

Mapleton-Fall Creek Neighborhood Association

Minutes for 12/14/17

Unapproved

6:37 p.m. – Meeting called to order by Ryan Funk, president

Two main things for tonight's meeting, external - land use and investment in the area and internal - board member elections. We'll start with the external and then move to the internal. If you need to leave, we understand, but it is important work that is being done and we love having you present and involved. After the meeting, president and secretary will be announced.

6:40 p.m. – Introductions

6:44 p.m. – Review of Minutes from November

6:46 p.m. – Minutes approved

6:46 p.m. – Treasurer's Report

- Chase Account Balance \$5,978.66
- Dinner Endowment Fund Account Balance (Prudential) \$6,904.92

If you would like to pay dues tonight, please see Gerald and they will be counted for the 2018 year.

6:48 p.m. – Presentation, Citizens Group, DigIndy Project

- Meridian and 28th intersection closing on 1/2/2018 through October 2018 for the DigIndy project
- DigIndy = giant sewer project beneath the city to catch sewage that is flowing into our waterways. Going on since 2012. Completion date is slated for 2025. As a segment is completed it will be turned on and begin to catch the overflow. It will be a slow progression until we see the positive impact.
- Just east of Illinois street. Meridian and Penn at 28 will be closed. You can detour around using Talbot. Northbound Detour will be Illinois street and your southbound will be Capital.
- Project was moved up in the timeline. It wasn't scheduled for another 5 years but due to IndyGo needing the area for the RedLine we worked together to not disrupt the neighborhood multiple times just do this one mass time. Good news is, "it could have been worse."
- Learn more at DigIndyTunnel.com.

Comment: this is not the first time Citizens that you have rescheduled things in order to lesson the inconvenience to MFCN we are grateful for their help and work in our neighborhood.

6:56 p.m. – Community Partners

- New Mayor's Advocate serving all of the MidNorth, MidWest downtown communities, Hope Russu. Office hours on Tuesday from 2-4 at CDC and Flanner House Fridays from 2-4pm. Here to answer questions and share concerns with around what you're finding in your area (abandoned properties, lights out, etc.).
- Scotty Probert(sp), Americorp program (at CDC) - IDA savings program, we're taking applications-actively looking for applicants. You put in savings and the government will put in a match to help you save for a first home, car for work or school, career training, college and education expensive. It is created in order to help those in low-income situations.

7:02 p.m. – Former Chase Bank Building Variances

Presented at our last meeting. We discussed and voted on supporting the variances for that property but we agreed to negotiate some terms regarding the uses for MU2 which is what this property is seeking. Four uses that would be allowed under that new variance that the owners have agreed to mark as not to be used are Liquor store, bar/tavern, laundromat, pawn shop.

Q: Does that zoning change run with the land or the owners

A: It stays with the land

Q: Were you still looking for ideas for what to do with the building?

A: Goal is to secure a restaurant but the zoning needs to be taken care of before approaching restaurateurs). We want it to be an asset to the community and available for use.

- Discussion around bars, liquor licenses and variance allowances
- The NA should establish a land use committee for next year that outlines a fair use for individuals who are interested not just the board members.

7:26 p.m. – Motion made to accept the rezoning recommendation by the board to support the zoning with the exclusions - liquor store, bar and tavern, laundromat, pawn shop

Discussion - Is it in writing? A: In email. The owner will modify the petition to match our request. We then give a letter of our recommendation to the city. They have to match up.

Show of hands vote: yes - 15, no - 3, abstain - 1

7:30 p.m. - Motion carries and we will provide a letter to the city.

7:30 p.m. - Cell Phone Tower Proposal Presentation, Jay Suriano on behalf of Vertical Bridge

- Vertical Bridge is working with T-Mobile who has identified a need in this neighborhood
- 95' monopole tower at 510 Fairfield St. A fenced compound around. No barbed wire, no chain link fencing, a different kind of fence will be used with landscaping.
- Current proposed property is zoned D5, a residential zoning that does not allow the height.
 - Currently a parking lot. The proposal is to do a monopole tower on this site.
- A variance is needed.
 - An automatic continuance was filed (by the CDC).

The MFCNA's board of directors recommendation - The board voted to recommend opposing this variance request, but are open for discussion.

Discussion regarding Cell Tower

- What is Plan B?
 - No plan B
- How will a tower there benefit our community?
 - It is an economic development tool—without the appropriate amount of telecommunication abilities in an area it can't thrive. Businesses need the ability to have faster internet. This site would have up to three carriers that could use the one tower.
- Is T-mobile taking advantage of a property that is considered blight? What do these look like in neighborhoods with a higher income?
 - I don't think T-Mobile looked and identified the neighborhood - the closest tower is a mile away up at the fairgrounds. Part of the licensing things is filling a coverage gap.)

7:48 p.m. Motion to approve the board's recommendation to oppose.

Discussion

- The lot had been used by the Temple across the street, it would prevent that being used.
- VFW in broad ripple - there is one that looks disguised as a flagpole. The other one is sitting next to Cathedral and it also looks like a huge tower. You can build these to not be obtrusive.

7:52 p.m. - unanimous vote to take the board recommendation to oppose.

7:53 p.m. Elections for the board

Treasurer will facilitate the election. Our bylaws are unique. To vote for board members you must have been a dues paying member by June of this year in order to vote for the board members. If you think you qualify for that let Dupree know.

Board nominee intros:

- Mike Quinn - lives in the blue house on Washington. Experienced in board politics and working with the city.
- Phil Kirk - in the neighborhood for the last 2 years. No board experience. Am a real estate agent. There is something about our neighborhood that it can feel like its easy to be targeted and marginalized and I would love to be a member of this board and be your voice .
- Dustin McKinny - up on 34th street. Pretty good at listening and hearing other viewpoints. I follow through. I've been meeting with the CDC and other areas agencies to see what we can do to use the Fall Creek gardens site and I've been working for the fresh food access.
- Alice Clifford - been here since 1961, started with weed and seed, I've been on the board once. If you want someone outspoken - me.
- Brenda Branch - was on the board, I run a day care, I'm an advocate for the children. I got to meet with people with fresh ideas. We agree to disagree to get a great understanding amidst one another.
- Nate Rush - not able to make it due to a family emergency, sorry he could be there, would like to continue on. He has been a board member for a few years. In charge of the senior dinner, pitch-in and National Night Out. If elected he would be honored to serve as board president if elected since Ryan doesn't plan on being the president this coming year.
- Mable Brown - been here for 50 years and we have day camp with the children every year. If I had my way about it that bank would be a computer lab. We need to pay more attention to our children in the neighborhood. I would like to be on the board and get started to help our children again.

8:06 p.m. Counting ballots

8:14 p.m. Results

- Nate Rush
- Michael Quinn
- Dustin McKinny
- Brenda Branch

Three way tie on 2nd place and we'll see who gets the 1 year term which was Pua's.

8:15 p.m. Membership released.

8:16 p.m. Board Huddle to determine officers

- Michael, Keith and Nate are absent
- Nate nominated for president
- Rachel nominated for secretary (hopefully transition in someone)
- voted and approved 8:19 PM.