

FLINT NEIGHBORHOODS UNITED  
MINUTES - March 2015

9:15 Call to Order, Joe King

1. Minutes from last meeting were available for review.
2. Guest Speakers: Nicole Batway, MSU Extension, Howard Croft, City of Flint Director of Public Works, Carrie Edwards and Lt. Michael Cochran, City of Flint Fire Department.
3. Speaker, Howard Croft, City of Flint Director of Public Works.
  - Water issues: KWA will decrease what the city pays for water on a monthly basis, by \$143,000. It is the best way to stabilize rates. Detroit terminated the contract with Flint. The issue was how would Flint get water. Upgrades to the water system from 7 million, 8 million to 12 million dollars a year. Instead of lowering the rates, the upgrade and investment in the infrastructure. Recommendations of what the water will be was presented to the City Council in April, the fixed/variable cost.
  - Quality - a switch, water advisory environment for problems. To flush out the bad, but it didn't work. The city should have notified the residents sooner about the high TTHM level. Consultants have been added, due to public outrage. There are two committees, the Technical and Public committee. The public committee includes colleges, hospitals, DEQ, medical community to give information to them on the water. Eight sites have been tested, all below the limits, no discoloration of water. The State of Michigan has a Distressed City Fund and Flint has applied for two, the Incubator and Leak Detection Program. The City has 7000 valves, they are underground and don't know if they are open or closed. The hydraulic model will cost 5 to 10 thousand a valve to replace and 50 thousand for the big ones. Question: Why are Beecher water rates lower than Flint? Flint does its own repairs and the out county (outsource their work). Flint had 350 water main breaks and the out county had 20. When there are fewer people sharing the fixed cost is higher. More people would decrease the costs. The testing of the water, the report is made public, the colleges have done their own tests. The city uses Test USA and it costs \$200-300 a test. To replace the whole system in Flint would cost \$600 million, it is about \$1 million per mile. There are Water Reliability Studies with the DEQ. Capital Improvement Plan will continue to make improvements, leak detection, maintenance and repairs.
4. Nicole Batway, MSU Extension: Programs are available, they are free, information on health and nutrition, it is a summer program.
5. Updates: Blight: R. Garcia, main clean up, getting started with the neighborhood clean up. Vince Slocum: Resources of dumpsters will be available for neighborhoods. Party Stores: MLK and Dayton St. the Pastor of Salem Lutheran Church had a meeting with the Michigan Liquor Control, they have temporarily suspended the liquor license. The 500 feet rule was a factor. Communication: C. Wolcott, website, newspaper, Facebook and Twitter are available ways to communicate with FNU. Tracking and mapping, Jessica will do.
6. Action Plan: Documents - what links you want, give feedback, spread the word, visit the website. Friday - Email zoning - go to the meetings, it might be a chance to change things. Community Action Plan: completed two of them, he is looking for plan for the party store

and blight committees. Chris wants to sell ads, asking for donations to raise money for the newspaper, suggested a 50/50 raffle. The ads are on the website.

Master Plan: Vince Slocum - Zoning/Basic Training, it is open to the public, training in April and May, there are four sessions, he is asking for a commitment for at least 3 out of 4.

7. State Police: Trooper Kramer - Light Up the City starts in April, meeting will be on 3/19/15 at Carpenter Rd. School at 9:00am. He stated that he is available to neighborhood groups.
  8. Flint Police: T. Meeks is working on Atherton and Dart Service Center, it should be open in the next week or two. She invited everyone to the open house, it will be operated by the Neighborhood Service Officers. The Pierson/Clio Rd office will be in the old Radio Shack store. Land Bank: Clean/Green Grant is being reviewed. The Neighborhood Summit is May 18, 2015. Flint Fire Dept. - C. Edwards indicated that one block club improves our ISO rating that determines your insurance rate. Flint is at 5. Lt. Cochran encouraged groups to reach out to them for education.
  9. New Business: Spring clean up by your group, let FNU know about it, so it can be placed on the web, let's help each other. Officer Meeks asked that we watch how we use our Facebook page, if you are quoting someone, please get their permission first. Facebook/Newspaper pictures, we need permission from the person. The Circle Drive Neighborhood Association will meet at the new service center in the Dart Mall in the old dollar store, April 2, 2015 at 6:00pm.
  10. Next meeting April 11, 2015.
- Meeting adjourned at 11:05