**Neighbors of Belknap Lookout Board Meeting**

**Monday October 10, 2022 6:30 pm on Zoom:**

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89312716003?pwd=R0RRWURwTkFuUDRESU11VFRVczhldz09](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89312716003?pwd%3DR0RRWURwTkFuUDRESU11VFRVczhldz09&sa=D&source=calendar&usd=2&usg=AOvVaw292bRMsg_fU8NRB0aVU3mM)

or dial +1 646 558 8656 Meeting ID: 893 1271 6003 Passcode: 477427

**Agenda**

* Roll Call  
  + Action Item: Choose new Secretary
* Last Month’s Minutes  
  + Action Item: Approve Minutes
* Talk about each area of the Strategic Plan  
  + Action Items regarding Quality of Life  
    - Lisa Haynes, GVSU: Greenspace -> 4 demos
    - Update Community Development Scorecard
    - 975 Ottawa: Affirm Executive Committee   
      proposal to defer to Monroe North Biz Assoc.
    - Trash: Sign on to Neighborhood Association   
      Collaborative Request to City Commission
  + Action Items regarding Accountable
    - Draft Budget for Presentation at Annual Meeting
* Committees
* Guests
* Miscellaneous

**Meeting Details**

* **Roll Call**  
  Cassidy Cvanciger  
  Kara Harrison Gates  
  Marshall Grate  
  Scott Huebl  
  Dan Miller  
  Ellie Walborn-Henry  
  Will Witt  
    
  Review 5 Finger Polling Method

**Action Item**: Choose new Secretary

**- Last Month’s Minutes**

**Action Item**: Approve Minutes

**Neighbors of Belknap Lookout Board Meeting Minutes**

Monday, September 12, 2022, via Zoom

Members Present: Cassidy Cvanciger, Kara Gates, Scott Huebl, Dan Miller, Adam Rogalski, Ellie Walborn-Henry, William Witt

Staff Present: Elianna Bootzin

Guests Present: Sarah Behmlander and Darrell Singleton (City Planning Dept), Brian Holland and Matthew Luckey (Gateway), Karen Ingle (GVSU)

* Sarah and Darrell introduced themselves and the work they do at the City’s Planning Department.
* The August minutes were approved.
* The Gateway project, changing the west half of the commercial space into residential, was discussed. The Board asked many questions and Elianna requested input on the subjective questions from the scorecard. In general, we are disappointed that the change is needed. We were very much looking forward to having a restaurant or other retail use in the neighborhood. It is our belief that the City’s removal of parking out front during the reconstruction of Hastings contributed greatly to the reduced feasibility of the site for that original use.
* Use of the scorecard netted a total of 11.5 points (of 10 needed) in order to determine that the change meets our threshold for support. The Neighbors of Belknap Lookout Board of Directors passed a motion affirming said support. We look forward to welcoming additional residents to the area, and particularly appreciate the Gateway’s foresight in choosing a layout which will make it possible to reconvert a few of the units to retail should circumstances change again in the future. Elianna will provide a letter to the officers for approval and then send to Elizabeth Zeller, who is handling the case.
* The board once again shared several concerns about the loss of the last four houses that GVSU has determined need to be demolished. Elianna shared the information Lisa sent ahead, as she was unable to attend. The board would like to see a plan for activation of (some of) the resulting greenspace from all of the demolitions, understanding that liability will need to be taken into account, before issuing a formal concurrence. We will therefore look forward to seeing Lisa at our next meeting.
* Elianna will move forward with invitations to the in person annual meeting at Coit Creative Arts Academy which will include a Hill and River Network update from Mark Miller (DGRI) and a bingo card exercise to identify zoning changes neighbors want to advocate for during the City’s Master Planning Process to increase the availability of housing.
* The meeting was adjourned.
* **Talk about each area of the Strategic Plan**
  + **Action Items regarding Quality of Life**
    - Lisa Haynes, GVSU: Greenspace -> 4 demos  
        
      The board will see a plan for activation of 3 vacant lots in order to issue a formal concurrence with the final 4 demolitions: 548 Clancy, 520   
      Sinclair, 524 Sinclair, 520 North.
    - Update Community Development Scorecard

See attachment. Adjusts some items to be   
specifically for projects that are 4 units or larger and allows a threshold of 8 / 12 for projects   
under 4 units.

* + - 975 Ottawa: Affirm Executive Committee   
      proposal to defer to Monroe North Biz Assoc.

This is another use change, going to the Board of Zoning Appeals for permission to provide self storage. Details will become available at <http://grandrapidscitymi.iqm2.com/Citizens/Detail_Meeting.aspx?ID=6585>. At our request, the project team presented to our officers, who would like to acknowledge that engagement and formally defer to the Monroe North Business Association regarding support as it falls within their Area Specific Plan, not ours.

* + - Trash: Sign on to Neighborhood Association   
      Collaborative Request to City Commission

Key highlights: There is too much illegal dumping taking place; Dumpster Day is not accessible to all residents.

