

MINGES BROOK/RIVERSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD PLANNING COUNCIL 11
MEETING MINUTES
October 25, 2023

Chapel Hill Church, 157 Chapel Hill Dr.

Marcie Gillette, City of Battle Creek Community Services Director, called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Chapel Hill Church.

Attendance:

Members Present David Hawks, Dawn Hawks, Coleen Jewell, Andrew Duke, Fran O'Neil, Larry O'Neil, Jane Prah, Brenda Bengtsson, Sally Goss, and Jan Frantz.

Members Excused: Kyle Labrecque, Linn Kracht.

Signed-in Guests: Tim M., Amanda Miller, Brad Miller, Sharan Sklenicka, Al Sklenicka, Chris Simmons, Kathy Compton, Dennis Compton, Jenny Evans

Additions or Deletions to the Agenda:

Additions/Deletions: None

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes: September 27, 2023

Brenda Bengtsson made a motion to approve the September Meeting Minutes. Fran O'Neil made a second motion to approve. September 27th meeting minutes approved.

Correspondence and Announcements: None

Committee and Staff Reports: Marcie Gillette reviewed Code Compliance reporting and how to read the report information provided by CODE. Categories include rental, zoning, and junk. Also shared about the city paint program and referred to Jason Francisco, Code Compliance Manager, for questions regarding that program. The council was also encouraged to feel free to share about any Code Compliance or police concerns and that feedback is related to the departments respectively.

Beautiful Battle Creek Award - N/A

Membership: Two residents requested to be appointed as members: Sharan Sklenicka and Al Slenicka.

Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Simmons will continue to encourage other residents to join.

Old Business: None.

New Business:

Meeting Calendar - COLLEEN JEWELL moved, and Sally Goss seconded setting the monthly meeting date as the last Wednesday of the month with no meeting being held in December. Motion passed.

Election of Officers - MARCIE GILLETTE shared the responsibilities of each officer position to include the chair, vice chair, and secretary specifically noting that the secretary takes minutes, and provides them to city staff, Vanessa.

COLLEEN JEWELL recommended open voting for assigning officers.

ANDREW DUKE nominated himself as Vice Chair, seconded by Sally Goss, motion passed. Chair and Vice Chair nominations are pending and will be nominated and voted on at the next meeting.

SALLY GOSS commented that the NPC member list is short, and requested that everyone present introduce themselves if they would like to participate as a member.

MARCIE GILLETTE reinforced that NPCs must have at least seven members per meeting to conduct business with a quorum and that at a minimum a chair and a secretary are required to reconvene as a council.

Members voted to postpone the election of officers to the November meeting.

Bylaws - ANDREW DUKE made a motion to amend the by-laws of NPC 11. Please refer to the attached document provided at the meeting by Mr. Duke. There was a group discussion regarding each recommendation. MARCIE GILLETTE reminded members that NPC's are required to use the NPC Charter Bylaws Template adopted by the City Commission however NPC's may elect to add additional content specific to their NPC. After member discussion, no action was taken on the Bylaws until further review can be completed.

Members voted to postpone the adoption of bylaws to the November meeting.

Member Comments: Two concerns were discussed that had been reported to Code Compliance but remain outstanding. 1053 Riverside Drive a junk vehicle remains at the property and 585 E. Hamilton was reported as an unregistered tourist home.

There was concern expressed regarding how the detour routes were established during the bridge on Capital Avenue and MDOT dictating what streets are opened or closed during construction. Additionally, concern was expressed regarding MDOT proposing future reconstruction of M66 (The Penetrator) headed into downtown.

Public Comments:

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Next Scheduled Meeting: Wednesday, November 29, 2023

Prepared by: Vanessa Hernandez, City of Battle Creek Community Development Specialist

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