

DRAFT COPY

Morningside Historic District Organization

30 July, 2011 meeting.

45Th.

The meeting came to order by the President at 10:22 A.M.

Mrs. Brown gave an invocation prayer.

Residence and Guests in attendance:

Ms. Patricia Brown

Mr. Richard Brown

Ms. Kate Cavanaugh

Mr. Rolland P. Hinton Treasurer

Dr. Jeff R. Wilson, President

Dr. Cheryl D. Wilson

Mr. Joel Janowski

Mr. Joe Leavy, City of Gary Logistics Section, Speaker

Secretaries Report: There being no Secretary, there being no meeting in June or May and no additions or corrections to the draft copy of the April minutes on the website*, they were unanimously approved as shown on the website* without update.

Treasurers Report: There is nothing new to report, account stands as April balance.

Presidents Report: His report is to be contained within old and new business.

Old Business:

Election for vacant office of Secretary; Nominations: Rolland nominated Joel for the office, and it was seconded. Joel said he would accept the nomination with reservations because the 'historical' records and past Minutes have yet to be returned by last year's Secretary. Jeff said that these are past issues and that they will be resolved in the future. Joel accepted the conditions and the vote was unanimous.

- A. There will be a City of Gary gondola for clean-up of big items and yard debris in the 4500 Block of Washington Street. It will arrive Friday August 5th and be removed on Monday August 8th. This date for clean-up is to replace the two other dates earlier in the Spring that fell through. Computer monitors are asked to be placed separately to one side outside of the gondola, tree branches and logs may be placed on the parkway by the dumpster and also can be placed on the individual lot parkways at the curb. The recycling people will be collecting large tree waste that week. Damaged trees in the parkway are suppose to be removed at the same time. Dead, dying and leaning trees on the individual lots, not in the public parkway, are supposed to be addressed by the City soon for possible removal at no cost to the residence. Please remember that the sidewalks are suppose to be kept clean and free of obstructions. Piles of debris are to be as close to the curb as possible, but not in the gutter or street.

- B. The minutes and records of the Morningside committees before the incorporation of and those of the first year of Incorporation of the Morningside Historic District Organization , will be addressed by the President and resolved.
- C. The previous companies bid received for the street toppers sign project was eventually turned down by the City of Gary who must make final approval. The City supplied Jeff with two other companies that the City will do business with and asked that we resubmit our proposal using one of there bids for the street toppers. Jeff did say that the City being familiar with these other companies might also lower the total cost because of previous ventures with the City. Jeff said he would work on the new proposal.
- D. The monument at the Gateway location at 46th and Broadway site was put on hold until our 501 (c) 3 non for profit status came though from the IRS. Now that we have the paperwork, we can actively seek out funding for the project.

New Business:

