

Roll Call

A neighborhood meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT:

Vice Mayor Don Cooney
David Anderson
Erin Knott
Matt Milcarek
Shannon Sykes
Jack Urban

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT:

Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell

Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and Deputy City Clerk Shelby Moss.

Commissioners
Excused

Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Urban, moved to excuse the absence of Mayor Bobby Hopewell. With a voice vote the motion passed.

Communications

An opportunity was given for miscellaneous communications, but no communications were offered.

Neighborhood
Communications

Neighborhood communications were received next.

Representatives from the following neighborhood associations were present and addressed the City Commission:

Oakwood Neighborhood Association

Marcia Wallace, Board Secretary
Cheryl Lord, Executive Director

Woods Lake Association

Chris Bovid
Frank Wolf

Oakwood
Neighborhood
Association

The Oakwood Neighborhood Association representatives:

- distributed copies of the May 2016 *Oakwood Times* newsletter and the *2015 Oakwood Neighborhood Association Annual Report*. Copies of these documents were filed with the papers for this meeting.
- reported the Association would be holding their annual elections soon and expected new members to be elected to the board.
- stated the Association had a successful Bowl-A-Thon fundraiser, and the Association was continuing to work on a neighborhood business association.
- expressed support for the zoning change proposed at the intersection of Parkview Avenue and Oakland Drive, but clarified they did not support another gas station in the area.

- expressed concern regarding the lack of Public Safety representation at the monthly Association meetings and the need for public transportation in the neighborhood.
- expressed concern about the large deer population in the neighborhood and the extreme measures that had to be taken to protect the community garden from the deer.
- thanked the Parks and Recreation department for helping with the successful after school program and the Oakwood Youth Summer Art Drop-In program.
- invited Commissioners to attend the annual Reunion/ Neighborhood Barbeque Picnic on June 26th at 1:00 p.m.
- reported 1,900 contacts through the Neighborhood Center for the Month of May and stated more volunteer hours were needed.

Oakwood
Neighborhood
Association (cont'd)

Commissioner Urban stated he had contacted Metro Transit regarding bus service in the neighborhood, but was unable to generate a change. Commissioner Urban stated he would continue to assist in the matter.

The Woods Lake Association representatives:

Woods Lake
Association

- expressed support for the rezoning of 21 parcels located at the intersection of Parkview and Oakland Drive, but clarified they did not support another gas station in the area.
- reported Consumers Energy had plans to locate a high voltage powerline in the area, and neighbors were concerned with the trees that may be removed. Consumers Energy had arranged for another meeting for area residents on May 26th at 2:00 p.m.
- stated Woods Lake Park would be open soon and thanked the Parks and Recreation staff for all their hard work.
- expressed concern for the level of salt in Woods Lake and requested the street sweeper come through the area sooner in the season to help clean up water runoff from city streets.
- requested Public Safety pass through Woods Lake Park at closing time and requested a sign be installed asking park goers to stay off the retaining wall located in the park, as it was not structurally sound.

In response to a question from Commissioner Anderson, Mr. Bovid stated there was a sign about park hours at the north side of the park, but additional signs were needed.

An opportunity was given for citizen comments, but no comments were offered.

Citizen Comments

An opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments by City Commissioners, but no comments were offered.

Commissioner
Comments

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelby Moss
Deputy City Clerk

For City Commission approval on June 20, 2016

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: June 20, 2016

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