

Morningside Area Community Council Monthly Meeting
July 2, 2014 - Agenda
VFW Banquet Hall, Morningside

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

I. Welcome & Introductions (7:06 pm)

Pledge of Allegiance recited. Group introductions.

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

MACC received \$2950 from the City for the Neighborhood Needs grant; \$1,500 was therefore moved back into savings. Additional income was received from the yard sale and membership. MACC's current total cash available is \$5,763.

Jared prepared a year-to-date balance sheet. Business sponsorship has been lower than the original target. Event income is higher than last year; membership income is much higher.

Major past and upcoming expenses include the newsletter, insurance payments, and a re-order of t-shirts.

MACC is up by \$1,300 net so far this year.

Nan motioned for approval of Treasurer's Report, Ali seconded, unanimously passed.

There was a correction to the minutes for June 4, 2014 updating the date of the Morningside Mile from November from November 13th to September 13th. Henry motioned for approval of minutes as corrected, unanimously passed.

III. Public Safety (45 minutes)

A. Commander O'Connor Update

Commander O'Connor was not present.

B. Zone 5 Safety Update (Stacey DiRenzo)

National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 5th. Residents are encouraged to turn their porch lights on and have block/porch parties. The website to register a block with the City is pittsburghpa.gov/nno. There will be a kick-off party in Market Square. Details TBD.

A group has been advocating on Nextdoor Morningside for Natoli playground to be cleaned up. The City has cleaned the equipment, but it and the ground padding need to be replaced. Residents will continue to ask the City to replace equipment

at Natoli Field.

The Zone 5 Public Safety Meeting will be Tuesday, July 8th at 6pm at the Kingsley Association (6435 Frankstown Ave). Mayor Peduto will be there to solicit feedback about the hiring process for the new Police Chief.

Officer Michelle Auge has been selected by the Police Department to be a new liaison to the Public Safety Director. She will be working with public safety groups, including Zone 5.

IV. National Energy Leadership Corps

NELC focuses on home energy assessments and educating homeowners about energy loss. They are research-based, and student assessors become BPI certified.

Their free energy assessments start with a survey (20 min) about homeowner interests, recent renovations, and planned renovation. The assessment (2 hours) evaluates household systems - HVAC, hot water, windows and doors, insulation, etc. They use infrared cameras to identify areas of heat loss.

They produce a report that outline five energy efficiency measures that fit the best with your home. It includes calculations of potential energy savings. The report directs the homeowner to tax incentives, utility service incentives, etc. It does not directly recommend or promote specific contractors.

NELC is aiming to complete 20 assessment this year. They have already done 10 or 12. There will be more rounds of assessments in the spring and summer. Go to nelc.psu.edu to sign up.

V. Pop-up CLP (LeeAnn Anna, Branch Manager of Lawrenceville CLP)

The Lawrenceville library was built 116 years ago and renovated recently. It has a number of amenities, including an auditorium that is free for non-profits. Lawrenceville serves surrounding neighborhoods without their own libraries, like Morningside, Garfield, Stanton Heights, etc. The children's program is very active this summer. They have a free science camp, and a free art camp. There is also a teen bicycle fixing program. Their hours are Monday-Wednesday 10-8, Thursday-Saturday 10-5.

The Lawrenceville CLP wants to hear about resident interests about information, learning, and literacy. They want to participate in more community events, and are interested in partnering with local businesses. They partner with schools, and will be reaching out to St. Raphael's. They may also participate in Community Day and other MACC events.

CLP has started a pop up library in Allentown in the past that is now converted into a

community center. It is a very cost-prohibitive model of expanding services. They are looking for more innovative methods of service besides pop-ups. It is unlikely that Morningside will be the location of a pop-up library.

VI. *National Night Out Planning (Stacey DiRenzo)*

MACC will sponsor a kit to help blocks host parties for National Night Out. Five blocks participated last year. The budget is \$150 for all baskets, divided evenly for all blocks that register. If you're planning an event, register with Stacey at msidemom@aol.com.

Alana motioned for approval of budget item, Lisa second, unanimously passed.

A question was raised whether the Love Your Block grant can be used for NNO. This grant is meant more for concrete building projects. MACC has received the grant once before, and been denied earlier this year. The deadline is July 11. Nan will resubmit MACC's summer application for supplies to fix the Butler St garden plot. Ben will supply additional pictures for the application.

VII. *Beautification Committee (Lisa Petrilli)*

A. *Tree Maintenance*

There will be a tree mulching party with Tree Pittsburgh on July 12th from 10-noon. The focus will be on trees will be in business district and on Jancey St, if there is time. Please register for the event through morningside-pa.org.

Lisa was recently certified as a tree tender. Morningside can apply for 10 trees for each tree tender (there are 8-10 in the neighborhood). If you want a apply for a tree, contact Lisa at lpetrilli911@gmail.com.

B. *Field Conditions*

There has been a lot of communication about field/playground condition of Natoli Field. Calls have been made to 311, Deb Gross's office, etc. It was suggested to contact Mike Gable about putting up no smoking signs and increasing trash pickup.

VIII. *Morningside Mile Update (Alana Delaney)*

The Morningside Mile is September 13th at 9am. The Mile Committee is still looking for sponsors. Please reach out to any potential sponsors quickly. The deadline for sponsors to be listed in the newsletter is soon.

Comedy Night will be on Friday, July 25th. The comedians will be Sean Collier, Gene Collier, and Jimmy Krenn. Volunteers are needed to set up, clean up, serve food, and manage the raffle baskets.

Tickets are \$20 in advance, or \$25 at the door (if available). Contact Jenny at

jennyjomac@gmail.com.

IX. Vice President Nominations/Election (Ira Mabel)

Having received no nominations for Vice President, Ben Kelley will remain as acting Vice President until the special election. Ira proposed to schedule the special election to coincide with the position's regular election in December. Ali motioned for approval of the special election schedule, Stacey seconded, unanimously passed.

X. Old Business

Project 15206 has had high response rate. They have the budget for 400 rain containers, but have received over 400 requests. The team has done 50 consultations in Morningside out of 120 applications from the neighborhood. They are aiming to get all consultations done in August, and the containers installed in September.

Emily motioned to not hold the regular meeting in August, seconded, unanimously passed.

XI. New Business

There is a rumor that Terry is selling the Bulldog. Terry has said that he is not selling, but has signed management agreement.

There is a lack of bike parking in front of the Bulldog. People tie bikes up on the trees, which is unhealthy for the trees. MACC should investigate what it takes to get bike racks installed.

1857 Jancey St has been empty for 4-5 years. Unpaid taxes date back to 2011; there are multiple liens on the property. A new neighbor has been cutting the grass.

A house on the corner of Vilsack and Chislett has overgrown hedges that block the sidewalks. Someone suggested calling 311.

The URA has taken ownership of Morningside School. Its grass is not being maintained.

XII. Adjourn (8:27 pm)

Motion to adjourn, unanimously approved.

Minutes prepared by Ira Mabel, Secretary