

ENO General Membership Meeting Minutes April 6, 2016

Meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Nancy Mahlow.

City Council- Jody Washington- The council is still working on finding out what happened with the mayor and city attorney. The council does not have the votes to get an outside attorney to look into this issue at this time. The secrecy and lack of transparency in the events as well as the gag orders in the contracts settlements is not sitting well with council. 1st Budget meeting is set for this Monday. They do not have the line items yet and the budget director is saying she will have them to council on Monday before the meeting. Jody feels that is not enough time for the council members to really look them over and have their questions ready. We have the NAPA contract to service parts to deal with. The city workers did not know that their jobs were replaced until they came into work. The school for the blind building project is a low income project. Jody had all the paperwork ready for them to meet their April 1st deadline with MSHDA when she left for vacation in Feb. While she was gone, a few council members tried to redo some of the work she had done. Other council members stood up for Jody and stopped it from changing. It is now fine and move ahead. Discussion is happening about the PILOTS in council as well. The City has lots of them out there and most are not finished until 2035. We are lacking market rate and high end housing in Lansing in Jody's opinion. Jody is requesting a 9 month moratorium on PILOTS since she is the chair of Development and Planning so that they can really take a in depth look at how the city wants to proceed in the future when approached for a PILOT. The Lansing region needs to take their fair share of the lower income housing. We seem to be running a city without a vision. The master plan is not a good one right now. She does not think it is the best project for the school for the blind (00s of units of low income in it) Let Jody know what you think about the Scott center/ BWL substation. Question was asked about Frat houses being allowed in the city. There is one on Clemens Ave. On St Patty day, they had a party where shots were fired and created a whole mess and chaos. Jody did not think that they were officially allowed but she will let LPD know and she learned that many neighbors had also spoke to the police and Landlord about this,

Sparrow- John Shaski- Construction is going well at both the gathering place and at the cancer center. He is now the vice president of Airport Authority. American Airlines is coming to Lansing. They will have daily flights to Washington DC and Chicago/midway. Nancy mentioned to Dennis Swan and to John's supervisor about what a great rep to our organization John is. What is Sparrow's policy on what to do when patients leave the hospital? An example of a specific man was given. There are some different solutions to that issue. It is a case by case type thing. Sparrow has talked about it and are looking into what to do about a general policy.

Executive Board ballots were passed out. Brenda was added to the ballot as a candidate for Representative. Jody will count the ballots. Everyone was reelected.

Presentation- Nadine Pivetta for Foster parents. About 13,000 kids go into the system each year. They average about 333 kids in care at at time in Ingham county. They will work with private agencies as well. There are such few social workers so that they are letting them use their foster parents. They can use donations, mentors, and more than just being foster parents. Question about how long is a child with a foster parent? For a about a yr. What about what type age of

ones in the house? The Foster parents sign up with their choice of what age range they want in their home. Are you prepping the foster parents about what may happen when these children come into their home and what issues these children may have? They do try to give them all the support possible to the foster parents. She told us several stories about some of the children she has worked with though out the years. What safe guards are put in since Ricky Holland? The State follow social workers around and critiques them. A social worker can not more than 15 active cases at a time. One specific group now does most of the home visits. Does the monthly money that they received go up when you have more than one? The amounts are under 12 is \$17a day, teens are \$22 a day as a stipend. There are some group homes but not many. There are some landlords who have opened their apts for independent living for some of the teens. But there is still not enough foster homes for the children who need them Please consider helping in any way you can.

Scott Gillespie- 2000 blk of MI Ave- He working to finalize the architecture and engineering. All of this should be done in the next month. Hope to close on the parking lot behind the buildings soon. Hopefully they will start construction in June. It will take about 2 weeks to take the buildings down then will start the construction of the new buildings. Have you see any homeless hanging out behind the buildings? Not really but they are driving by each day and cleaning up the area. Any other new projects on the horizon? Not at this time. Do you have any businesses or tenants ready to move in with completed? A restaurant (Scott has asked the owner to give him a way to describe the type of restaurant but he has gotten an answer yet) and Strange matters coffee company will be moving into it so far that is it. There is a lot of interest. There is space available if shops want to open them. Several suggestions were made of what people would like to see in there. Some type of shared selling space, (set up similar to a craft show with each business has its own little booth. Boutique shops was another idea. A Laundromat was also suggested. The new apts will have washer and dryer in each unit. If you have any ideas or know someone who is interested in the building please let Scott know.

Blight Survey_ Denise passed out a blight survey that she learned of at the LiNCS meeting. Please consider filling it out and returning it to MSU. It is the 1st time people have been asked about the blight, Your neighborhood did not have to have houses that the Land Bank are taking down to do this survey.

Minutes- Theresa motioned to accept the March minutes Rock 2nd It passed

Spring Souper- Nancy Thank you for everyone's work on the Souper. Special thank you to Rock for all his work on the gift baskets and to Denise for her leading a great event again this year. Jody asked for quiet music to play in the background. We made about \$800 dollars.

Meeting adjourned at 8:28pm

Respectfully submitted by
Denise Kelley
ENO secretary

