NBN needs to know more. They want to promote the school's successes to grown strong neighborhoods.

3. public safety – enhance communication, need to improve flow of info. Number 311. (help people use it)

4. neighborhood/business development – we want to be the best and beat our colleagues.

We want more businesses, stronger parks, land development.  
Home ownership - improve FIS program in Beechwood, get us  
Will need to go back ever 12 months to reassess  
Efforts for Greening – a lot of effort there, park improvement. Open space, urban gardens.

Commercial corridors was discussed  
South Avenue is a big success because of long-term effort by a lot of people. Use South Avenue as a model in other areas.  
Parking problems. Serious problem in some neighborhoods. Where to put cars & get people to walk?

Monroe Ave security was discussed  
Beechwood – off Webster Ave.  
Discussed vacant properties. Broadway over near Goodman/Meigs, Karges area  
(Goodman/S.Clinton)

### **Sector discussion**

Quad leaders said: We don't see ourselves as divided as a sector. It's good to keep the sectors as a group.

Peter Saxe – "It makes sense to handle [the quad] in terms of the differences. It reaches from Norton Street down to the Canal with the bulge in the meeting.

### **Strategic Plan**

Eileen Thomas (SWPC) said she was "dismayed that read through of the Strategic Plan in the area of neighborhood business development talked about "Recruiting a big box store. Nothing was said about on small or micro businesses. There's a severe lack in this plan.

Re: small businesses: "The money stays here if it's local, not so with a national retail chain."

Much discussion followed.

National retail belongs on Mt. Hope.

Victoria Posner (Highland Park Neighborhood Association) asked how much tax breaks would [a national chain] get. "This concerns me. The history of those kinds of things, [the businesses] get a lot more in breaks, than they add to the area. Any info on this?"

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Quad leader Peter Saxe said "We need a healthy mix. Not one against the other. "

Dave Halter (SWPC) said that the area on Mt. Hope/South Avenue, where the new high rise is surrounded by small lots. There's going to be 130 apts. coming in that certainly should drive small business. We need small business.

Carlene Woodward- No marketing emphasis on small businesses. You need some marketing, loans, grants, why reinvent the wheel. We have SWPC, BASWA, SEAC, a dynamic Mt. Hope planning task force.

Michael Tombs (Highland Park Neighborhood Association/small business owner)

There are many small home businesses in the area. Start up help is available. This needs to be marketed in our area. It is missing. And it could be added into the plan.

Matt McCarthy: "We need viable businesses"- Matt the bus. must meet the demands

Saxe we'll be using best plans model.

Victoria Posner asked if there are any business incubator programs? No central place to find out what's available.

Peter Saxe: Asked the group to e-mail him with comments and concerns. They will be discussing the points that we heard. Discussion continued on. Modifying the plans is possible. Saxe will talk to Eileen, Helen, Victoria, and Michael Tombs, and anyone else who wants to discuss the plan.

**Misc. discussions:**

Escape Committee

Monroe Ave small incubator space.

Education

Roch area community foundation. Neighbor grants available this year.

Tied to nbn plan. Looking to change application form as early as this year.

Parks Department reported about the room used for the NBN mtg.

Renovating upstairs rooms to have a lodge.

This will be available for our use.

The future Lodge will be able to use in May or June

**Reports:**

Paul – Highland Park Neighborhood- PAC 2/24

Mt. Hope – No report.

May St. – No report

Lilac Neighbors – no report.

Ruth Danis (HPNA )– commented on Traffic calming plans in the neighborhood

Getting involved with Monroe High, Center for Youth. On issues impacting the area.

Bob Morris, West View Terrace: has never been to a meeting like this before.

Rockingham/east of Goodman block club – No report

Joanne Balliet – SEAC

Neighbor Works Rochester rep. found the mtg. really lively. New program on energy efficiency.

Have a low cost loan. Brought flyers, if you have residents who might be interested, NW would be happy to come out to talk to residents

Michael T. (Highland Park Neighborhood Association): Tours of Highland Park continue; Open Meeting of our Traffic Calming – plan to deal with area around Meigs and Linden Park. Want feedback before they formalize it with the city. Lots of info posted on websites.

Harris Davis (SW resident): asked Peter Siecrest why there are no bicycles lanes planned for the new Broad Street.

Siecrest is working on a bicycle plan for the city.

Bonnie Canan, member of Group 14621: “-I have a lot interest. Brownfield- especially social issues in Rochester.

I became interested in quad. Came to the mtg. to get “Some sense of their own plans. How many common values shared across the different quadrants. Some conformity in some concepts. Concentration of poverty is awful.”

Helen Hogan – SEAC Executive Director: SEAC is interviewing for a street manager (funded by city, state, foundation, SEAC fundraiser).

Mr. Gerling, NYS Coalition with property owners: Bring the city ordinances in line with the constitutions.

Meeting adjourned.