

City of Sheboygan
2019-07-16

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CITY OF SHEBOYGANMAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP CABINETTuesday, July 16, 2019

Mayor Vandersteen called the meeting to order at 6: 30 pm at the Law Enforcement Center, 525 N. 6 th Street. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Members present: Mayor Mike Vandersteen, Director of Planning and Development Chad Pelishek, Police Chief Chris Domagalski, Alderperson Dean Dekker, Jody Kraemer, Beth Counard, Tina Wick, Bryan Mohoric, Joe Clarke, and CJ Grace.

Others present: Elaine Jacks and Barb Felde.

Minutes: Motion and second to approve minutes of May 7, 2019 meeting. All ayes.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

Feature

Presentation:

"Sheboygan County Dispatch Center" Lt. Kristy De Blaey.

Lt. Kristy De Blaey is the Communications Manager at the Sheboygan County Sherriff s Office gave an overview of how the dispatch center works and discussed the improvements and the streamlined efficiencies that have been realized as a result of combining the City of Sheboygan Police Department dispatch with the Sheboygan County Sherriff s Office dispatch. Police Chief Domagalski concurred with the improvements and the advantages of this combined dispatch center. After this introduction the group proceeded to tour the facility. When the group returned to the meeting space, they further discussed the challenges that dispatchers face with regard to the extremely stressful nature of their jobs.

Link to the presentation: www.sheboyganwi.gov/emergency-comm-presentation

Neighborhood Association Reports

Vollrath/North Point Beth Counard reporting: They just had their annual picnic and elections in June. Their third annual neighborhood historic walk will be taking place on October

5. They are putting together a plan to adopt Cole Park in the next two years. They have submitted a proposal for the mini grant program. They have a lot of great participation from their neighborhood for their programming. The Monday night food truck event continues to be very popular and the majority of people in the neighborhood enjoy it and embrace its success.

Gateway Elaine Jacks reporting: They had their large item disposal program on May

25. They recently had their general meeting and held an election four new people were elected to the board. The new president is Tina Wick, she took over the rest of the report. The car show is happening on Sunday, July 21. The past president, Henry Capatillo, talked to Tina about getting a business association together for this neighborhood, it is a work in progress. Other ideas for ways to improve and serve the community are for a food drive and to host the food trucks on Michigan Avenue (this might include needing to add garbage cans).

Indiana Corridor Alderperson Dean Dekker reporting: Their large item disposal program took place on May

4. They have a replacement vice president because the previous person moved out of the neighborhood. They are planning on doing a neighborhood clean-up in August and a hot dog cookout in September. They have applied for a mini grant to fund a shelter for the porta potty at Moose Park.

King Park Bryan Mohoric reporting: They had their hot dog cookout in June and it was a huge success, they actually ran out of food. In August they will be hosting the National Night Out event. They have been working with the Longfellow kindergarten to donate money to them for their book drive. They have an election coming up which will include voting for a president, secretary, and board member. The current president is Rick Gorr, he said he s ready to step down if someone else is interested in the position, but if there are no other candidates then he will stay. Attendance at their meeting has been increasing, so that s helpful. There is still talk of a having a kite surfing competition, it had been on the back-burner for a while, but it is still in the works. Chad Pelishek stated that he recently met with Rick Gorr at King Park to discuss upgrading some lights there this would include converting the lighting along the trail to match the white ones that are along South Pier.

Near North Joe Clarke reporting: They hosted the large item disposal program on June 1, it didn't have a huge turnout but it was nice for the neighborhood to see this type of programming being available. They had their board meeting last week, so they are back up to a decent count on the board, they had dipped down to the point where they weren't really able to function. They have now modified their founding documents so they aren't required to have quite so many board members. They are planning for their neighborhood picnic on August 21. They are doing fewer board meetings, but trying to make them more interesting and relevant by having guest speakers such as City Forester Tim Bull.

Historic Grant CJ Grace reporting: They hosted the large item disposal program on May 11 and it was well-received by the neighbors, they handed out flyers door to door to promote it. Their next meeting is July 22, their annual meeting where they vote for board members is on August 26. The turnout at their monthly meetings has been low, so they are trying to figure out how to engage more neighbors. They are thinking of doing a hot dog cookout in August, but are struggling to find a date that works.

Memorial Jody Kraemer reporting: Their president has relocated to Arizona, they are sad about that because she was a great president. They hosted the large item disposal program on May 18, it was very successful and they are hoping to be able to do it again in the future. The nuisance neighbor is on probation, so the neighbors are hopeful that she's following the rules for that. They will be doing their first historic walk on October 12. Board elections will be held in October.

Ellis No representative present.

Maple Heights No representative present.

General MNLC report from Chad Pelishek: Nancy Maring is currently on maternity leave, but when she comes back to the office in mid-August it should be noted that she won't have the availability to work with the neighborhood associations as much as she has in the past with regard to attending all of their meetings. The neighborhood beat officers might have increased involvement due to this change. They may have the goal of attending neighborhood meetings quarterly. Chad is proposing that the MNLC representatives have some thoughts and discussion about how City Staff can still serve them, there is a good communication line in place he advises that the MNLC representatives reach out via email, phone, or in-person when questions come up rather than waiting to have those conversations with City Staff at their individual neighborhood association meetings. City Staff may work on developing a schedule to attend neighborhood meetings every few months. As the number of neighborhood associations grow, Chad encourages the MNLC representatives to take the lead on reaching out to City Staff. Mayor Vandersteen said that the priorities are built around keeping all of the neighborhood associations healthy so if there are some that are struggling, they will get extra help.

