

Maxwell Park Neighborhood Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 10, 2010
Location: Melrose Leadership Academy, Brann Street
Meeting Minutes

Attendees: Adelle Foley, Angela Gums, Becky Wiegand, Claire Antonetti, Gus Argyropoulos, Helen Argyropoulos, Jan Hetherington, Jose Dorado, Josh Goodman, Kari Goodman, Keith Gums, Michael Haworth, Nancy Karigaca, Sarah Hipolito

Welcome Comments & Introductions:

Michael Haworth (Stand-In Chairperson) welcomed us and called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. He then explained and read the meeting ground rules for speaking from the floor.

Due to sharing the minutes late, the board agreed to review them and offer them for approval at the next neighborhood meeting.

Neighborhood Action Teams (NATS):

Blight and Beautification – Claire Antonetti: Claire discussed the final LAMMPS project meeting. The consultants will be finished with their parts of this phase this year, on schedule. This will be the gateway to Maxwell Park. The project will be an \$18 million improvement. We need to apply for more grants to move forward. There's an article penned by Adelle in the latest MacArthur Metro about the project. It will improve traffic flow, lights, pedestrian and bike paths, and beauty. A link to the LAMMPS website will be added to our website: www.lammepsplan.com/.

Jan said the third-Sunday cleanup is planned. Daffodils will be planted in the Courtland/High St. triangle.

Tonight is the first Blight and Beautification meeting for the High Street Contingency. The group is broken into three areas – upper High, mid High, and lower High. Allendale, Melrose High Hopes, and Maxwell Park neighbors are all participating.

Community Building – Jan Hetherington on behalf of Helen: Melrose Leadership Academy will be holding their Holiday Unity Party in December again this year. We may participate but that's not been decided yet. It will be in the second week of December and Jan will let the group and neighborhood list know about the date once she has more details.

Park – Nancy Karigaca: Nancy reported that the group got another \$25,000 from Jean Quan's office to add to the \$30,000 they had for park upgrades and projects. There is an additional grant proposal that will be sent in late November to redo the inside of the bathrooms. They applied for another \$86,000 for more construction and design costs and will keep the group posted on whether it's received.

Mosaics for the back wall will be done by students in their classrooms and then applied to the wall. Nancy will be reaching out to neighborhood schools to get participation from them. The design for this wall is the ground with water and a night sky. In September, two trash kids were decorated with mosaics on the Fleming side of the park.

The park group also held an event to build "scare kids" in October for Halloween. The event served about 20 neighborhood kids with materials and instruction on building their own scarecrow for the season.

Traffic – Adelle Foley: The traffic group will be meeting at Krista's house on Monday at 6:30 pm. A small group met to discuss the High Street problems and brainstormed ideas for the turn lane (and how to encourage people to use it as a turn lane rather than a driving lane).

Neighborhood Watch (NW) – Jan Hetherington: Nothing new except that it's a good idea to start or re-up neighborhood watch groups. Claire reported that the problems in a house on Camden and Morcom seem to have improved since Jose sent a letter to the homeowners from the board on behalf of surrounding neighbors. The renters who had been causing the problems appear to have moved out.

City and County Representative Reports and Actions:

Desley Brooks, Jean Quan, and Nate Miley were not represented.

Community Policing:

Neighborhood Services Coordinator- Mike Haworth on behalf of Araina Richards: There will be a meeting on 11/18 at the Oakland Museum held by Chief Batts for ComStat, the new crime statistics program. NSCs were assigned to the communications office for the Mehserle sentencing. Measure BB passed during the elections, so police assignments will likely change under the new mayor in January. November 11-12, city offices will be closed for the Veteran's Day holiday and a mandatory furlough day. Araina may only be able to attend every other board meeting, depending on her assignments and distribution of NSCs under the new mayor. She's currently managing five neighborhood areas, up from two-to-three previously.

No Guest Speaker

Announcements and Open Forum:

The group discussed some recent media accounts of OPD for the Mehserle sentencing as well as the man killed by OPD near our neighborhood earlier in the week during a domestic dispute by Trask and Seminary. The events have aroused more unannounced protests/marches in our area as well as police and helicopter presence.

Adelle is working on a story about minor victories for Thanksgiving and asked that people email her with any stories of small achievements or things to celebrate for her article.

We may not have a December meeting.

There was a group mentioned called America Works, funded by Measure Y and provides employment services for paroles and probation. We may have someone from their office come to speak.

Jean Quan officially won the mayoral race, 50.98% to 49.02% against Don Perata. She is holding an event tomorrow night called Block-by-Block at 6:30 pm at Union Hall at 99 Hegenberger.

Libby Schaff won District 4, Jean's old seat. And Desley Brooks was re-elected to the District 6 seat. We should invite them (and/or their representatives) to attend our meetings.

Angela has been nominated and seconded as an at-large candidate to join the board at the elections in February.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:20 p.m.