

Neighbors of Belknap Lookout Board Meeting

Tuesday, September 12, 2017
NOBL Office, 700 Clancy Ave NE
6:30 pm

1. Call to order
2. Additions to agenda
3. Presentations
 - a. GVSU – Pat Waring and Shannon Sullivan
4. Approval of August minutes/financials
5. Committee updates
6. New Business:
 - a. Any comment on City's CAPER to HUD (report on our funding)
 - b. Diversity policy
 - c. NAC
7. Old business:
 - a. L&L Market
 - b. Potential partnership with The Other Way (re: Clancy Ministries site)
 - c. Leadership
 - d. Details of Curb Appeal
8. Public Comment
9. Adjournment

Upcoming Events:

Thurs-Sun Sept 14-17 – Poker Event at Russo's, volunteers needed 11/11:15a – 5:30 pm
Tues Sept 26 – tentative development committee meeting, 6:30 pm at 700 Clancy
Wed Sept 27 – tentative mobility committee meeting, 10 am at 700 Clancy
Sat Sept 30 – Traveling Harvest Celebration – 704 Clancy 3-5 pm; 762 North 6-8 pm

Please check out the draft content for our new website: www.dev.grandesignshosting.net/nobl
Can you find what you need? Does any of the branding seem off? What else should we add?

Neighbors of Belknap Lookout Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 8, 2017

Board Members Present:	Rob Kennedy	Loretta Klimaszewski	Barbara LaBeau
	Todd Leinberger	Loren Sturrus	Johnathan Swets
Board Members Absent:	John Skryski	Gretchen Warnimont	
Staff Present:	Elianna Bootzin		
Guests Present:	Brian Bremer	Don Rietema	Dean Rosendall
	Tim Sneller	Vicky Sneller	Adam Williams

1. Call to order - The meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.
2. Additions – Meeting location/dates, grants and interns were added to the agenda.
3. Presentations (given in reverse order)
 - a. Mark Kidd (RJM) and Vik Singh (L&L) shared drawings and narrative for the proposed rebuilding of the L&L Market. Neighbors noted the cornice’s callback to historic looks. The aim is to mimic Martha’s Vineyard with craft beer and wine and more groceries as well as ready-to-eat sandwiches. Creston Market might be another good comparison. Hard liquor sales are low here compared to some locations. They will be adding delivery to improve grocery turnover, thinking especially of shut ins; alcohol delivery is legal when carried out by employees checking ID, and the store will use only those 21 and up in that position. There were concerns about the hours expansion being before school (Coit serves breakfast at 8:50 and starts at 9). The proposed 8 am opening is intended more for those on their way to work, and the store would be willing to exclude kids. Similarly later closing times at 11 (Sun-Thurs) and 12 (Fri-Sat) worried others because of the former activity on the corner. The store expects to monitor closely and will not hesitate to call the cops if needed. The construction process is estimated to start next year around February and last six month. There are no concerns about the historic value of the current building. The store would appreciate input on what to stock and looks forward to working with neighbors to identify an appropriate new name for the enterprise. Signage will remain on the plaque above the first floor; secure, tempered windows would use a presentation style. There may be outdoor seating, the dumpster will move behind the building. Neighbors requested a garbage can and security cam, the latter of which we were assured would be use. They requested a letter of support for their Special Land Use application.
 - b. City staff shared a draft alcohol policy expanding options for consumption in City parks; they are engaging in a listening tour and requested feedback. Private events would be held by invitation only, for example a baby shower, in specific parks with pavilions. They would not need a liquor license as there would be no sales. There is still a fee for renting the park and they would need insurance as well, which is available as a rider on their homeowners insurance. Similarly, special events open to the public could use a BYO option, which has happened spontaneously at Movies in the Park. They still check ID and monitor use. That particular location may be more acceptable to residents throughout the City because there is a police presence and it is in a commercial area. It was noted that there is already a set of special events that do have alcohol – they get a liquor license and the host deals with sales; those would continue under current processes.

The crux of the discussion is that it is unclear where to enforce: some neighborhoods want to have wine and cheese parties, but don't want a college kegger happening the next night. It is possible to write the ordinance to exclude kegs, but it is hard to define "individual consumption". For example, would a 12 pack or a bottle of wine be okay? How do you prevent problems with half empty containers left on the premises? One neighbor worried about reducing the likelihood of drunk driving, another did not trust all citizens to be responsible with BYO, some thought it best to associate BYO with parks with bathrooms, while others saw no problem. Usage would be limited to dawn to dusk.