Chad mentioned that the Planning & Development office will supply hot dogs for use by the neighborhood association meetings. He would need to have 3 - 4 days of notice prior to the meeting in order to provide them. They buy the buns at a discounted rate from Johnston's Bakery and they buy the hot dogs through a partnership with Old Wisconsin (the hot dogs are kept in supply in the freezer in City Hall). They also have a rolling hot dog cooker available.

Mayor Vandersteen asked the group how many of them are utilizing the minutes from the MNLC meeting to share with others in their neighborhood associations. Several people said that they read them and Chad suggested that they forward the emails with the MNLC agendas and minutes to their fellow board members.

Update on mini grant project ideas Chad Pelishek reporting: he has been in contact with a number of the MNLC representatives. Vollrath/North Point is interested in brochure holders, he anticipates that will be funded. Gateway isn't submitting anything. Indiana Corridor hasn't submitted their application yet. Dean Dekker said he is working with Joe Kerlin (Superintendent of Parks & Forestry) to determine a cost for their project. Chad advised Dean to submit the application anyway and leave the cost blank. The main thing is to provide an overview for the project to build a shelter around the porta potty. King Park is interested in a dog poop bag dispenser, he said that will be funded. Near North hasn't submitted anything. Historic Grant hasn't submitted anything. CJ Grace said that they had talked about some ideas but didn't settle on one thing. One of their ideas was garden beds at Grant Elementary School, the major challenge would be funding a project on SASD property, Chad suggested that if they have a plan B to contact him. Memorial will be meeting with Nancy to discuss their project.

Sheboygan Neighborhood Pride Update Mayor Vandersteen read a report that was provided by Penny Weber:

End Park had their first election of neighborhood association board members and has made their application to be recognized as a neighborhood association. When approved, they will be the 10 th neighborhood association.

South Calumet will have its 2 nd meeting soon.

Franklin Park will be hosting its 2 nd annual Family Fun Night event in July.

Kuehne Park has been performing outreach in their neighborhood by making personal contacts with neighbors, introducing themselves and telling them about the neighborhood group and asking them to come to a meeting. Neighbors are also being encouraged to sign-up for Nextdoor.

National Night Out will be held on Tuesday, August 6, at King Park 5: 00 7: 30 pm. All neighborhood associations are invited to set up a table to spread the news about their individual organizations.

BEST PRACTICES DISCUSSION (Open forum)

Chad Pelishek: The next MNLC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17 and he has proposed the idea of having a cookout at a park shelter (likely King Park pending availability) to celebrate the successes of the Neighborhood Associations; food would be catered by Three Guys and A Grill. All of the MNLC representatives will be invited as well as the board members from each of the Neighborhood Associations, neighborhood police officers, etc. This would replace the regularly scheduled MNLC meeting. This event will provide time for open networking and to celebrate reaching the milestone of having 10 Neighborhood Associations. Mayor Vandersteen mentioned that one of the examples of Neighborhood Associations that we are modeling after is Green Bay, they currently have 34 Neighborhood Associations.

A question was asked about where to get a few copies of print-outs of the event flyer to use for handing out, Chad and Mayor Vandersteen both offered to provide these from their offices upon request.

A question was asked about how many board members each of the Neighborhood Associations has. One answer was five board members consisting of a chairman and four board members. Indiana Corridor has five: president, vice president, treasurer, secretary, one at-large. The person who asked the question only has 3 board members, and they are usually the only ones who show up to their monthly meetings plus 1 or 2 others. She was thinking that if they increase the size of their board that it might help with having more people attend their meetings.

Barb Felde asked about a recent article she saw about the community receiving EPA brown field grants, she would like to learn more about that. Chad Pelishek responded that the Sheboygan County Planning Department has received this grant for the third year to allow developers and/or private property owners (for example: gas station properties) to do phase 1 or phase 2 environmental site assessments. This is commonly used for when a property is going to be redeveloped, potential buyers want to know the condition of the ground. This program is administered by Sheboygan County and people to have apply for the funds. If the funds aren't used then they go back to the federal government.

Chad Pelishek stated that last year they added additional lights in select neighborhoods as part of a lighting initiative. They budgeted \$50,000 of Federal Block Grant dollars of last year's allocation to do the rest of the city. The third shift police officers have helped the Planning & Development Department to map the rest of the city to show what areas are the darkest. Then they have a consultant that develops a map that looks like a heat map the darker the color the less lighting there is. As a result they have identified roughly 50 locations that need additional lights. They are working with Alliant Energy to come in and add cobra-head street lights particularly on streets and some in alleys. The target area is bordered by Eisner Avenue on the north, Union Avenue on the south, 18th Street on the west, and the lake on the east. Mayor Vandersteen commented that this program is amazing because he recalls when he was an Alderperson in the 1990s that residents would come to Council meetings to beg for a mid-block light and many times they didn't receive it. Chad commented that the advantage now is that the new lights being installed are

owned by Alliant Energy and are LED, which is very energy efficient, and for street lights that need to be replaced, those are being converted to LED. The city pays a flat rate to Alliant Energy each year, adding more street lights is not costing the city more though because the new ones are so energy efficient. A question was asked about if there is a plan to trim trees that hang over the street and block the street lights. Chad responded that it is a balancing act between keeping enough of the trees that they stay healthy versus trimming enough that they don't block the light, the City Forester is in charge of that.

Elaine Jacks asked if there is anything that can be done about the cement retaining wall next to their community garden on 10 th Street and Erie Avenue that is falling over. Chad had a structural engineer look at it and he said that although the wall is tilting, it still has rebar across it and is not moving very much. He expects that it would cause more problems trying to fix it rather than just leaving it alone. At this time there are no plans for the city of fix it, but if that changes Elaine wants to be informed so they can make accommodations for the garden bed that s next to it.

CLOSING OF MEETINGNext meeting date: Tuesday, September 17, 2019.

ADJOURNMeeting adjourned at 8: 05 pm.