

**Morningside Area Community Council
Meeting Minutes: February 6, 2013**

Call to order: 7:08 PM

Pledge

- I. Welcome and Introductions
- II. Approval of Consent Agenda (Treasurer's Report/Finance Report)
 - a. Motion to approve by Yasmeeen Ariff-Sayed, second by Nan Pischke. Passes.
- III. Morningside 2013 Uber Volunteer Awards awarded too...
 - a. Nan Pischke
 - b. Amy Ervin
- IV. Guest Speakers
 - a. Katie Hale: Pittsburgh Community Reinvestment Group's Safe Neighborhoods Network
 - i. Next SNN meeting: March 9, 9-11 AM
 - ii. MACC will send representation to learn more
 - b. Melanie Pfeiffenberger: Office of the Mayor, ServePGH
 - c. Erica Follette: PWSA/Catch Basin Identification
 - i. PPS student doing a project intended to educate the public about the impacts of our storm/wastewater problems.
 - d. City Controller Michael Lamb
 - i. Some of the appraisals, submitted as part of property assessment appeals, were rejected by the Board of Reviewers.
 1. Currently a class action lawsuit going on with other residents throughout the county regarding this.
 - ii. If you are in a situation where you got an appraisal that was rejected – whether the City helped you or not - please contact the Controller's office so we can assist you with the appeal.
- V. Strategic Plan Review
 - a. Three priorities for 2013
 - i. Increase our membership through educating neighbors on MACC's impact
 - ii. Focus efforts to maximize results
 - iii. Communicate more frequently and cost-effectively
 - b. Specific topics identified that MACC Committees will work on, will be provided in the consent agenda going forward for review and approval by neighbors.
 - c. Quarterly community dinner or potluck
 - i. First one March MACC meeting (March 6)
- VI. Committee Updates
 - a. Housing Committee, South Morningside Housing Update – Matt Diersen

- i. Discussed proposal put forth by E. Liberty Development LLC (for-profit branch of ELDI) to work cooperatively to address blight/foreclosed properties that are having impacts on SoMo.
 - ii. Next step: meeting with ELDI
 - iii. Position statement of the Housing Committee:
 - 1. The MACC offers its support for the efforts of ELDI Real Estate, LLC, to pursue, purchase, and renovate real property within our neighborhood, subject to the following limitations:
 - a. That these efforts be confined to the targeted area of the southeast corner of the neighborhood, contiguous to Highland Park and East Liberty and bounded by Hampton Ave. to the north, Heths Ave. to the east, Stanton Ave. to the south, and Swan Way to the west;
 - b. That the primary goal of these efforts be the maintenance of existing, or restoration of structures to, single-family, for-sale homes to be owner-occupied;
 - c. That the MACC Housing Committee and representative group of district neighbors may consider support of development plans whose outcome is other than the maintenance or restoration of single-family, for-sale, owner-occupied homes on a case-by-case basis, but there is no assumed advance endorsement or support, implied or otherwise, of any such plans;
 - 2. The MACC agrees to proceed with discussions with ELDI Real Estate, LLC to enter into a partnership to work toward the above goals.
 - iv. Motion by Michelle Belan to proceed to Memorandum of Understanding with ELDI second by Yasmeeen Ariff-Sayed. Passes.
- b. Transition to Electronic Communications – Michelle Belan
 - i. Announced in the last mailing that this was the last print newsletter.
 - ii. Received no feedback to a survey, in the newsletter, asking the neighborhood if it wanted a print newsletter
 - iii. Ramping up our online communications work
 - 1. Website
 - 2. Nextdoor Morningside
 - iv. Recommendation: get the MACC agenda online ahead of the monthly meeting
- c. Membership and Outreach – Yasmeeen Ariff-Sayed
 - i. Membership recruitment letter sent out in the last newsletter
 - ii. Anita Boehm interested in helping out
 - iii. M&O will bring something to MACC in April regarding membership policy

- d. Morningside Mile – Alana Delaney
 - i. Spaghetti Dinner
 - 1. \$10
 - 2. March 3, 1-4PM, Morningside VFW
 - ii. Also, looking for someone to take over the Morningside Mile Volunteer Chair
- e. Field Improvement – Grant Ervin
 - i. Met with City to review Pashek plan, was forwarded to Pashek for review
 - ii. Steering Committee meeting: hopefully week of February 18
 - 1. Several grant applications coming up the end of February/beginning of March
 - iii. Next steps: administrative needs
 - 1. Field naming and scheduling
- VII. Old Business
- VIII. New Business
 - a. Bulldog update: waiting on 2 permits to finish kitchen and façade.
 - i. March 15 still target opening date
 - b. Easter Committee met, looking for funding approval to buy candy (\$200). Eggs will be stuffed at the March MACC meeting
 - i. Motion to allocate \$200 by Emily Keebler, seconded by Alana Delaney. Passed
 - ii. Hunt: March 24
 - c. Heidi On Nextdoor, there has been a call for more arts representation and activity in Morningside. Created a group of artists, currently have 7 participants in just 2 days.
 - i. First project:
- IX. Motion to adjourn at Yasmeen Ariff-Sayed. Adjourn at 8:38 pm