

MINUTES OF JULY 2, 2008

MORGAN PARK-SMITHVILLE COMMUNITY CLUB (MPSCC) MEETING

Tonight's meeting commenced at 6:39 PM (Garden Club meeting ran long) with Louise presiding. Proceedings began with self-introductions, and Louise recognized Brian Parenteau as the new MPSCC Acting VP elected at the July 2008 meeting until the next formal elections.

OLD BUSINESS

Minutes Approval Minutes of the June meeting were approved by unanimous consent.

NEW BUSINESS

Treasurer's Report Chet reports a total of \$6,261.71 in the various sub accounts of the MPSCC treasury. There was an expenditure of \$264.25 to WLSSD for the costs associated with the annual MP community clean up. Also, we made \$43.00 at the annual flower give away selling flower pallets; we donated the entire \$43.00 to Neighborhood Housing Service, since they donated all of the flowers.

Recreation Pamela reported all summer programs are up and running throughout the city with only minor but not anticipate glitches. The rec staff has noted smaller-than-anticipated numbers of participating kids in Morgan Park, Stowe, Fond du Lac, and Riverside probably due to the fact summer school is in session until noon each day. While the MP-specific staff is good, the kids just don't seem to be interested in the art and rec programs. Due to budgetary constraints, there is anticipation for city-wide budget cuts that will results in closing some of the city's community centers and rec sites, reduction in the seniors dining program, and reduction to only three city-run ice skating rinks this coming winter.

Garden Club Amy reported the \$983.75 made by the MPSCC Garden Club at the May annual Duluth-wide plant sale in Leif Erickson Park parking lot was the second most money made by any of the participating Duluth neighborhoods. Approximately 2 ½ of the 4 MP gardens have had their annual plantings. Amy passed around sign-up rosters for watering/weeding volunteers.

Crime and Safety Update Officer Jim Rodman is on vacation this week. Recent crime is on the back of the agenda.

US Steel Gears Bill reported the bill of sale for the \$1 purchase of the gears from US Steel is complete. However, the city is requiring a \$1.2M liability insurance policy which would create a recurring cost to MPSCC of approximately \$1000/year. This development will somewhat slow the gear-relocation process while we search for more cost-effective alternatives, e.g.,

less-expensive insurance, alternate location for the gears, etc. Chris Dahlberg volunteered to chat with the Duluth city attorney to investigate potential options.

Banners Debbie reported we will be able to afford approximately 60 new banners and brackets for the \$5000 start-up grant. She had one of the old banners to show the size of the new ones, which will be 30”X70”. Because last month’s vote was inconclusive, we took a final vote on banner color which will be gold gears on a blue background on both sides of all banners. There are some funding-shortfall issues (aren’t there always), but Debbie is investigating work-arounds.

Morgan Park School Morgan Park volunteers will host 60 summer-school kids Thursday morning, July 3, to educate them on Lake Superior water testing and flower garden planting and tending.

Morgan Park Coffee Shop Owner Dan Nelson was unable to attend the meeting. On his behalf Debbie reported the renovation continues. The floors and walls are being completely redone, and the first coat of exterior paint has begun being applied.

Senior Programs (See info under **Recreation**)

Neighborhood Heroes Program Three MP residents (Lucille Kloberg, Chris Dahlberg, and Carl Nelson) received nomination for the LISC-sponsored program to recognized individuals in all the five Duluth neighborhoods who go above and beyond to make their individual neighborhoods a better place to live. In support of Lucille, both Carl and Chris graciously declined their nominations to compete. By unanimous consent all attendees voted to have Lucille compete as the Morgan Park Neighborhood Hero.

Morgan Park Revitalization Plan Debbie will attend “how-to” meetings in July to learn how we use existing and forthcoming assets, resources, and funds to implement the plan.

Donation to St. James School As follow up to an earlier email exchange among MPSCC members, John offered the motion to donate \$100 to St. James School in recognition of the school’s donation of flowers to MPSCC for sale at the May Duluth-wide flower sale. The motion passed unanimously. John also offered a motion to reimburse Amy the \$157.39 spent for plants, flowers and supplies. Chet seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

Morgan Park Picnic Thursday, August 21, 5:30 PM-7:30 PM Good Fellowship Community Center. Debbie to solicit volunteers.

Connecting The Dots Showcase Saturday, Oct. 4, 9:00 AM-noon.

August Meeting August MPSCC is cancelled due to National Night Out event on the same evening (Tuesday, Aug.5). President Louise will call a special meeting if needed possibly for ironing out the final details on the August picnic.

With no other business to discuss, Louise closed the meeting precisely at 7:55 PM.

Wayne Purser
Acting Secretary