

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

- Meeting called to order by the President (Eric) at 6:38pm and started with prayer done by Adrian Green. Eric reiterated for everyone to sign in and explained the bylaws - must attend three meetings in order to vote in May, which is why we keep track of attendance. Zoom counts as a meeting. Anyone with questions can see the Secretary.
  
- **Minutes:** Taken by Secretary (Sharon)
  
- **Zoom:** Nic Hall and Jeff Lewis
  
- **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**
  - April will be the last meeting on Zoom
  - May's voting will be in person on paper ballots
  - The summer meetings will be outdoors
  - April is nomination month
  - Two people not running – Adrian & AJ
  - Reelection – Eric, Sharon, Jeff
  - Election for Board members at large are every year
  - Email Sharon or Eric if interested in running for the Board
  
- **NEW SIDEWALK PROGRAM**
  - The Mayor spoke about it in his address
  - Flyers are on the table with information on how to get new sidewalks
  - Send an email to say if you submitted a sidewalk request
  - Information is on the MorningSide website
  - Information is included in the newsletter
  - Jeff & Susan do the newsletter and you will get it tomorrow
  
- **NPO – Sargent Turner and Officer Maxey:**
  - Murders of the 5<sup>th</sup> Pct were two officers from that precinct
  - Officer Maxey has been on vacation for 2 ½ weeks and getting back into the swing of things
  - Working on getting another NPO
  - Turner handles the paperwork while Maxey is in the field
  - Email or call the officers
  - Cars were towed during the towing blitz

- **PROPERTY TAX FORECLOSURE:**
  - Wayne County Treasurer comes after people for unpaid taxes
  - If you owe taxes for 2020 or before, your house will get foreclosed if not paid by March 31.
  - Flyers are being passed out in the neighborhood to give information on how to save your home
  - Concentrating on homeowners to take action by end of month
  - 14,000 homes citywide are in danger. The goal is to have 0 people lose their homes
  
- **LEAD PAINT IN HOMES :**
  - You can get testing done in your home
  - Flyers are on the table regarding lead
  - Ford Resource Engagement Center – Sat. event
  
- **TIM KILLEEN – WAYNE COUNTY COMMISSIONER:**
  - County has a 1.7 Billion budget
  - Property taxes collapsed in 2008 and the county lives off these taxes
  - The county is behind because of lack of funds
  - Consent agreement was set and employee wages and medical took a hit
  - Junk bond status has been helpful
  - The completion of the jail is still happening – scheduled to open in August
  - 4,000 paid positions but 1,000 are vacant so it's hard to get services
  - Have had 7 CFO's in 8 years and 4 Budget Directors in 5 years, 3 Directors of IT in 4 years
  - 14 Prosecutors left to go to Macomb County
  - Juvenile hearings have been held up because of court dates
  - New bookkeeping system is on the way – will be a 5 year 30 million dollar project
  - Health and Human Services will hold a hearing about hazardous waste facilities
  - Citizens Guide to Michigan Government gives valuable info
  
- **DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOODS – EBONI, DEPUTY DISTRICT MANAGER:**
  - District meetings are the last Tuesday of every month
  - Newsletter goes out every 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday
  - Trash and bulk – contact with any problems
  - Blight drive is a focus right now – riding around looking for blight, vacant homes, cars, trash, etc.
  - Improve Detroit is the app to use and sends alerts to all the departments
  - Squatters is a 911 call
  - Motorcity Makeover – May 13<sup>th</sup>, Supplies can be picked up on May 10, flower pickup is May 12<sup>th</sup>
  - Block clubs – focusing on beautification

- Jobs are available for youth 14-24 years of age
- Adult scholarship is open and people can get paid to learn and read, and will get placed in a job
- To see if side lots are available, go to [buildingdetroit.org](http://buildingdetroit.org)
- The City will pick up tree limbs that are trimmed and left if it's a City tree
- Eboni – 313-236-3520

- **COUNCILMEMBER JOHNSON'S OFFICE – CARLENA TOOMBS:**

- Housing Fair this weekend at ECN
- Monthly meeting March 20 at 5:30 – HRV – Housing Revitalization Dept
- E-blast has all the info
- Bulk pickup will be changed to every week
- Dumping – in progress, call 911
- Non-profits to be able to purchase homes and renovate
- Carlena – 313-224-1309

- **LANDBANK INFO:**

- Wants to sell 42 houses to one developer which needs City Council approval
- 26 are landbank occupied properties
- There are some people living in them because they never moved out, or have moved in and taken it over
- 11 of the 26 are in MorningSide
- Ron – Nottingham is one of the people in a landbank house – told his story
- Bedford Development, Marvis Burns – wants to buy the 42 houses
- Says he has brought houses up to code in the past
- His first priority when buying an occupied home is to bring it up to code
- Wants to give back – grew up on the east side
- He tries to keep tenants in the property
- He works with the State to transition the homeless back into housing
- Renovated numerous houses and can handle this purchase of 42 houses
- Not here to displace people but to make the neighborhood better
- Concentrating on MorningSide because of his love for the neighborhood.
- Usually buys the vacant lot that is next to any of the houses his company buys
- Will address all issues that neighbors have.
- Eric invited the Landbank to the meeting but they declined because of time
- The City is starting to enforce that all rental properties be registered

- **AGAPE LOVE CHILD CARE CENTER – SHERI WILLIAMS**

- Home childcare facility with a partnership with Headstart
- Located on Three Mile
- Will have services for the community

- Have free childcare for low income ages 0-5

DPS – event at Renaissance, attendance agents trying to get kids back in school, enrollment numbers going up, will bring monthly updates

Need a volunteer for the election committee – Scotty nominated himself – there were no objections

The next meeting will be at Bethany Lutheran Church on April 11, 2023  
Meeting adjourned at 8:19pm by Eric