

**Flint Neighborhoods United
Minutes / October 3, 2015**

Laverne McGowan

1. Meeting called to order at 9:06 am. by Clarence Campbell at request of President Joe King.
2. Guest speakers: Citizens Radio Patrol, Mark Smith, and My City Magazine, Liza Brand.
3. Mark Smith, Coordinator, Citizens Radio Patrol, stated that the program has been streamlined and changed. The Radio Patrol is the eyes and ears of the police. It started last Halloween. In the past there has been poor participation. The Radio Patrol started on the south side of town, drugs and prostitution has decreased, arson stopped. It has been used to report street lights out and pot holes. Last year devil's night was a success and decreased arsons. Mr. Smith stated that we need participation and volunteers for this Halloween. There is a background check for volunteers as well as medical information collected. There is a two hour training for volunteers. His email address is MarkW.Smith.730@gmail.com.
4. Service Centers update - only two are open and there is a need to find appropriate space for others in the city.
5. Fire Department report out/ Lieut. Cochrane: October 30th is Angel's night. The fire department will be out in full force on Angel's Night and Halloween and will get help from mutual aide from other fire departments. Chris Frye added that The Radio Patrol can stop a fire by contacting fire department – extra eyes on the community. All of us can do this by calling 1-800-ARSON. Lieut. Cochrane said that the Fire Dept. is seeking feedback on how they are doing from neighborhood watch groups and block clubs that they speak to.
6. Flint Public Library millage: Jim Richardson, a Flint Public Library board member stated that in the November 3rd election, the library is seeking support for a millage increase, due to loss of income resulting from declining property values. The library has transformed to a center for lifelong learning for everyone from early age to elderly programs. An example is the Little Bits program where children make electrical stuff and a program for young kids to learn to read using a Learning tablet that parents can check out. Jim urged everyone to vote for the millage increase.
7. **Flint Neighborhoods United Roundtable / How we communicate with our groups:**
 - a. Chris Frye: group meets at the South Dort Service Center, 20 to 25 attend meetings and they share with the larger group through Emails.
 - b. Carma Lewis: Facebook and Twitter are used in different neighborhood groups that she belongs to.
 - c. Craig Wolcott: FNU members send information to me, I will post on site
 - d. Chris Zuwala: meetings and sharing info with persons who talk to others.
8. FLINT Our Community Our Voice – ads and sponsorships make the paper possible. Write about what you are doing, what works and ideas you have...photos of your group's work.
9. **Discussion of Work Groups - Renamed Blight group to Neighborhood Improvement Group as Blight has a negative connotation. Approved without objection.**
10. Neighborhood Engagement Hub: Hurb Pitts will help people install water filters and provide a workshop on how to install filters.
11. Sandra Robinson reminded that Brennan Park will have a Community Build project to install their playground on October 24th. Volunteers needed at 1301 Pingree Ave.
12. **Updates:** Master plan-Jim Richardson reported that the City is working on the zoning changes to bring them into line with the Master Plan. Meeting on Thursday at 5:30 at the Library will be on details on the zoning ordinance.

Atherton East Project meets at Brennan center

at 5:30 on October 27th.

State Police-No report.

Flint Police-Sgt. T. Meeks reported:

Mediation Training is in the works.

Corner barbecues must have a permit.

If loitering is observed, call her.

If concerned about parking\abandoned cars, contact the Traffic Dept..

Sgt. Meeks stated that training is offered for block clubs\ Apartment Complexes.

Party stores gave power of attorney to the police department concerning loitering on vacant property. The police are doing compliance checks. Her number is 237-6824.

The county 911 system is a lot better.

Craig Wolcott commented that the new zoning on signs needs a limit on signs.

Land Bank, Heidi Phaneuf reported that there have been 1,776 demolitions completed. The new list is not yet complete. They are looking for additional funding. The Clean and Green projects are ending. Two complexes and demolition issue: the Land Bank is waiting for money for Lippincott and Dort Hwy. and for Cloverlawn.

Chris Frye: Properties that are in the State property demolition have their own process.

Charter-Kick off was last Saturday. Handed out copies of the charter, encouraged residents to get involved. Amendments-info and thoughts on city government and resident feedback can be completed on the survey and there will be community meetings on each section of the charter as it is reviewed.. The charter review is working on article 1 with an Attorney guiding the understanding of it. Come to the next meeting

Fire Department: On November 5th, 6 p.m. at Bethel United Church, on Ballenger Hwy, Fire Dept. Sgt. Edwards will provide fire safety info to 4th and 5th graders. 8 to 12, The Fire Fighter Cadet Program is for 8 to 12 year olds. The Red Cross is working with the Fire Dept. in giving out and installing smoke alarms in Genesee County. Sargent Edward provided a quick and informative choking information workshop.

City of Flint Blight Officer R. Garcia reminded that all leaves must be bagged and that collection of bagged leaves will end in the last week in November on your regular trash pick-up day. Neighborhood engagement has a great many rakes – individuals and groups can borrow.

13. New Business:

Light Up The City, there are changes in that program.

Trunk Or Treat at Grace Community Church, 3707 Davison Rd. from 6 to 8 pm., (next to McDonald's) on Halloween night.

Meeting adjourned at 10:49 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Laverne McGowan