

Mapleton-Fall Creek Neighborhood Association

Minutes for September 14, 2023

New Circle Church

- 6:33 P.M. Meeting called to order by Travis Tatlock, President
- 6:34 P.M. Review of minutes from August, and approval of the minutes
- 6:35 P.M. Treasurer's Report
- Chase Account - \$ 4112.42
 - Prudential Account - \$ 8421.13
 - Membership dues can be paid online through our website or cash
 - September is the last month to pay dues for end of year election voting
- 6:37 P.M. Election of Board Member - Jackie Rodriguez
- Jackie introduced herself at last month's meeting
 - Board decided to delay the vote this month since she was absent
 - Still have 1 open position, and 4 members whose terms are ending with the chance of reelection
- 6:40 P.M. Citizens Action Coalition (CAC) - Kelly Hamman
- Kelly introduced herself as the Director of Development for CAC
 - Currently CAC is advocating for customers of AES Indiana related to the base rate change
 - Expected to be an increase of \$23/month for the average customer
 - CAC has more specifics at their website (www.citact.org)
 - Late August, a public hearing was held for customers and other entities like CAC to comment on the rate hike to the state agencies (Indiana Utility Regulatory Commission, Office of Utility Consumer Counselor)
 - Kelly shared CAC's perspective on AES Indiana's justification:
 - increasing profits
 - respond to economic inflation
 - improve service to customers
 - This request is also in the context of other rate increases that were enacted in March 2020
 - According to CAC's data, AES Indiana turns off a higher percentage of customer services than the other utility companies in Indiana
 - AES Indiana customers can't select their utility, so there is a lack of competition or options in the face of these rate hikes
 - Next hearing is October 2, 6 PM, New Augusta Public Academy North (6450 Rodebaugh Road)
 - This is the final chance for public comment
 - Input from the public hearings are used going forward through the evaluation and approval process
 - Generally the result is not a complete denial of the request, but a shaved down increase
 - The entire process will continue to play out into 2024, and further input provided to CAC or OUCC is always useful

- It's important for customers to stay aware of this process because many rate hike requests are always ongoing

6:50 P.M. Ongoing Variance Requests in MFC

- 3333 Ruckle St - This request was approved on 9/5 without further changes
 - Mithun Sinha expressed his gratitude for the letter of support
- 2958 N College Avenue - This request was expedited and approved earlier today (9/14)
 - Property owner and lawyers were very responsive to requests about the the building design
- 2802 Washington Blvd - Hearing is scheduled for 9/19
 - This is a project to build 2 quad units near the corner of the intersection of 28th Street and Washington Blvd
 - The key factor for the request is the setback from the corner and the property lines
 - The provided plans do allocate 4 parking spots per quad in the alley
 - 1 spot per unit, with some street parking still possible
- 555 Fairfield Ave - 9/28
 - This hearing was postponed till later this month
 - Still moving to a C-3 zoning with a list of excluded uses
 - David Kingen and Greg Rankin are working with Indiana Landmarks to decide on some additional use commitments (parking) and possibly including the Temple in the rezoning

6:55 P.M. MFNCA Fall Cleanup with KIB and HMPNA - Saturday, 10/7

- Reminder this cleanup will happen before next month's meeting
- Please sign up to volunteer with KIB at their website
- We'll start at Raphael Health Center at 9 AM
- The cleanup will go till around noon
- Trying to cover different sections of the neighborhood
- Keys2Work, DPW, and KIB will be providing extra support and resources
- Monumental Marathon has made a \$500 donation to help cover expenses

7:01 P.M. IMPD - Officer Harrison

- Shared the monthly statistics for August
 - 88k - 911 calls
 - 60k - non-emergency calls
 - 443 - texts to 911
 - 68k - dispatched runs
 - 27 seconds - wait times for 911 calls
 - 1 minute 13 seconds - wait times for non-emergency
- Auto thefts continue to be a problem across the city
 - certain car models have easy security to overcome
 - IMPD still has steering wheel locks they can provide to neighbors upon request
 - avoid leaving valuables in your vehicle
- 4 aggravated assaults reported in the last month
- Continue to have shots fired runs
 - important to call and report
 - allows for shell casing recovery and connection to future crimes

- Car shows and other events lead to parking lot meet ups and street shutdowns
 - IMPD working with businesses to keep parking lots secure overnight
 - leads to big groups, burnouts, and donut maneuvers
 - Consider setting up barricades, fencing, and security cameras
- IMPD is continuing to use new technology
 - drones
 - license plate readers
- Question was asked about loitering at 32nd and Central Ave gas station
 - IMPD can work with the business to minimize loitering/trespassing
 - generally an ongoing problem throughout the city
 - will follow up with the business to see what can be done

7:05 P.M. Friends of 38th Street and the National

- Cars and Gravy - September 16 - 9AM to Noon
- Collecting donations for MLK Center this month
- Final Cars and Gravy is October 21 - 9 AM to Noon

7:07 P.M. The Children's Museum of Indianapolis - Angelina Moore

- Reminder to sign up for your neighborhood membership
- Sunday September 24 - Fiesta de la Familia
 - celebrating National Hispanic Heritage Month
 - free flu shots, money for college, special speakers, music performances, and crafts
- INRC grant opportunity is available again for the Fall 2023 cycle
- Museum Holiday Party will be December 14, 6-8:30 PM
- Haunted House and associated events start in October
 - Twilight Fright, Feast with the Witches, etc.

