

CITY OF SHEBOYGANMAYOR'S NEIGHBORHOOD LEADERSHIP CABINETTuesday, January 16,
2018

Mayor Mike Vandersteen called the meeting to order at 6: 30 pm in the Rocca Room of the Mead Public Library. The Pledge of Allegiance followed.

Members present: Mayor Mike Vandersteen, Director of Planning and Development Chad Pelishek, Neighborhood Development Planner Nancy Maring, Abraham Loya, Scott Hanson, Jody Kraemer, Peter Sjollem, Dean Dekker, Henry Capetillo, Grazia Perrella.

Others present: Officer Matthew Heimerl, Bob Wallace, Jenny Given, Nancy Lorenz, Asher Heimermann.

Minutes: Motion by Scott Hansen, seconded by Grazia Perrella to approve minutes of December 12, 2017 meeting. All ayes.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION ONLYFeature

Presentation:

Targeted Code Enforcement - Bob Wallace and Nancy Maring
Nancy Maring (Neighborhood Development Planner) Neighborhood revitalization 2017 achievements: It was the first year that target neighborhoods were chosen directly related to the strategic plan with the object to identify and stabilize areas that were in need of rehabilitation Maple Heights (formerly called North Flats), Kuehne Court (Northside), Flats (Southside), Franklin Park (Southside) Developed a baseline by surveying the neighborhoods to understand the existing conditions, this enables measurement of future successes for targeted code enforcement (will survey neighborhoods again in the future to document improvement) Third shift officers were utilized to assess the need for lighting upgrades by providing them with a map and a rating scale for streets within each targeted neighborhood, Nancy then mapped that data with GIS software which resulted in determining that there were more than 100 street lights that were not functioning. Some of those street lights are owned by the City and some are owned by Alliant Energy, so we worked together to get all of them repaired. Numerous locations were determined to be in need of street lights where they had never previously existed and those are in the process of being completed. Invested in tree trimming in the central city neighborhoods: the Parks & Forestry team averages 8 years between each time a tree is trimmed so in the areas that need more attention they have developed a plan to get to them sooner. Two new neighborhood associations joined in 2017: King Park and Memorial Sheboygan Neighborhood Pride is working on adding The Flats, Franklin Park, and Vollrath/North Point Neighborhood Achievements & Events: Developing neighborhood signage, Historic Walk, Neighborhood clean-ups, Park clean-ups, Adopt-a-family for the holidays, Blue Santa Contributions, Neighborhood Planning, Block parties, and Informational meetings Saturday, October 14 Rock the Block was a joint effort with Habitat for Humanity in the Franklin Park neighborhood (area from 10 th St. to 11 th St. between Georgia

and Clara) to do many small improvements including trimming overgrown vegetation and installing motion sensor lights. In the future the plan is to do Rock the Block every spring and fall with one on the northside and one on the southside. Maple Heights is the first to create a neighborhood plan that builds a vision and sets a path for their future, it also determines what they expect from the City and what they can accomplish themselves. Bob Wallace (City of Sheboygan Building Inspection Division) Code Enforcement: Most extreme cases were discovered on view rather than reported by neighbors Many of the extreme cases are considered neighborhood killers because they establish an informal standard for the neighborhood Partnership between the Police, City Attorney, and Department of Public Works is key to the success of the program Focusing efforts with neighbors and neighborhood associations has proven to be a success Great deal of time is spent educating residents and property owners on the importance of keeping their properties up Code enforcement is aligned with the crime-fighting prevention strategy of the Police Department just one blighted property can bring down the morale of the whole neighborhood because it potentially attracts bad tenants and crime The partnership between code enforcement and the neighborhood associations is a great asset because some residents might not feel comfortable contacting the City, so they speak to their neighbor association which in turn act as the pipeline to provide that info to code enforcement Voluntary compliance is what they are striving for neighborhood associations and residents create a new expectation about what it tolerated in their neighborhood One area that code enforcement has focused on is the main thoroughfares because we want to present a positive first impression for people who are entering our community They don't want to just write out tickets they want to find solutions for property owners so they can make improvements that fit in their budget within a reasonable timeframe. They also want to protect tenants who might be intimidated by their landlords. The area on Erie Ave. that has been rehabilitated by Habitat For Humanity is a great success story because that neighborhood has seen a significant decrease in crime. Extremely blighted properties are a burden on the tax payers because when the City is forced to intervene and do the clean-up When a complaint comes in the following steps take place: City inspector visits the property for a visual survey takes notes and photos Office staff compiles the survey info into an official document of notice which is sent to the property owner (they must correct the violation or they will be ticketed). The notice includes the deadline to comply, then the inspector goes back to re-inspect and if things are not in compliance then a ticket is issued (\$691 per violation). The inspection department is flexible with deadlines upon request and with an action plan to correct the issue. A citation with a court date goes out. Municipal court they have to come in and enter a plea. If they pay the fine but still don't make arrangements to get the problems fixed, they will accumulate further citations the inspector comes back every month. Neighborhood Revitalization: The City's New Path. The Partnerships have been key to the success of this program: Sheboygan Police Dept. Habitat for Humanity Lakeshore Apartment Association City Attorney's Office Partners for Community Development Rebuilding Together DPW Crews Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) City Department Heads Mayor's Office Love INC The important thing is that people need to report problems in their neighborhood anonymous reports are completely acceptable.