- A. The house at 151 West 46th Avenue formally the Arch Bridges halfway house is still for sale. Now since we have our 501, we can offer to the State run organization that they can donate the house to the MHDO as our Community Center. Jeff asked for a question, Joel Proposed that; "The MHDO give Jeff Wilson the opportunity and support to pursue the possibility of acquiring the Arch Bridges vacant halfway house at 151 West 46th Avenue for our use of being a meeting house for the residence of Morningside Subdivision." The motion was seconded by Patricia Brown and passed unanimously.
- B. A brochure was passed around showing the historic 'placks' that are available to the individual homes to show that they are on the National Registry of Historic Places. This does not mean that the homeowners have to meet special requirements or committees for improvements to their homes, but simply they are on the Registry.
- C. Jeff said that Shanika Alexander had expressed interest in creating a Hospitality Committee for new residence to the area and to keep the older and single residence in contact with their neighbors. This could be done with a welcome kit explaining the local emergency contact numbers, local trash and garbage pickup times, contact people, information about our website* and the like.
- D. Jeff expressed the need for assigning block captains' for contacting those not able to visit our website* and for general contact about MHDO activities. More to be done with this later.
- E. Special Project: The Indiana Tourism board wants to put out a brochure for the Visitors Center on Indianapolis Boulevard about our listing on the National Registry. Jeff asked that we start collecting photos of our homes for possible use in this brochure.
- F. Recycling bins are also suppose to be available to the residence on the 5th of August.
- G. NIPSCO now has a website for non functioning streetlights.
http://www.nipSCO.com/streetlight_outage.aspx
- H. There are horticultural Projects from Lew Wallace High School and others that we can now pursue now that we have our 501.
- I. Other potential Grants/Donors for Neighborhood Improvements. The following possible grants and the various different sources were discussed and it was agreed that: "Jeff Wilson be given the opportunity of pursuing all possible grants available to the MHDO", Mr. Brown seconded the proposal and it was voted approved unanimously.
 - 1. Home Depot Community Impact Grant for \$5000.
 - 2. Centier, Fifth/Third, Bankone Banks, NIPSCO, U.S. STEEL all have grants that we now can apply for.
 - 3. Weed and Seed in Glen Park is now available to us for funding.
- J. Community Partnerships;
 - 1. Gary Parks Department Historic preservation month in 2012. The parks will be celebration it's 100 birthday and has asked that we be part of the celebration. Although no meetings have been

scheduled as of yet, we are going to be involved. Mrs. Brown expressed and interest and asked to be kept in contact and might be willing to be our representative at the meetings.

K. Lew Wallace STEM Academy for landscape improvements. Another available possibility for civic improvements.

Jeff introduced the Speaker: Mr. Joe Leavy, City of Gary Logistics Section, Indiana District 1 Task Force:

He is to discuss the possible taxes being assessed Gary residences for the creating of the Little Calumet Conservancy District [I need the proper name] that is going to be taking over the maintenance of the Berm and Dike system along the Little Calumet River from the Little Calumet [need the proper name]. Taxes are going to be assessed for all parcels south of 21st Street in Gary for the project that goes the entire width of Gary and from I-65 to the Illinois state line effecting Griffith, Highland, Hammond, Munster and Unincorporated Lake County. Although only parts of Gary is effected by the flood basin of the Little Calumet River, the Gary portion is the greatest portion suffered by one City or town, yet we will be given representation of only 2 members of a 9 member board to oversee the new Conservancy District, which we feel is Taxation without representation! Mr. Leavy said that he will be keeping us inform of the public hearings in the future involved with creating this new District. Jeff mentioned that there is a meeting announced by Nancy Valentine:

We are requesting your attendance to develop strategies for opposing the proposed fee for the Conservancy District.

5th District Councilwoman Kimberly Robinson will present the facts as it relates to Conservancy District fee.

Councilwoman Robinson was the only councilperson courageous enough to vote against the additional fee and another layer of bureaucracy, we commend her for the position she took.

Meeting location:

Kennedy Library-39th Broadway

Date:

August 6, 2011

Time:

2:30 p.m.

Portions of which are pasted above here .

After the speaker passed out contact cards Jeff asked if there was any other new business. Joel mentioned that there needs to be a plan concerning contacting people, announcements and website* information to cut the costs of 'printing' and distributing announcements. Jeff said that, block captains', phone trees, contact information, street toppers and other nonrelated unfinished business of the like will be the subject of a special meeting before the next general meeting on August 27th 2011.

Joel presented the organization with his bill for the rental of the P.O. BOX and the ink that he used for the first half of the year, the total being \$125.95. Rolland said that if I have the receipts he has the check. The MHDO gave to Joel a check for \$125.95 for the before mentioned items as addressed in e-mails that Joel sent to Rolland and a copy of one of the e-mails and all receipts requested was given to the treasurer.

Apparently Chase Bank now owns 231 Glen Park Avenue due to foreclosure. Jeff said that he will also pursue the possibility of that house being the Community House.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10.

Joel Janowski, Secretary

*http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Morningside_Historic

