

# ENO General Membership Meeting Minutes April 1, 2015

Nancy called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Surprise presentation- Clemens/Elizabeth garden project- It is a work share project working with farmer Ben. They are in beginning planning stages of the project. Half Barn Farm is the name of it. There will be a farm stand at it on Monday. People would learn about growing seasons and being self sufficient. This was presented by Zoie and Natalie.

Presentation- Foster Care- Nadine Pivetta who is from DHS in Licensing. They are always looking for foster homes. There are about 14,000 kids in MI in the foster care system each year. Ingham County has about 600 kids in foster care each year. They average about 30 home removals a month. They have just over 300 foster homes as well as the larger homes. After the investigation, they will remove the kids if it is needed. (((Check the presentation form for details)). They now have kids up to 21yrs old instead of 18 in the system. They are always looking for foster homes. They especially need ones that can take siblings and teens. They are also looking for homes of color. She would like us to advertise the need to our neighborhoods. Ways to help are let her know about other people who might let her do a presentation. We can also be mentors. The kids can always use clothes and shoes etc..., if you have any extra clothes and such please consider donating them. The kids like to have photo albums so that they have pictures of their loved ones; this is due to the fact that many times they leave the home very quickly and without a lot of warning to gather items. Question on the percentage on how many kids are able to go back home. A majority does go home but then many ended up back in the system. The steps to be a foster parent are: start with attending an orientation, fill out an application, home visit and lots of questions about your life and lifestyle.

Police- Officer Garrett Hamilton- Kids are checking doors to see if people are home are up due to the warmer weather. Please keep an eye out for your neighbor's homes. There have been fights at Comstock Park instead of at Hunter Park. Last Saturday night- question about what happened a new officer was chasing a car, the car stopped and then the people from the car ran. Prostitute stings will start soon as Garrett has already been working on setting them up.

Eastern Alumni Association- Gil- He came to talk about the school bond proposal from the school board/superintendent and other items regarding schools on the Eastside. The formal bond proposal is online if you want to read the entire thing. What they are proposing is a 2 mil bond at approx 110 million. It is supposedly a sinking fund of 1.5 mil funds to replace one that disappears soon. It may appear on the ballot in May 2016. The superintendent wants to add an additional .5 mills to it. She is going to sell it on that it is an additional to .5 but at some point that sinking fund will have to be replaced again. This is what they use for repairs and such on the buildings so unless the buildings do not need repairs again the fund will have to be replaced. .5 increase in the short term but will have to be added to the 2 mill later. The name of Eastern will go with it if it goes to Pattengill. He explained the test score stats show that Eastern does better in test scores than Sexton and Everett overall. Eastern does not send their lower scoring students to Wood creek or elsewhere as the other schools do. She wants to add a new building to Fairview and it would have the students pre K - 8<sup>th</sup> grade. Also they would add on to Pattengill and would be 9 to 12. Eastern's alumni association want to have an architect to see if Eastern can be rehabbed. The superintendent will not let the architect into Eastern. The ideas from Jackson High rehabbed would be about 2/3 rd the cost of a new building. They could not give actual numbers due to needing to see the roof. What would the EAA need from ENO? To give the EAA the thoughts of what the neighbors on the Eastside think about the bond.

Election- This is for the board of directors. There are available spots in all the offices. Brenda Kronemeijer Heyink was nominated from the floor as a written in candidate for representative. The ballot accepted as is with the addition of Brenda's name. Everyone won their seats again and welcome Benda to the board.

Neighborhood Resource Coordinator- Andi Crawford - She talked about the Land bank demo list that they are using a 6 million dollar federal grant to demo over 200 houses that are not able to be rehabbed. This will be discussed at her coffee hour (8-9) and lunch (12-1) meetings on April 24<sup>th</sup>. There are options for what can happen to the properties after the houses come down that the neighborhoods can be a part of the process. There are about 80 houses on the list that are on the eastside. The Ingham County Land Bank and the city of Lansing are partners in this project. Please give

any communication down falls to Andi. She thanked Nancy for all her work on the Bea Christy event on May 20<sup>th</sup>. ENO will be nominating Jerry Estes for the MMWM award.

ENO newspaper- Nancy is checking with Brad at LSJ for dates to conformation. We will need ads and articles for it. Please start working on them now.

Monthly Quad meetings- There is nothing new at them currently. They have been having lots of discussions on Land Bank's demo grant.

Sparrow - The ground breaking for the new cancer center is May 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. This is on the old Bingham School property.

The Eastern Alumni is working on a sheet about Eastern high school. Still have a few items to finish it. Nancy will let us know when it is finished.

Treasurers - Nothing has changed since the Souper. Denise did turn in her receipts tonight.

ANC- Eastside Neighbor Newsletter is going to quarterly. (May, June, July) Please get submissions to Denise Paquette but April 10<sup>th</sup>. Distribution will start on April 24<sup>th</sup>.

1<sup>st</sup> Contact is this Saturday April 4<sup>th</sup> at 10:30am at the Allen Marketplace. This will be our last one at the AMP. In May, it will move to the BWL building on S. Washington. So many people are attending that it has outgrown the conference room at the AMP.

ENO will not be meeting in July. ENO will sponsor an Eastside Leadership event instead.

Marti Wheeler announced her garage sale dates - April 10 11 115 Kipling

Who do we talk to about fixing Clemens? Theresa asked due to the terrible condition it is in. Most of us suggested she start with Public Service department to see if it is on this year's construction list.

There was a motion to close the meeting made by Maggie. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Marti. It passed.

Meeting closed at 8:43pm

Respectfully Submitted by  
Denise Kelley  
ENO Secertary