Neighborhood Association Reports

Gateway Pastor Abraham is going to be heading up the committee that will coordinate block by block clean-ups, he will also be joining the MNLC as the

Gateway Alternate. They are starting to plan for the car show this will be a family event and will not serve alcohol potential date is the last Sunday in July. The Michigan Avenue block party is in the planning stages the main responsibility falls on the bars.

Ellis No members present.

Maple Heights Nothing new to report, next meeting is at the end of January.

Near North No members present.

Indiana Corridor They have approved their new logo. They have one issue house that is being dealt with.

King Park They are pleased to report that the people who were involved in the gun incident at the park last summer have been convicted. The restaurant on the corner of 8 th and Georgia Ave. has unfortunately closed and is up for sale again. Ongoing interaction with Sheboygan Paper Box regarding the truck traffic it is a challenge with truck drivers who are not familiar with the area but they are working to educate the truck drivers as much as possible. The north side of King Park has been cleaned up which has resulted in two houses being made quite visible so it is possible they property owners might put up fences, but ultimately it was a good change. They had a group get-together to do Christmas gift wrapping it was a small but enthusiastic group.

Memorial The issues with feral cats and a drug house on Clifton Ave. are being worked on. They are looking on the horizon to the move of Memorial Hospital in about 5 years and how that will impact the area they expect an announcement from Aurora in March.

Sheboygan Neighborhood Pride UpdateNo updates.

CITY STAFF UPDATES

Report by Police Chief Christopher Domagalski The Chief was not able to attend, so Officer Matthew Heimerl spoke on his behalf. Forms are available for the Citizen s Academy, applications are due February 28. Drug court is off to a good start, it is limited to about 16 - 18 clients at a time.

Report by Director of City Development Chad Pelishek The gas station at 2117 Indiana Ave. has a resolution of a plan accepted by the Common Council for the City to take title to the property and dealing with whatever is there for contamination. County Treasurer Laura Henning-Lorenz told Chad that it is in their packet of properties that they plan to foreclose on in May, she anticipates that they will take title to it sometime in November. After that it should be a direct conveyance from the County s process to the City, therefore the City should have it by January 2019. Once the City has ownership of the

property there is an exemption in State statute that the City doesn't assume any responsibility if contamination is found. If any costs are incurred with cleaning up contamination, the City would have to sue Lakeshore Oil. A date for the next Landlord Training Program is in the works for the end of April, at the March meeting of MNLC there should be brochures available. It is a 4-hour crash-course of how to be a landlord. Over the past 6 - 7 years, approximately 150 landlords have been trained through this program. There is now funding in place for the grant program for neighborhood signs. There will not be a formal application process, so those who are interested should contact Nancy Maring to make arrangements.

Updates from Mayor Vandersteen: There is a feature on sheboyganwi.gov for reporting problems in neighborhoods, from there it is funneled off to the proper department whether that be the police, the fire department, inspection, code enforcement, etc. We also have an app for your phone that's called Click 2 Report that enables you to take a photo of the issue and submit it. When you report these things you get a confirmation when it is received and you also get a notification when the issue is closed. It's great to see people from the neighborhood associations running for alderperson kudos and good luck to Dean and Grazia from the MNLC.

CLOSING OF MEETING Next meeting date: Tuesday, March 6, 2018.

ADJOURN Motion by Scott Hansen, seconded by Grazia Perrella to adjourn the meeting. All ayes. Meeting adjourned at 7:37 pm.