

Northside-Hester Park Neighborhood Steering Committee

Thursday January 8, 2015

Cathedral High School Conference Room

Members Present: Joan Rydberg, Seal Dwyer, Ellen[Susie]Lies, Pam Haugen, Steve Lanz, Andra Johnson, David Mohs.

1]Planning/Brainstorming for 2015: Lighting contest was held in December and it was suggested that for 2015 we should coincide the judging with the hospital lighting ceremony, and that we notify Kerri Petrie of the Saint Cloud Times of the contest in hopes she can help us promote the contest. Andra, our hospital representative confirmed that the lighting takes place on the 1st Thursday in December, which would be December 3, 2015. We would encourage our neighbors to get their decorations out by that date with an article in our newsletter and let them know we would be doing the judging that night. It was also suggested we get some new prizes, or perhaps have one large prize given each year. We also talked about how it would be nice if we could light up the park for the holidays. It was suggested we contact water treatment plant and find out if they would be willing to help us with it some how. Another thought was to decorate our lamp posts in the park. The next subject in the brainstorming was to sponsor a food shelf collection of possibly a family in need in the neighborhood. For the food shelf collection it was suggested that we ask Mathew Hall Lumber if we could use there business as a collection site. The next item discussed was the annual neighborhood fundraising garage sale. We plan to hold it on Saturday May 16th and set up will be on Friday May 15th. We will ask for donations as we did last year. The plan is to have the sale in Susie's garage and across the street in John's garage. Susie will contact John on the use of his garage. Continuing with our plans, we would like to hold the ice cream social in the park this year on August 13th from 5:30PM to 7:30PM. We would make arrangements with a local pizza place to supply pizza for sale for those wishing to have their supper in the park and then supply the ice cream free of charge. Next we talked about the Annual Neighborhood Meeting. It was held during homecoming last year and suggested we do the same this year making the accessibility of the school cafeteria better than other times during the year. David will check on the date of the 2015 homecoming. We again plan to hold the Ghost Walk this year. We will hold it on Sunday October 24th from 4:30PM to 6:30PM. It is felt that smaller groups and more escorts in costume would make it easier for people to hear and enjoy refreshments along the way. One of the stops this year will be the Victorian house across from the school. Laurie, the owner is excited to be included in the tour. Next was the 4th of July fund raiser. We do however need someone to head up the committee and delegated task and arrange things. Steve said he would be available to help who ever takes over with advice from his past organization of the event. He also suggested we contact Christie Lalliberte, since she showed some interest in helping coordinate the fund raiser. David informed us that we have been officially approved the use of the meeting room here at Cathedral for the year 2015. We plan to offer CHS advertising space in the newsletter and articles on the International Student program and the future construction at CHS. We again are planning a spring cleanup in the park.

2]Park Report: Weather permitting, plans for cleanup in the park were made for Sunday April 26th. We will meet at 10:AM. It was suggested we try and get a scout group to help with the cleanup. Andra said she has a co-worker that has a son in a scout group and will ask how we can contact some one about getting volunteers. Joan said we should make a list of what we have accomplished and what we would like to have done in the park then present it to Scott. She tried contacting Scott but he was on vacation. It was suggested we invite Scott to our March meeting to go over the list with him.

3]Financial Report: No changes since November. No expenses in December. We met our matching

fund goal. The lighting contest awards will be sent out after this meeting.

4]Coalition Report: We have met our matching funds. We were one of the two neighborhoods to do so. A preliminary report on the progress of neighborhood zoning etc. will be on the city web site. The Wobegon Trail will be coming as far as Waite Park. No report on the Beaver Island Trail.

5]Newsletter: Our next newsletter will be out by March 15th, Articles will be due by Valentines day and be sent to Seal. A "rouser letter" will be written by Seal. Andra will do an article on the ER expansion. Seal will also write an article on the matching funds and a whole page on the events planned for 2015. Steve will do an article on the Neighborhood Proud program, how neighbors can nominate neighbors and what the criteria are for the nominees. We will also list our 2014 winners of the Christmas lighting contest. Sue has some pictures of the winners homes and will get them to Seal.

6]Neighborhood Proud Awards: The start of the award season will depend on the weather.

7]Holiday Lighting Contest: Winners were John and Joyce Matsuura, Karlyn and Russ Pogatchnick, JJ and Mary Helm, Ronald and Glenda Prom, Mark Larcom and Bruce Egerman.

8]Neighborhood Watch: We would like to get the neighborhood watch program. Seal will look at the web site to see how we can set one up. We also would like to schedule a meeting with a officer from the police department about the program. Possibly at our April meeting.

9]Miscellaneous: Nothing brought up.

Next Steering committee meeting will be Thursday, February 5, 2015 at 6:30PM in Cathedral High School's conference room. Enter via door #1. Everyone is welcome.