

Welcome and Introductions: Residents, and City Departments

Approval of May 2016 minutes, as corrected: Motion by Marilyn Madison, seconded by Carl Sharak, motion carried.

SPD Officer Evans discussed recent criminal activity and distributed a map showing reports in the Valley during the past month. Multiple motor vehicle criminal mischief reports (car was keyed and thefts) and “shots fired” reports. Some gang activity happens here because the victim comes to the Valley and is not related to gangs active in the Valley. 90% of these events in the Valley were because the victim was targeted. A recent shooting at Valley Superette targeted a known gang member, and the business is being reviewed for Nuisance Abatement policy. ATV misuse on city streets and sidewalks continues, but one incident 6/7/16 resulted in the vehicle being impounded (Ballantyne & Slayton). Current policy is “no chase”. Operators over age 16 are ticketed and vehicle is confiscated.

Presentations:

- Sue Boyle, Common Council for the Valley, spoke about Turkish Community Center negotiations and the work scheduled for Seneca Turnpike. She will be meeting with them to sort through some remaining issues and possible purchase of nearby homes. Police Department will get two new roadside “speed readers” as the old one cannot be repaired. City DOT work on Seneca Turnpike is delayed until spring, as it cannot be completed before winter. Charettes’ building on Valley Drive is being reopened as a painting business. The city is looking for a long term solution to flooding and mosquito issues at Cordova and Florence (site of a former WPA project).
- County Health Department – Debra Lewis presented on the County’s “Get the Lead Out” program and the County’s Lead Hazard Remediation program through Onondaga County Community Development. Syracuse has the two highest risk zip codes in the state. 10-12,000 children are tested annually, with follow-up by Public Health Nursing staff and home inspections. HUD assesses properties, but OCHD can issue notices/demand compliance via Code Enforcement. Limited funds for home repair grants are available in the city and county as well as training for paid lead abatement workers.
- Betts Branch Library renovation is scheduled for September 2016 and may take three months. The library will continue with limited services operating, except for days when demolition or construction warrants closure. New floor plan includes a multi-purpose group space taken from staff office space. Funding comes from a NYS grant with matching construction funds; there will be no tax increase for this work.
- Innovation Team – first year focus was on infrastructure, roads, water and sewer lines. Pothole identification and repair has been a priority in recent months. They are looking for input as to what their next focus should be.
- MAPA Anti-Litter Campaign Bob Dougherty had just come from a meeting with B. Murdock and the committee. Scheduled clean-up dates will begin on Saturday, July 9.

Committee Reports –

- Parks and Beautification – Benches and trash cans have been approved and ordered. Tina Zagya has joined with a tri-state purchasing consortium and the costs are coming in lower than expected. Balance left will go to Hafners for purchases of planting and landscaping materials (approx. \$400), as well as postcards and postage (\$350).
- Public Safety & Planning – Kathy Stribley spoke about Family Dollar store going in at the NAPA corner and a public hearing. The Valley Plaza Family Dollar store will be sub-leased after the move.
- Dee Klees reported that the Mayor’s Citizen’s Cabinet met and the Mayor announced hiring of 19 new police officers coming in July. The Innovation Team also made a presentation.
- Citywide TNT Board election – Carl Sharak and Caroline West were reelected as Alternate and Delegate, respectively, representing the Valley for the coming two-year term.

Announcements:

- Webster Pond Neighborhood Watch meets Thursday, June 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at St. Paul’s Methodist Church
- Meachem Area Parks Association meets next Wednesday, June 15- 7:00 p.m. at the Cecile Center. MAPA Tailgate Sale is scheduled for June 18th @ Meachem Field.
- Unity Church is hosting a public meeting on Heroin & Opiate Addiction June 22, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.

Next Valley TNT meeting is scheduled to be held on Wednesday, July 13, 2016 at the Cecile Center at 7:00 p.m.