4. The May and June minutes and financials were approved with an elaboration on the history of L&L: they had made no commitment regarding restricted hours, therefore no letter was sent.
5. Committees
 - a. GVSU – The RFP is getting close. The next steering committee meeting is next week. We can expect a presentation in September.
 - b. Development – The next meeting is scheduled for the 22nd. We may need to set a standing meeting date given the difficulties of coordinating schedules ad hoc.
 - c. Mobility Committee – The next meeting should be scheduled soon. The first meeting was a basic overview of the project. The group discussed metered parking at the Gateway. In addition, a map was displayed at NNO to gather neighbor input. Two of those present added that it would be nice to have Reservoir Park locked consistently at night; Elianna will relay that request to Joe Sulak.
6. New Business
 - a. Appointment of Secretary - Rob was elected Secretary.
7. Old Business
 - a. Metered Parking at the Gateway – Elianna reintroduced the topic, sharing DTN's request for a letter of support, the Mobility Committee's lack of opposition, Andy Guy's statement that it is a good way to control parking, and a likely opposed neighbor's approving upon further explanation of the situation. Cut outs are not currently on the table, but may come up for discussion again after the Mobility Committee's work is finished. The board approved writing a letter. Since they are digital meters, we would want a payment kiosk included on the site; we will include the map showing metered parking only around the commercial portion (and a bit of their own apartments), too.
 - b. Reflections on the Ellie Frey article – The general lesson seemed to be not to bite off more than you can chew. We should be asking good questions, and digging into topics like grants, membership and interns. It was suggested that we review Robert's Rules and meeting etiquette. We should perhaps find more social time outside of meeting time, and be sure to have more safety discussions.
 - c. GVSU PILOT funds – Reviewing the items line by line, it was noted that we should alert neighbors about the cat spay/neuter initiative so they can be sure owned cats are identifiable and fix the phrasing on that stipend. We should be sure to get before and after pictures on the curb appeal effort as well as to finish fine tuning the details of the process in general; Dean would be interested in helping with a fun judging event at the end of that project. It was recommended that we contract with the City/County court services for the maintenance type tasks. Overall the board approved taking the project concepts to the GVSU work group to continue working towards release of funds.

- d. Update on Mayor’s Task Force on Housing Recommendations – Elianna attended a session wherein the recommendations were referred to the Economic Development Commission, the Planning Commission, and the to-be-defined Housing Advisory Board.
8. Public Comment – Terry Morris from the east side of College explained the difficulties he has been encountering with the homeless encampment, which is worse now than it typically has been in the last 22 years. The board was interested in looking further into the issue. Loretta will work with Terry on holding a meeting with JP and neighbors from both sides of College; we would like to approach the Highland Park group as well as other relevant stakeholders. Brian noted that our meetings do best with a semi-casual balance to allow conversations like Terry’s. He also asked and the board confirmed that future meetings will be held at 700 Clancy (with reservations of Coit School for the semi-annual November and May meetings).
9. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 pm.

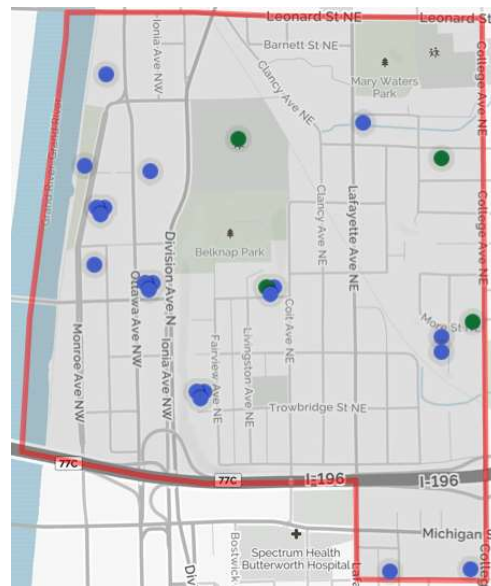
Director’s Notes

Public Safety – www.grcity.us Online services → (Lookup) Crime Data

Destination is <http://grcity.us/police-department/Pages/Crime-Mapping.aspx>

Selected last 4 weeks with ½ mile circle around 800 Coit unfortunately losing the corners (left, below)

The 100 block of Newberry was the site of a high profile incident 8/16 (one female shot, one male stabbed with a beer bottle); the suspect has been arraigned and is being held on a \$200,000 bond.



Development – www.grcity.us Online Services → (Permits & Applications) Permits & Applications Map
Selected 8/4-9/6 in the Belknap Lookout neighborhood (right, above). Again, mostly small things.

Developers are moving ahead with previously approved projects: Demolition and building permits have been requested for the Belknap Bluffs condos, and a brownfield application is in for Angel’s Coit condos.

Updates on Old Business

Vacant lot at 762 North – Elianna learned a lot from the Hillcrest Community Garden and has assembled a list of prospective grantors. We'll likely have another long back and forth with KCLBA to actually buy it. In the meantime, we'll have a harvest celebration on Saturday September 30th from 6-8 pm.

Neighborhood Matching Fund – Swing set build is in progress; join us for that celebration 9/30, 3-5 pm.

PILOT Funds – The City Commission should be re-appropriating the funds tonight. It may require a second session to approve payment, after which payment will be processed.

No further updates on 712 North or Kristi's recognition in the office signage; for Clancy Street Ministries, The Other Way would be interested in working with us directly on their early neighborhood engagement work. We'll discuss what parameters would be acceptable and whether/how to move forward tonight.

The Charles Belknap statue is in its new home!

Admin

Continued tutoring program. Engaged Michigan Street Corridor and Wellhouse regarding homeless encampment. Met North Quarter Corridor as well. Worked with other neighborhood organizations on renewed collaboration. Followed Coit Park redesign and police procedure review conversations.

Proposed Diversity Policy

No person is excluded from receiving NOBL services due to discriminatory reasons including age, disability, economic circumstance, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, world view, spiritual beliefs, marital status, national origin or veteran status.

No one is excluded from consideration for employment or volunteer participation with NOBL, regardless of age, disability, economic circumstance, race, ethnicity, gender, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, world view, spiritual beliefs, marital status, national origin or veteran status.

NOBL strives to intentionally increase inclusive practices and incorporate diversity throughout its mission, governance board, staff, volunteers, vendors and constituents.