

## **MorningSide General Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, February 14, 2023**

- **Meeting called to order by the President (Eric) at 6:40pm and started with prayer done by Adrian Green**
- **Minutes:** Taken by Secretary (Sharon)
- **Zoom:** We didn't have our regular Administrator so the audience can only watch without interacting

**Eric welcomed everyone and reiterated that everyone is to sign in, as well as those on Zoom to type their name. You must attend at least 3 meetings in order to vote in May. We have the list of whom we have so far with at least 2 meetings. We want to begin meeting totally in person.**

- **THREE MILE-MUNICH PARK – TIM KILLEEN:**
  - We have a Steward
  - We got some grant dollars to make improvements that should happen this summer
  - We get about \$84,000 to go towards our parks from Parks & Recs
  - Budget 1.7 billion to County – 1/3 comes from property taxes
  - Other 2/3 comes from grants
  - The core of government comes out of general funds
  - Employees are leaving because salaries and health care are not good
  - Jobs are open
  - Circuit court is backed up and keeps people in jail too long which runs up costs
  - Bookkeeping is done on an old system
  - Can't stabilize the workforce and will be getting 30-50 mil to improve offerings to staff
  - Looking to be able to offer a decent healthcare plan to employees, as well as offer a pay raise
  - Being stagnant has hurt. Over the next three or four years, it should turn around
  - Electronic records will be a big project
  - Another project is the jail – new on Warren & 75
  - March 14<sup>th</sup> is when we're supposed to open the jail
  - There are over 200 contracts that have to be approved over the next couple of months
  - There's a program for entrepreneurs to get started
- **CHELSEA DAVIS – CLEARCORPS DETROIT:**
  - Involved with lead resource and energy
  - Lead poisoning is at an all-time high, especially with young children

- Children need to be tested - more than 1,000 Detroit kids had elevated levels last year
- Behaviour can be affected by lead so it's important to test
- Children under six - homes can be eligible for assistance with home repair
- Cleaning kits are available to take home tonight
- The way you clean makes a difference
- Chelsea demonstrated what was in the kit
- There's a 3-4 step process to cleaning to help cut down on lead dust
- Lead paint was being used in homes built prior to 1978
- Energy efficiency program – refrigerator replacement program
- Also furnace, central air, water heater, replacement, and attic installation
- DTE has programs with restrictions
- These programs allow families to remove appliances that use too much energy and replaced them with energy-efficient appliances
- For low to moderate-income level families
- Moderate income is 200-300% of the federal poverty level
- Flyers were made available to attendees

- **PROPERTY TAX FORECLOSURE – ERIC DUEKE AND GARY GRAY:**

- Wayne County Treasurer comes after people
- Help from 2 agencies and must take action by March 31 – U-SNAPBAC will get you on the HOPE program, as well as other programs
- Info is in the Morningsider newsletter
- Friends of the Alger also helps people with applications
- 23 houses got auctioned off even though we knocked on doors and left doorknockers
- Latisha Johnson's office is helping
- Over 2300 people in District 4 need to be touched
- March 31 ends the moratorium
- Plan to knock on 2300 doors and talk to people to help save their homes
- MIHAF is 150% of the AMI (area median income)
- In our area the amount is high so many of us would qualify for this program
- Helps with mortgage, escrow, property taxes, utilities, and internet
- 220 in MorningSide needs to be touched – need the community to help pass out the information
- February 20<sup>th</sup> is the monthly meeting at ECN and DTE will be there to give free energy audit
- Saturday, the 25<sup>th</sup>, Martin Everest Church, records to be expunged
- Embarking upon the budget season – Councilwoman wants to hear your voice on topics that are important to the community
- Your voice informs her
- There are 14,000 properties in the City of Detroit in danger including vacant lots and unoccupied homes

- Your property tax assessment is mailed to homeowners to let them know what their house is worth, which can be appealed
- Neighbor from the Board of Appeals – Theresa
- You can appeal every year
- Tax increase is determined and you can show documentation and proof that you disagree with the assessment
- Apply for the HOPE program – can offer 100% exemption down to 10%
- Applications to appeal can be done online or in person
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- **DEPUTY DISTRICT MANAGER – EBONI :**
  - Have a reading program providing monthly stipends
  - Contact Detroit at Work
  - Youth jobs ages 14-24
  - Contact info is 313-236-3520, eboni.deberry@detroitmi.gov
  
- **KIM CANTY:**
  - MIHAF will pay back taxes beyond 2019
  - Do a new application to take advantage of that

The next meeting will be at Bethany Lutheran Church on March 14, 2023  
Meeting adjourned at 8:04pm by Eric