

Welcome and Introductions: Residents, and City Departments

Approval of February minutes: Motion by Dee Klees, seconded by Carol Petroff, motion carried.

- SPD Capt. DeFavaro distributed and reported on the SPD map showing activity in the Valley during the past month Nexus of shootings/shots fired reports and crime stats support camera near Sabatino's on Ballantyne.
- Committee Reports – Parks and Beautification – George Matthews discussed pricing for new benches (\$148 for plastic or plastic wood ends, with wood cross pieces). DPW will install in right of way at St. James. The bench at Florence & Salina needs a trash can (\$1200).
- Mayor's Citizens Cabinet – Dee Klees reported that they met last week and discussed Consensus. Mayor is waiting until the report is finalized to comment. Several towns and villages could go bankrupt depending on how implementation is handled. Downtown demolition –building's age delayed work due to probable asbestos issues.
- Public Safety & Planning –

Updates:

- Sue Boyle, Common Council, spoke about several city issues. The Dunkin' Donuts project has been approved; intersection crossing will be aligned as we wanted for pedestrian safety, perhaps to be located at the former Tim Hortons property. Driveway will be shared per Joe Hucko. If not, they will buy the old Mobil station and do *something*. Upgrade to Meachem bathrooms was not funded for this year. The "Say Yes" education funding goes to Syracuse public and charter schools, and not to private schools.
- Ryan McMahon, Onondaga County Legislature Chairperson, reviewed the State of the County funding. "Say Yes Foundation" was allocated \$20M in the budget. Interest on the funds will fund scholarships. They are currently working with college partners and Central New York Community Foundation to get income caps removed. The County has a decent surplus, tax revenues are up, and gas costs are down.

Presentations:

- Jake Thorsen from the Land Bank discussed a program whereby any city, county or SCSD employee would be eligible for a 50% discount on Land Bank properties (requires owner occupancy for five years). Another program is the Green Lots grant program where residents can lease a vacant lot for \$1 to use as a community garden. List of available Land Bank lots is on their website.
- Syracuse University students announced a Placemaking Project being done in three areas of Syracuse. The bridge by Clary Middle School will be the Valley's project site. A collection of mementoes will be installed as a mosaic between the bridge beams. Donations won't be returned, and can be dropped off at Cecile Center & Betts Branch.

Announcements:

- Betts Branch Library –Meditation class for beginners starts Saturday 2/13/16. Yoga class at 6:00 p.m. Upcoming event –"Blind Date with a Book"
- Two more weeks of Fish Dinners (or pizza) - Fridays 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. during Lent at Lourdes – cost \$9.00.
- Fish dinners also available Fridays at Valley Legion and at Nedrow Fire Dept.
- Assemblyman Magnarelli's public meeting will be held March 10th at 6:30 p.m. at the Cecile Center
- Meachem Area Parks Association meets next Wednesday, March 16th at 7:00 p.m. at the Cecile Center.
- Corcoran High School Theater group will present "Nice Work if You Can Get It" Friday & Saturday
- Webster Pond Neighborhood Watch meeting March 10th at St. Paul's United Methodist Church at 7:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn by Carl Sharak, seconded by Tina Giblin, motion carried.

Next Valley TNT meeting is scheduled to be held on April 13th at the Cecile Center at 7:00 p.m.