

# FLINT NEIGHBORHOODS UNITED MEETING

Kearsley Park–Mott Service Center

March 2014

## MINUTES

9:00 A.M. CALL TO ORDER - Chris Frye

9:03 A.M. MONTHLY ROLL CALL - Donna Calvin

Mark Smith updated the group on the health and welfare of Mr. David Caswell, lifetime City of Flint resident, community advocate, and volunteer. Cards were passed amongst the attendees for signing and will be presented to Mr. Caswell.

City of Flint Police Chief, J. Tolbert, addressed the FNU group, informing and updating them on the present and future activities of the police department. He stated that, **1.** A 'Foundation for Public Safety' was being established to help to ensure the improvement of services by the police department and for the public. Donations are welcomed. **2.** The framework for a community radio patrol is underway. Chief Tolbert told the group that, 'under the Blue Badge umbrella, old police radios that are still operable will be utilized by community watch groups to assist the police department by looking out and being aware of the happenings in their neighborhoods. Training sessions are being formed and scheduled to prepare individuals to become an active participant in this program. **3.** A new Resource Officer is being put in place to service the Flint public school system. **4.** Accountability of the police department will be established by requiring officers assigned to neighborhood patrols to attend the meetings of established and registered neighborhood associations. All groups are encouraged to register with the city. An officer will also be assigned to stay in communication with the FOCOV newspaper. **5.** City to set up a Facebook and Twitter page that will be accessible to anyone with internet access. A 24 hour alert system is also available for use on smartphones.

The Flint Police Department will be in cooperation with the county of Genesee.

10:00 to 10:20 BREAK OUT SESSIONS FOR FNU ACTION TEAMS/COMMITTEES

Chris Frye - suggested that a spreadsheet that would be used to keep track of where and how many newspapers were being delivered by FNU members be created. He also informed the members that he could email out to anyone a flyer that can be printed out to use when newspapers are displayed, stating that the papers are 'free to the public'.

Jane Richardson - stated that articles for this month's newspaper were due March 8, and volunteer were needed to stuff bags for the KGCB conference.

Officer Tanya Meeks - informed the FNU that 'LOVE YOUR CITY' signs to remind neighborhoods of spring clean ups, would be available this spring for neighborhood groups to utilize. Details are forth coming.

Raul Garcia - informed the group of the bundling requirements of the tree limbs for the spring clean ups. A chipper will be available for large limbs. Organized groups must call in to have use of this service.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Chief service officer, Mary Zumbrunnen ([mary.zumbrunnen@gmail.com](mailto:mary.zumbrunnen@gmail.com)), announced that two workshops for sharing emergency preparedness kits would be available to the community and 'one on one' sessions on Red Cross Readiness Training would be available also. Those interested can contact Mary by email.

A calendar of community events will be on the back cover of the Feb/March FOCOV newspaper.

All were invited to attend the Master Plan workshops for the Grand Traverse Greenway Trail. Flyers were passed out and will also be made available through the FNU email blast out. Feedback from the city is welcomed.

Audrey Martini informed the group that applications for the City of Services program are available.

Blight forms for graffiti are available. Dates and needed information will be available through FNU email blast out.

## **REPORT OUTS FROM SUBCOMMITTEES**

Court Watchers – Kate Cole reported that she and Dale Scanlon were contacted by Police Chief Tolbert and a conference call was held.

Blight – Gary Bernard reported that the group would be addressing city code violations.

Party Stores – Officer Meeks attended a workshop sponsored by the Michigan Liquor Control. Group will be looking at the ordinances of other cities and how those cities have handled their concerns.

Newspaper – Sandra Robinson reported that the group would like to honor the legacy of David Caswell. Discussions were held on ways to finance the newspaper.

Communications – Brenda Hussey reported that newspapers can be delivered to the schools at the discretion of the school principal.

11:07 Meeting Adjourned

**Flint Neighborhoods United is a coalition of block clubs and other neighborhood organizations, associations and crime watch groups that meet the first Saturday**

**of every month from 9A.M. to 11A.M. at the Mott-Kearsley Park Service Center. For more information contact fnucommunications @ gmail.com. You can also visit us on facebook.**

**ALL COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION PRESENTED TO THE FNU WILL BE BLASTED OUT (emailed) TO ALL FNU MEMBERS AND RECEIPIENTS.**