

Morningside Area Community Council Monthly Meeting
January 7, 2015 - Agenda
VFW Banquet Hall, Morningside

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

I. Welcome & Introductions (7:10 pm)

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

There were only \$158 in deductions this past month. MACC's operating account balance is \$2,430, \$150 more than last year.

The minutes have been posted for a few weeks.

Yasmeen motioned to approve the treasurer's report and minutes, Allison seconded, unanimously approved.

III. Public Safety

A. Commander O'Connor Update

Commander O'Connor presented crime statistics for Q4 2014. There was not much activity in Morningside - one robbery, similar to another the occurred in Highland Park around the same time; a few homes were burglarized; the convenience store was robbed on Dec 28; one heroin-related arrest.

The zone had a high number of homicides - 27 in 2014. The city had 71, which was the highest number since 2008. Morningside and Highland park had no homicides, Stanton Heights had one that is still under investigation. In 2014 Zone 5 sent officers to work the neighborhood clean-ups, the Morningside Mile, the St. Raphael's festival, and National Night Out.

There has been a problem in Highland Park of theft from cars, which has filtered into Morningside. The best preventive actions are to lock your cars at night and remove any valuables.

Motorists continue to ignore stop signs and drive the wrong way on one-way streets. The police do targeted enforcement at stop signs, but they can't do as much as they would like.

Was there a transformer outage on Chislett last night? Yes.

What is a terroristic threat (listed on the crime report)? It is a threat of violence.

B. Zone 5 Safety Update

The Zone 5 meeting is Tuesday, 7pm at Union Project. There will be a yearly crime recap for whole zone.

IV. *Membership (Allison McLaren)*

Membership starts at the beginning of the calendar year. Last year's members will be receiving a gift in the mail with a renewal form. Please encourage your neighbors to join.

V. *Elections: Vice President & Treasurer (Ira Mabel)*

Last meeting, Ben Kelley and Jared Delaney were nominated for Vice President and Treasurer, respectively. Lisa nominates Henry Petrelli for Treasurer; Henry accepts.

With no additional nominees for Vice President, Ben Kelley was elected unanimously.

Jared Delaney withdrew his nomination. With no additional nominees for Treasurer, Henry Petrelli was elected unanimously.

VI. *Brainstorming Exercise (Ira Mabel)*

This past month, the board and chairpeople had a strategic planning retreat for the upcoming year. We would like to give MACC members the chance to voice their opinions about what went well in 2014, and what the MACC should focus on in 2015.

Table 1 Report: More volunteers are needed for Easter Egg Hunt, including someone to take over organization. One of the things the board talked about at the retreat was soliciting more volunteers. MACC will make more specific asks for defined volunteer tasks.

MACC should send out a calendar of events to the community every year. We should have more potluck meetings to get better attendance.

Falloween should be moved back to the street and be held before Halloween.

The home decorating contest that used to be a part of Merry Morningside should be reinstated..

Table 2 Report: MACC needs better communication strategies. There are free apps (Hootsuite, Buffer, etc.) that schedule regular communications. There are people interested in volunteering, but better communication is needed to bring them in.

Table 3 Report: There should be a program for neighbors to visit new residents with a welcome packet (bus schedules, local business swag, etc). Tere has volunteered to run the program. The board had an idea to have local realtors schedule open houses on the same day as the yard sale.

Summary

MACC should publicise event dates earlier.

Action Items

Yearly calendar - Ira, Rob, Alana

Social media/outreach - Rob, Jared

Welcome Kit -Tere, Jared, Allison

Volunteer job descriptions/publication - event chairs

Potluck scheduling - Stacey, Yasmeen

VII. Old Business

None

VIII. New Business

The VFW is having a beach party on Jan 31 (Stacey).

Council just proposed new sidewalk reimbursement plan in increase the dollar amount received (Nan).

The garden club is thinking of a plant sale fundraiser at the April MACC meeting (Yasmeen).

The grant MACC uses for the Morningside Mile is being changed from individual applications to allocations for each district. Deb Gross's office is still considering how to handle the application/distribution process (Nan).

A Morningside Mile kickoff meeting will be held on Jan 22 at 7:30 (Alana).

Snow removal this past week was bad, particularly on Stanton Ave. The City is looking at how to better respond to snow events.

Deb Gross's staff offers home visits on Friday morning.

IX. Adjourn (8:30 pm)

Motion to adjourn, unanimously approved.

Minutes prepared by Ira Mabel, Secretary