

**MINUTES: *Facilitator* Sharon Sherman & Ken Garno**

**Attendees:** Councilmember Jean Kessner, Dick Kornbluth, Mary Carney, Kathy Downey, Rebecca Manning, Rex Gordine, Mary Giehl, Greg Boyer, Linda Ervin, Adam Woodburn, Marilyn Zaleon, Dan Stricker, Dave Oja, Samantha Pierce, Dave Kirby, Judy Oplinger, Ocesa Keaton, Brendan Rose, Chol Majok, Sondra Roth, Ann Kornbluth, Stephen Waldron, Khris Dodson, Madison Quinn, Kiva Vandergeest, Matt Oja, Steve Harris, Gloria Sage, Tim Rice

**Issues for City Department Officials :**

Q. What does city leadership have in mind to address housing vacancy problem? Councilmember Jean Kessner stated that she is on the Neighborhood Preservation Committee. It is easy for developers to build more dormitory style housing, if they are not breaking any laws they have the ability to do this. S.I.D.A. is the agency responsible for providing tax breaks to these new buildouts. It was suggested that the group request Councilmember Steve Thompson to address this issue/concern at a future TNT meeting

**Special Project Presentation:**

Ken Garno introduced the Special Projects. All 5 projects total the \$5,000 available in Special Project Funds. All were in favor

- 1) Meadowbrook Drive: beautification \$460
- 2) Thornden Park Association: removable floor tiles \$2,000
- 3) Westcott Community Center: Adirondack Chair \$500
- 4) Westcott Neighborhood Association: Signage \$1,700
- 5) Outer Comstock Neighborhood Association: free little library \$340

**Presentations****Ocesa Keaton: *Americans with Disabilities Act Coordinator***

Civil Rights Law establish in 1990. An example of how you can make suggestions: In Barry Park a child needed an accessibility swing. The mother contacted Ocesa and working with the Parks Department, was able to have an accessibility swing installed. Councilmember Kessner inquired if the snow removal issue was a violation of this act. Ocesa stated that this is not an easy answer as not all sidewalks belong to the city. Always call 448-CITY to report any issues.

**Madison Quinn & Adam Woodburn: *Save the Rain Projects***

County was issued a Court Order to reduce the combined overrun water and sewer water. Through the use of green and grey infrastructure over 180 projects have been completed to date, allowing over 123 million gallons of water to be captured using green technologies.

Q. Are you interested in suggestions for future projects?

A. Yes, Save the Rain is interested in speaking with other neighborhood groups.

Q. If someone receives a letter from save the rain to select a tree, can someone demand the type of tree they want planted?

A. There are some constraints on Spring vs. Fall planting and the type of trees that are in stock.

Q. Do you use the excess water you saved to water the plants during a draught?

A. Many projects just put water back into the ground, they do not include a water cistern. Working with Onondaga Earth Corps, they assist in tree maintenance.

Madison Quinn: [MadisonQuinn@ongov.net](mailto:MadisonQuinn@ongov.net)

Adam Woodburn: [AdamWoodburn@ongov.net](mailto:AdamWoodburn@ongov.net)

**Announcements**

- 1) Chili Bowl Fest at Thornden Park on Saturday, March 4<sup>th</sup> 12pm – 3pm
- 2) Rezone Syracuse public meeting to introduce the new City-wide Zoning Map  
Thursday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 7pm at Nottingham High school Cafeteria
- 3) Jan Markarian & Sandra Porter will be presenting at the March TNT meeting on the Deer issue