

## Meeting Minutes

### Neighborhood Action Committee July 21, 2009 - 6:30pm

*Present: Brian Cooper, Laurie Krivitz, Roy Evans, Jimmy Gerding, Aaron Shatton, Sheldon Schwartz, Kerry Stone, Patty Lammers, Al Oertwig, Mark Voerting, Bill Zajicek*

#### **NAC Updates & Slideshow**

The group reviewed a S. Schwartz-produced slideshow of recent community events including: Dragon Festival, community gardens, Burr/Case work, and restorative justice training.

- **Dragon Festival** was enjoyable. Group felt it was the start of a good partnership.
- **Restorative Justice Training**-10 people went thru facilitator training. The program is now getting its 1st cases and setting up conferences and pre-conferences. Patty and Kerry provided a brief overview of the program including how pre-conferences work, and the conference process.
- **Burr/Case Gardening**- Patty reported that a community garden was planted, alley clean-up was completed, a litter pick-up was completed, drug houses busted, and that Parks and Recreation is looking to do programs at Bruce Vento School in the next few weeks to attract some of the younger youth in the area. She also reported that D5 had met with Councilmember Lee Helgen today along with Police, DSI, and Parks and Recreation to talk about actions in the area.
- **Community Gardens-Gateway Trail Garden**-Gardening Matters newsletter featuring the garden this month was distributed at the meeting. Prior to establishing the garden the area had a high crime rate with car theft. The state (DNR) ripped up part of the parking lot and put in a pergola with tiles created by the Creative Arts School. The gardening group, led by L. Krivitz and B. Cooper, took over in April and began laying out the garden and mulching the site – planting around Memorial Day weekend. Gardeners planted public areas with donated flowers and raspberries. Brian and Laurie located a free picnic table on the internet, painted it and placed it at the back of garden along with a fenced area for composting. The DNR took state legislators on a tour of several projects and the garden was featured on the tour. The DNR has been very supportive of the project. Gardeners are hoping for water to be turned on this week at the site – the city connected water from the street into the site. Laurie brought a zucchini grown at the garden to the meeting.

#### **Work Group Session**

The committee discussed next month's meeting (August 18th) which is to be a community picnic at Phalen Park.

- Garden group will bring tomatoes for the event.
- The event is a community potluck.
- Discussed honoring block leaders for their work and NNO event coordinators.
- Theme: "A Taste of the East Side."

- Will use National Night Out for outreach.
- The event will be 6:30-8:30 p.m.
- Will bring outdoor games to play.
- The agenda would include: honoring block leaders and collecting neighborhood action ideas.

***The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.***