**Long Term Solution to trash issues**

**Create a millage or tax to provide trash service to EVERY household and include large items as part of it** (with a limit of 2 or 3)

**Short Term Solutions are:**

1. **Expansion of Home Repair Services (HRS) Administration of the City’s Low-Income Refuse Collection Program to include BOTH Homeowners and Renters.**
2. **Update/Remove ordinance requiring weekly trash pickup.**
3. **Require landlords to provide renters with trash service.**
4. **Provide Trash receptacles at ALL bus stops and in ALL business districts. NOT JUST DOWNTOWN.**

**Dumpster Day Equitable Solutions**

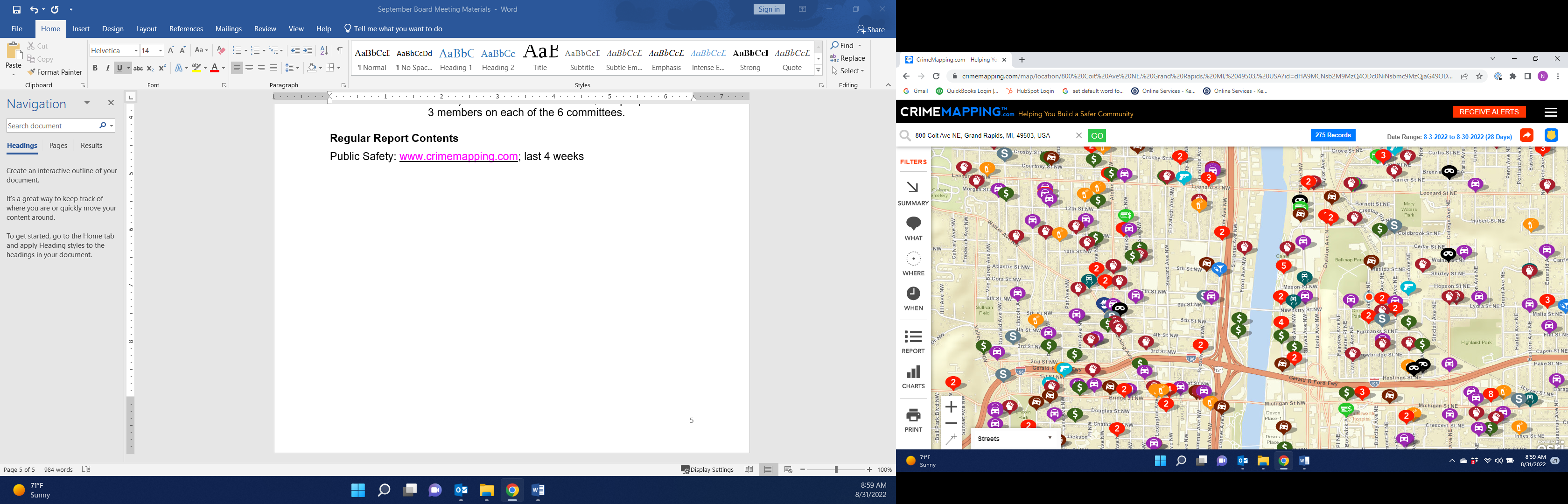
1. Have a FREE curbside pick up day, 4 times a year (Spring/Summer/Fall and Winter) for residents to help eliminate trash hoarding. It would be nice to do a quarterly yard waste curbside pickup as well.
   1. This can be done on regular trash pickup days by zone.
   2. This will make it equitable for ALL residents in the city of Grand Rapids to participate in, regardless of transportation, economic status, where they live, etc.
2. Create a comprehensive guide to trash services and alternatives available to residents in the City of Grand Rapids.

Full presentation at <https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1XlxB7i0DbwRdDjlRtcDGAJzujt7156qpnYIXKnOiwR4/edit#slide=id.g12f03fe7b06_0_172>

* + **Action Items regarding Accountable**
    - Budget for Presentation at the Annual Meeting  
      * Questions? Recommended changes?
      * Process – same at annual meeting, board to adopt budget that night noting which recommended changes will be incorporated.
* **Committees**
  + Community Development – The Committee saw a dry run of the bingo card exercise for the Annual Meeting. They will discuss further engagement with Catherine’s Health Center in October. Gateway got recommendation from Planning to convert 14 units in west bldg.; next step City Commission.
  + Events (staff) – Final food truck night went well.  
    Our final report to Special Events has been submitted.
  + Public Safety – Our Lunch N Learn series launched. Attendance at the Lead Safety session was 5 people.
  + Racial Equity (staff) – Interns are engaging with   
    housing and immigration/refugee issues.
* **Guests**
* **Miscellaneous**
  + Our bookkeeping service does not finish data entry   
    until the 15th. Would you like to receive financials as a follow up email, discuss after Nov meeting, or in Dec?

**Regular Report Contents**

Public Safety: [www.crimemapping.com](http://www.crimemapping.com); last 4 weeks



View current rental certs at: <https://inspections.grcity.us/CitizenAccess/Report/ShowReport.aspx?module=Enforcement&reportID=303&reportType=LINK_REPORT_LIST>