

MINUTES OF JANUARY 6, 2009
MORGAN PARK-SMITHVILLE COMMUNITY CLUB (MPSCC) MEETING

Tonight's meeting commenced at 6:32 PM with Debbie Isabell Nelson, NHS, Morgan Park Neighborhood Coordinator, presiding for former President Louise Kolthoff who elected to step down in December due to professional and family considerations having just had her first child, the first Duluth baby of the new year.

Attendees:

Debbie Isabell Nelson
Polly Purser
Wayne Purser
Don Busch
Carl Nelson
Bill Majewski
Lucille Kolberg
Chet Johnson
Shari Mortorelli
Josie Hocevar
Diane Waksdahl
Officer Jim Rodman

NEW BUSINESS

ELECTIONS: The first order of business was election of **new officers**. The following Morgan Park residents volunteered to run for the annotated positions all unopposed:

President: Polly Purser
Vice President Jill Eckenberg
Secretary: Wayne Purser
Co-Treasurers Chet Johnson and Lucille Kolberg

After no discussion, there was a motion (Bill Majewski) and 2nd (Don Bush) to vote all contenders en masse resulting in unanimous Yea voice vote. Congratulations to all the above new officers for 2009, and many thanks to the **outgoing officers**:

President Louise Kolthoff
Vice President Brian Parenteau
Secretary (Vacant) Wayne Purser acting
Co-Treasurers Chet Johnson and Lucille Kolbert

SECRETARY'S REPORT: There was no MPSCC meeting (and therefore no minutes) in December due to the planning and execution of the Breakfast-With-Santa event.

TREASURERS' REPORT: Chet report at total of \$8, 586.69 in all five sub accounts. Chet indicated the Stowe Recreation Fund is under MPSCC purview for courtesy administration solely for the purpose of having a nonprofit entity administer a previous-year's recreation grant. That account now contains only \$13.67, and Chet recommended perhaps transferring the remaining funds to the Duluth City recreation department. Debbie volunteered to talk with Pamela Page, the city's only Parks and Recreation employee following downsizing of that department due to budgetary constraints) to determine the appropriate disposition of these remaining funds. In closing his report, Chet indicated December's Breakfast-With-Santa event grossed \$1,999.00 which will be divided among the participating riverfront communities. Approximately 240 tickets were sold for the event. A motion was made (Carl Nelson) and seconded (Bill Majewski) to give the Jim Shelton Family a \$400 gift (\$100 from each of the four neighborhoods sponsoring Breakfast With Santa to help defray some of their expenses associated with Jim's medical treatment for unexpected health issues. Jim owns the Milkhouse convenience store in Gary and has been a strong supporter of Morgan Park for some time now having donated untold items for our many functions over the years. The voice vote was unanimous to approve. Chet wrote the check on the spot, and Debbie will deliver.

GARDEN CLUB: No report due to Amy's being unable to attend tonight's meeting.

CRIME PREVENTION: Duluth Police Officer Jim Rodman, designated patrol for Morgan Park and all Far-West Duluth, indicated not much crime to report directly related to Morgan Park. He reminded us to lock our cars, houses, and garages, since unlocked properties are the first choice for thieves. He said there many snow-board thefts at Spirit Mountain due to the large amount of snow fostering much activity on the mountain. As a reminder, there is a city-wide crime-prevention meeting on January 29, 2009, at 6:00 at Holy Family Church.

PARKS AND RECREATION: No report. Now that Pamela Page is the city's only parks-and-rec specialist, she no longer works solely on Morgan Park issues in favor of a city-wide focus. Debbie indicated there is hockey tournament this Friday and Saturday, January 9-10, and another one Friday and Saturday, January 23-24. Both tournaments are at the Morgan Park Hockey Rink. Additionally, the Stowe Family Fun night will be held at the Good Fellowship Community Center on Thursday, January 22, 6:30-8:00 PM.

MORGAN PARK REVITALIZATION PLAN: Debbie asked we all think about what priorities we all would like to pursue as we work toward Morgan Park's revitalization. She will be chairing the

revitalization committee and would like our thoughts and ideas and volunteers to participate on that committee.

US STEEL GEARS: No change since last meeting. Plans are on-going to relocate the gears from their current location at the old steel-plant entrance to the green space (tentatively call Andersen Park in honor of Melva Andersen who has volunteered the space next to Super America). There are still some legal noncontentious legal issues to be ironed out. These issues, plus the weather and large snowfall, have all made delaying further action until spring a reasonable course of action for now. Melva plans to return to Duluth this spring from wintering in Florida, which facilitate coordination of the final details with her more convenient for all.

BANNERS: Due to weather and budget considerations, we'll re-engage with banner installation in the spring.

MORGAN PARK SCHOOL: As part of the service-learning program, Samantha, a LISC student intern, will assist in a project to extend the Western Waterfront Trail through Morgan Park.

SENIOR PROGRAMS: Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Inc. is now administering the Arrowhead Senior Nutrition program. Anecdotal evidence indicates things have gotten off to a bit of a slow start, which might be reasonable to expect considering the winter weather of late and the learning curve associated with a change in provider.

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE: As a follow-up to the San Jose meeting attended by Debbie and Polly, in an attempt to attract businesses and residents, they will be working on a grant-funded brochure espousing Morgan Park and the advantages of living, working, and raising a family here.

NHS DULUTH BOARD: Debbie announced NHS is seeking two volunteers to represent Morgan Park as NHS board members. Anyone interested may contact Debbie directly.

UPCOMING EVENTS

District 1 Riverfront Communities meeting Tuesday, January 20th, 6:30, Good Fellowship Community Center.

Shelton Family Fundraiser Sunday February 8th 3:00-6:00 at Mr. D's.

Next MPSCC meeting Tuesday, February 3, 6:30, Good Fellowship Community Center.

Wayne Purser
MPSCC Secretary