7:10 P.M. Freewheelin' Bikes - Reminder about Nancy's Ride later this month

- September 23 - you can register today at their website
- MFCNA will have an info table
- MFCNA plans to make a \$200 donation as we have the past few years

7:12 P.M. Indiana State Fairgrounds - Fuel Home Opener is October 20

- Last season at the Coliseum before they move to a new facility in Noblesville
- Hope to get LeRoy to speak at a future meeting to talk about initiatives at the fairgrounds

7:15 P.M. MCPHD - Tammy Island

- Introduced herself again and provided her contact information
- Provided pending orders and ongoing court cases
- If we have questions about a property, please direct them towards her and she can help follow up
- MCPHD is still limited on inspectors, so some actions may be delayed

7:19 P.M. Broadway and 29th Park - Mari Evans Park - INRC Grant

- Indy Parks is in progress of taking full possession and generating the larger plan for the park after the public input session
- stay tuned

- some grant money still be to be spent

7:21 P.M

Mayor's Neighborhood Advocate - Susan Martinez and Brittany Crone

- Susan introduced herself and her colleague Brittany Crone who is the Director of Community Outreach a part of the Office of the Mayor
- Brittany is new to role, but very involved in the community
 - grateful to be able to attend our meeting and hear from neighbors
- Fall Aquatics programming open for 2023 through Indy Parks
- Monumental Marathon is coming later this month, Saturday October 28
 - be aware of street closures
 - limits most traffic for 3 hours, but course opens for traffic around noon
- Susan shared further details about the IndyGo bus crash that occurred at 32nd St and Central Ave late in August
- Neighbors and DPW have expressed concerns about the intersection
- MNA's office is looking for neighbor feedback to share with DPW
 - infrastructure at the intersection has been damaged repeatedly due to car crashes
 - bus stops are located in somewhat dangerous locations given the traffic pattern
 - limits on street parking could create "blisters" that would encourage dangerous passing on the right
 - Neighborhood is confused by the application of right turn onlys at College Ave
 - most traffic doesn't respect the signage
 - accidents continue
 - 32nd St and Central seems just as dangerous as 32nd St and College
 - North of 38th Street, proper stop signs and intersection safety is implemented everywhere
 - MFC as a neighborhood feels left out and as if our neighborhood doesn't deserve to be safe
 - The Avenues have been used as quick pass throughs to get through our neighborhood
 - These current traffic patterns hinder our economic growth given the danger and lack of care for our intersections
 - Neighbors deserve to be safe in their front yards along the Avenues and other key roadways
 - MFC is residential, not an interstate highway
- Currently DPW is working with HMPNA to create a tactical urbanism project like others within the city
- Tactical Urbanism may be an option for trying to tackle these intersections
 - Concerns that a project like this could cause further accidents
 - Neighbors feel unqualified to make good recommendations
 - Indy DPW needs to help guide what would be effective
 - How can we get real infrastructure change put in the budget so we can get to a solution faster?
- Ron Gibson - candidate for City County Councilor spoke and said he would prioritize these concerns as much as he can going into 2024
- Pedestrian safety was also mentioned

Travis Tatlock, President

- Health by Design has done some analysis in the Mid North Neighborhoods
- Starting in 2024, funds from INRC grant cycles can be considered for Tactical Urbanism projects

7:44 P.M. Other Updates from the floor/Open Discussion

- Free Movie Fridays at Tarkington Park - Coming up later this month and into October
 - 9/22, 10/6
- Residential Street project work is ongoing at Balsam Avenue and Evergreen Avenue
 - Proposed work is roughly \$7 million, extensive replacement of infrastructure
- As mentioned, Monumental Marathon is at the end of this month (10/28)
 - prepare for street closures that morning
- Election Day is 11/7, and the last day to register to vote is in early October
- Art in the Garden (9/17) has been canceled on short term notice due to planning conflicts and liability for the event
- New Circle Church is hosting a Fall Festival on Friday 10/27, 6-9 PM here at Mapleton Park
 - They are also doing a ribbon cutting with the progress of the shelter and park renovation

7:49 P.M. Call for motion to adjourn and socialize with neighbors

Next Monthly Meeting: October 12, 6:30 PM, New Circle Church