

SouthWest Common Council
Meeting Notes
December 17, 2015
6:00 PM
Arnett Branch Library

Present: John Boutet, Mary Dan Cooper, Gloria Edmonds, Jennifer Lenio, Dawn Noto, Sheila Knterle, Elizabeth Doucette, Tammy Butler, Greg Jorsen, Norm Roberts, Will Anderson, Jenn Beideman, Dorian Hall, Dorothy Hall, Bruce Wilder, Mary Beth Spinelli

Guest: Mary Beth Spinelli from RIT's Center for Public Safety Initiatives attended to share a new project which includes public focus groups from the City of Rochester. It is a city-wide program. Looking for 18 yrs and older city residents for their views on the criminal justice system and police relationships. 9 yrs ago there was a phone survey done that was similar. This will update to today's views and allow the public safety officials to review their practices. Focus groups will be anonymous and conducted throughout the summer. The quarterly reports will go to the Chief of Police, Sheriff Mayor. Looking for groups of 4-10 people.. Mary Beth will come to your NA's, block clubs, business associations meetings to garner participation. Her email is mbsgjc@rit.edu.

PLEX-

Held there Christmas Social and it was well attended. Christmas box donations were gathered and given to the girls that SWAN is working with.

They will continue to hold there meetings every month this year.

Review of types of businesses, code issues, back-lit signs from National Chain stores. New businesses are at the meetings. Legacy Park is moving forward. The BOA on Flint St is also moving forward. State can do cleanup. A 1 yr time-frame is given for the work to be done.

The event committee will meet On January 27th at the Acoustical building. Mr Maye owns the property. A new use is proposed for the building.

Bruce Wilder –

Retail businesses need special permits for their signs. Flying banner signs are not allowed – technically. Sometimes allowed for a short time during grand openings.

19WCA – Mary Dan Cooper –

Holiday Open House with book give a ways.

Santa visited School 44 and winter coats were given out. Tree on Arnett decorated by local school children.

Dec 22nd there will be caroling in the neighborhoods.

MLK Jr. Luminary event will be on January 18th.

February 6th Candlelight dinners will be held for neighbors in host homes. It will be a mix and match of hosts and guests.

Feb 13th Skating Party hosted by the 19th Ward and UofR will occur at GV Skating Rink.

John Boutet now the SWCC representative from the 19th Ward NA.

Cottage Street Block Club-Elizabeth Doucette-

We got you covered Ebay sellig classes on Tuesday January 19th at 6:30pm at the NBD Office on Genesee St. email cottagestreetworks@gmail.com for a seat.

Tutoring continues 2 days a week and snacks are provided.

Christmas Party was held and well attended. - The kids that were tutored received dollars earned for good behavior. That money was spent at a Christmas store set up for kids at the party.

Book Author, Jill Fortune, will be helping with a reading program.

SWAN- Norm Roberts-

Girls group collections received and appreciated.

The girls group applied and were awarded a \$500 grant for a service project.

SWAN held their annual Christmas Lunch for the people that attend Montgomery Center. 75-100 people in attendance.

With help from the City of Rochester 10 holiday baskets were given out to seniors this year.

Enrollment at SWAN is 100 kids. Average 82-83 kids a day. A group is rehearsing Shakespeare to perform in March. Henry the VIII.

EDUCATION COMMITTEE – John Boutet

Dr Vargas leaving and Van Lowengouth is our interim superintendent.

Committee met with Van at the coffee meet and great. He was a teacher, principal and Superintendent of Syracuse School District.

Patty Malgieri gave them a report on the busing system to better understand the use. Pushing short distance busing for neighborhood schools.

School 44 is still on the chopping block.

January 12th going to Albany to meet with AQE Metro Justice and lobby.

Flower City Americore back working with the NBD Office- Will Anderson – 428-7630.

They will work with our communities on projects in the SW. Focus on anti-poverty initiatives.

Libraries – Jennifer Lenio

Slower in December with the holidays.

Phillis Wheatley will have everyday programs, Wii games, movies over the holiday break.

Arnett Branch now has a young adult librarian. April Younglove.

Teen job preparedness program with Lisa Zink being held.

Healthi Kids – Jenn Beideman

The report a few months ago had 10 recommendations for the walk to school campaign. The County Traffic Safety Committee is to review the recommendations and report back to them.

Simple items as re-striping the crosswalks are the county responsibilities. Reynolds Street needs re-striping now.

County has the RPD review the crossing guard applications.

Ice-Skating at MLK Park on Dec 28th from 12 – 3pm

Healthy Headlines now online at Healthykids.org. Free family fun over the holidays and more included.

Samaritan Woman - Tammy Butler-

Samaritan Woman located at 228 Plymouth Ave works through New Life Church with newly released woman offenders. They have been a non-profit for 15 yrs. 75% success rate. Crucial to find ways to keep kids connected through programs while their parents are incarcerated.

They are NYS Certified Advocates and have training for women to mentor.

Has a partnership with a dance studio and provides exercise therapy to connect woman and families.

Through exercise service providers can gain a better understanding on how families can better support each other. Working with partners to obtain goals.

Adams St Rec Center- Sheila Katerle-

Sheila is the new director and wanted to come and introduce herself and share what the Rec center offers the community. There hours are 9 – 6pm, 9-4 on Xmas Eve. Closed on January 1-3rd. Open again on Monday January 4th.

They have a pool, weight room, zumba classes, swimming lessons. Life-guard training classes in March ages 15 and up for Jr lifeguard. training free for high school students.

SUSAN B. ANTHONY NEIGHBORHOOD – Dawn Noto

Continue to work on corner loiterers. Police attention has decreased activity. lately.

Happy Holidays and it has been a pleasure co-chairing the SWCC the past 4 yrs.