

**Morningside Area Community Council Monthly Meeting**  
**September 4, 2014 - Minutes**  
**VFW Banquet Hall, Morningside**

*All times given are maximums. Most topics will not require the full time allotted.*

*I. Welcome & Introductions (7:08 pm)*

Pledge of Allegiance recited. Group introductions (eventually).

*II. Treasurer's Report & Previous Minutes (Jared Delaney and Ira Mabel)*

Matt motioned for approval of minutes, Yasmeen seconded, unanimously passed.

MACC has received \$2,415 in membership dues between 130 members to date this year. We spent \$391 for the spring newsletter, \$10 to the city for garden plot permits, and \$150 to sponsor the St. Raphael's Bazaar. Anticipated upcoming expenses for the rest of this year include:

- ~\$400 for insurance
- Falloween expenses
- Merry Morningside expenses

Matt motioned for approval of Treasurer's Report, Sally seconded, unanimously passed.

*III. Public Safety*

*A. Commander O'Connor Update*

Commander O'Connor was not present.

*B. Zone 5 Safety Update (Stacey DiRenzo)*

There will be two guest speakers at the next Zone 5 meeting (September 9):

- Michele Auge, police community liason
- Jim Dawson, member of police chief search committee

National Night Out was a success; five blocks participated including a few new ones. There was a strong presence from public safety professionals.

There was concern about the intersection of Baker and Gallatin. There is no stop sign and people drive past too quickly. Residents can talk to Brent Weinert, the Community Relations Coordinator for Council District 7

**([brenton.weinert@pittsburghpa.gov](mailto:brenton.weinert@pittsburghpa.gov))** about how to proceed.

*IV. Project 15206 Update (Maureen Copeland, [maureen@swpgh.com](mailto:maureen@swpgh.com))*

Stormworks is experiencing manufacturer's defects that are causing some containers to have pinhole leaks. Stormworks has changed manufacturers to address the problem. If

you have a defective container, contact Stormworks directly and they will collect it.

The evaluation and installation process has been delayed because of the leaks, for which Stormworks apologizes. They hope new containers arrive by October. If you'd still like to sign up for an evaluation and a container, you can do so at

<http://www.project15206.org/>.

V. *Heth's and Natoli Park / Other Public Works Needs*

There has been a lot of recent discussion about field conditions - litter, wear and tear, etc. Equipment is neglected and in poor condition; the sprinkler area is disgusting/filthy; trash barrels are frequently overflowing. The playgrounds have not been improved since they were installed. The litter is worst after sporting events, although the sports teams claim they clean the fields.

Mike Gable, the Director of Public Works, is aware of these issues. One major problem is that the fields are heavily used and not given a proper chance to rest. DPW doesn't have the resources for a high level of maintenance at all times. Mr. Gable is open to conversation about the most effective scheduling. He is willing for DPW to be held accountable for scheduled activities.

MACC has developed a field improvement plan. Some of the recommendations have already been implemented. One recommendation was to integrate the fields into Highland Park to receive regional park money. Improving the fields will not address the crowds that come to watch sports games, however.

In addition, the budget for Heth's Run engineering was approved. The project leaders need to be reconvened to make sure the money is spent appropriately and benefits Morningside

There is a capital budget public hearing October 29, 6pm at the Morningside Senior Center. Ira will circulate a list of neighborhood priorities for discussion at the next MACC meeting and for presentation at the public hearing. Email Ira ([secretary@morningside-pa.org](mailto:secretary@morningside-pa.org)) with suggestions.

VI. *Morningside School RFP (Matt Diersen)*

The URA has issued an RFP to redevelop the elementary school. The deadline for proposals September 19. One developer has reached out to MACC, but MACC declined to comment until all proposals were submitted.

VII. *Fall-O-Ween Planning (Jenny McCarthy)*

Jenny is waiting to hear back from the Beagle Brothers about performing at Fall-O-Ween. Possible dates are October 18th or 25th. Clean-Up Day is also scheduled for the 18th, so is a Pittsburgh Promise event. Fall-O-Ween and Clean-Up have worked on the same day

in the past, so a conflict is not anticipated.

The budget for the event is estimated at around \$700. Motion to approve event budget, Jenny seconded, unanimously passed.

*VIII. Morningside Mile Update (Alana Delaney)*

The Mile committee is trying to make the Mile a strong community event this year. Everyone is encouraged to invite their neighbors. To reserve a booth or volunteer at Community Day following the Mile, contact Lisa Petrelli at [\*\*lpetrilli911@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:lpetrilli911@gmail.com).

*IX. Old Business*

The garden wall at Baker St. can be partially replaced for around ~\$300 by a Morningside resident. The quote for replacing the whole wall was \$3,000. Can the garden club borrow the money from the MACC general fund until they can organize a fundraiser? There were no objections from the executive board.

Lisa Petrilli is still accepting applications for street/yard trees. Contact her at [\*\*lpetrilli911@gmail.com\*\*](mailto:lpetrilli911@gmail.com) immediately if you'd like a tree.

*X. New Business*

There is at least one property in the neighborhood that has been neglected for many years. Is it possible to submit homes to Treasurer's sale? Council offices have submitted those requests in the past. Perhaps it's possible for MACC to find an interested private party and facilitate a change of ownership.

Recently, large trucks and school buses have been traveling quickly on Morningside Ave. The start of the school year has probably cause the increase in bus traffic.

*XI. Adjourn (8:30 pm)*

Motion to adjourn, unanimously approved.

Minutes prepared by Ira Mabel, Secretary