

ENO General Membership Minutes January 6, 2016

The meeting was called to order by Denise Kelley at 7:00 pm. (Nancy will be here about 7:30 pm. She is at a school bond meeting.)

Introductions were made around the room.

Police Report- Officer Garrett Hamilton- In his CPO area (Kalamazoo corridor) we went the whole holiday season without any armed robberies and B&E's were down as well. Some questions that were asked to him are below. There was question about CPO's not being able to be in their areas because they are getting pulled to do other things beside trainings. This was regarding some other CPO's since Garrett still keeps in contact with his area and the neighborhood leaders even if he cannot be in the area. It was regarding some other ones. Part of the trainings as so that the officer can advance in their careers and some training classes are not offered very often. More discussion was help on this topic. Are LPD officers getting more training on how to deal with people with mental health issues and/or drug issues? Garrett said yes they are. Chief Yankowski wants to hire more officers so that he can have more on patrol and some more areas with CPOs. In the 2016 budget there is around 170 officers budgeted but we do not have that many. There is application period right now open till Jan. 8th. Do the officers miss having the North Precinct and how long does it take you to get to your area from the precinct now? It takes about 18 minutes to get to the Kalamazoo Street area from the Southside. They do miss it a little but this is just a band aid move at this point. There are some future plans to find a central location but nothing is set right now. Nancy reported to him about the homeless that are sleeping in doorways and such behind business on MI Ave; also that there are homeless under the overpass at Sellers and Vine again near Frandor. He continues to work on the MI Ave issue. Nancy said she is going to work with Chad Gamble and Andy Kilpatrick on getting lighting on those overpasses and that should help that issue.

City Council- Jody Washington, 1st ward - She let us know that the upcoming 1st Contact meetings are on Saturday Feb, 6th and March 5th both will be at the BWL Depot on S. Washington at 10:30 am – noon. The city attorney is developing a new marijuana ordinance. There is more detailed than the one the city had when the state law first started. This is in line with the changes and details that the state legislature is working on. Some items in it are 12 dispensaries total in the entire city (3 per ward max) Jody is asking that they not be on major corridors. There will not be any grandfathering of current ones open, strictly first 3 for each ward to do all the paperwork gets in. There will also be marijuana growing zones. They can be in industrial areas. The council will start being much more mindful about what zoning changes they make on properties. The new council members, Adam Hussain (3rd ward) and Patricia Spitzley (at-large) were sworn in at the first council meeting of the year as well as Carol Wood and Jody who were reelected. The president of Council this year is Judi Brown Clarke and Vice President is Jessica Yorke. Jody is looking forward to the new energy on the council. Please remember that there are some important elections coming up this year, County commissioners, State representatives, other county offices, US president among others.

2000 Block of Michigan Ave (South side) Scott Gillespie has purchased the entire block there is a public hearing on the sale of the city owned parking lot behind the buildings on Monday January 25th during the council meeting. Nancy asked Jody about the parking lot's appraisal came in at \$75,000 but the city was selling it to him for \$50,000 why less? Jody answered that it was going to cost more than \$25,000 to repair the lot for usage with the new development. Nancy suggested that the parking lot behind the north side of the same block be repaired by Gillespie as a good neighbor gesture. After some discussion and clarification a motion was made. The motion made by Brian Baer is that ENO write a letter to council proposing that all or part of the \$50,00 purchase price of the sale of the parking lot on the south side of the block be used to report the ally and parking lot behind the north side of the block. 2nd by Brenda. It passed. Brian offered to write a draft of the letter and get it to Nancy.

2016 Mayors Grant- They are due this Friday by 5 pm. Denise has turned in a stipend for ENO to help with Candidates Night.

Monthly meeting with the quad are still going on. The quad is Nancy Mahlow (ENO president) Jody Washington (city council), Joan Nelson (ANC), Brian McGrain and Rebecca Bahar- Cook (county commissioners), and Rep Andy Schor (State Rep). It has been requested to take this off the monthly agenda since they will share the information they feel needs to be shared. Most of what they discussed stays confidential.

Board Elections- They will take place at the April meeting. Per our bylaws we are passing around the sign-up sheets at the January and February general meetings. At the March meeting we will present the slate of candidates.

Spring Souper- Denise The Spring souper will be on Saturday March 12th at Pattengill Academy Please remember when asking that the event is not until March so if it has an expiration date it needs be after March 12th. Denise passed around the sign-up sheets for the soups, crackers, dessert; set up and clean up sheets; and the donations sign-up sheet. She also made available the event flyer for people to start posting around town. There are more donation sheets available as well.

Presentations at meetings- Denise It would be helpful to start setting up our presentations for each meeting a few months at a time. The Eastside Neighbor is now being published quarterly so it would be great to get those details into it not just the meeting times and location. All and any ideas will be considered. Please see Nancy with any ideas you have. You are welcome to be the contact for the speaker as well.

Police Advisory Board- Nancy They hosted a surprise party for Capt. Green before he leaves for an 11 and half month deployment to the Middle East in Bahrain. LPD is hoping to hire 14 officers by March. They have already had 10 graduate but 1 declined so 9 new ones will start very soon. The applications for more are due at the end of this week. They discussed the heroin problem that is happening here in Lansing. There seems to be a spike in the heroin overdoses in the last year. They have about 2 a week on average. Part of this may be that officers and EMTs are carrying Narcan now. The users want the rush of being brought back with it. They do not seem too afraid as before. There is a task force started to look into this issue.

LNC- Nancy LNC has started again with changes. The office is now in Elmhurst School on 2400 Pattengill Ave (near Colonial Village) They are having an Open House on Thursday Jan. 14th 5:30-7:30 pm. Please come and visit them. They are also hosting the Bea Christy celebration on March 11th at Pattengill Academy. Social hour is at 5:30 Dinner at 6 pm. They are hoping tickets will be around \$10 a person. More details to come soon. They have the website up and running again, it is lansingneighborhoods.org Please go check it out. They have also released a report the board has written regarding everything that they have been doing and the outcome of the investigations started by the city back in 2014. Most neighborhood leaders received it in an email. Nancy has a few more groups to give to LNC to contact. If you want a copy emailed please let Nancy or Denise know.

There are brochures on the table regarding some of the city ordinances (including, dogs on leashes, trash/recycle bins and Human rights) please take them for reference for your neighborhoods. There was a question regarding the trash/recycle: why have an ordinance about them if there are no consequences? The example given was that a house is using the recycle cart as a trash cart and the recycle just puts a note on it. The house has been cited at least twice for it. They empty it and then refill it again till they get called out. Jody let us know that there are consequences that they could have it taken away, just let her know.

Eastern High School is still accepting donations of winter coats, hats, gloves etc... Please call the school to make arrangements. There are over 600 homeless children that are coming from outside the city limits attending our schools right now.

There will be a bike meeting with CATA at People's church on this Thursday Jan 7th at 6 pm.

Nancy made a motion to approve to accept minutes as written. 2nd Rock It passed.

Jody motioned to adjourn the meeting 2nd Nancy. It passed.

The meeting closed at 8:55pm

Respectfully submitted by
Denise Kelley
ENO secretary