

## Neighbors Of Belknap Lookout Annual Report 2019

**ABOUT US:** Neighbors of Belknap Lookout was organized in the late 1970s under ACORN and incorporated in 1980 to deal with crime and blight using CDBG funds via the City of Grand Rapids. Neighborhood conditions have improved tremendously since then, but NOBL's work to advocate for and enhance the quality of life in the Belknap community continues. Current focuses include helping neighbors to address land use issues in relation to the 2009 Area Specific Plan, strengthening community engagement with the process of developing public spaces, and helping more residents become active in the neighborhood and local government. NOBL's boundaries are Michigan, College, Leonard and the Grand River. Learn more at <a href="https://www.belknaplookout.org">www.belknaplookout.org</a>.

## OUR GOALS FOR THE NEIGHBORHOOD'S PUBLIC SPACES CONTINUE TO INCLUDE:

A better way down Belknap hill: Kendall College students shared their visions ("Mountain", "Café", "Retreat", and "Orchard") for neighbor feedback at the Annual Meeting at East Leonard in November.



**The Hastings Connector**: Reconstruction of the west side of Hastings by the City took place this summer.

Better pedestrian connections: MobileGR budgeted for durable crosswalks, will add pedestrian signs.

CONTACT: 700 Clancy Ave NE | Grand Rapids, MI 49503 | 616-454-8413 | belknaplookout.org

**NEIGHBORHOOD ACTIVITIES:** We connected with neighbors at several standard events: Dumpster Day, Block Parties, and Neighborhood Clean Up, giving neighbors a chance to dispose of large trash items free of charge, eat and socialize while learning about relevant local issues, and work together to remove litter from the neighborhood, respectively. Neighbors on the east side of the neighborhood cultivated a Community Garden at 762 North. We launched a Community Relations and Racial Equity Committee which embarked on a localized power analysis, with intern-completed reports on housing and health. We also enjoyed several collaborative potlucks before moving those events to Newberry.

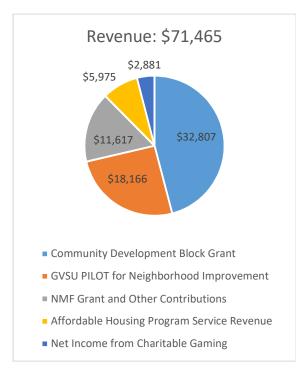






**CONSTRUCTION IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD:** Our Development Committee and/or Board of Directors took positions on the following projects: 826 & 835 Fairview, 614 Fairview, 835 Fairview (revised). We remained neutral on the C3 Industries application for a medical marijuana dispensary at 49 Coldbrook which was not approved by the Planning Commission. We also received an update on Bradford Station.

## **OUR FINANCES:**





**Assets:** General Operating Funds: \$18,504; Special Project Funds: \$35,228; Building Value: \$110,238. **Liabilities**: Minisplit Loan and Accrued Payroll Taxes: \$8,334. **Net Assets, or Equity**: \$165,137.

**2019 Board Members:** Loren Sturrus (Chair), Todd Leinberger (Vice Chair), Dan Miller (Secretary), Rob Kennedy (Treasurer), Robin Benton, Brian Bremer, Loretta Klimaszewski, Dean Rosendall, and Jonathan Swets.

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