

Meeting Minutes: March 13, 2019

Location: Cecile Center, 174 W. Seneca Turnpike

Facilitator: Tina Giblin

Meeting began at 7:03 pm and welcome and introductions commenced.

1. **Welcome:**

2. **Minutes:** February 13, 2019, draft meeting minutes were reviewed: Dee Klees moved to approve the minutes with one change to add an o to the first reference of Joe Romano's name. Carl Sharak moved to 2nd and the minutes were approved by voice vote with no objections.

3. **Public Officials: Syracuse Police** Captain Steve Lynch provided a crime report for the area. It was mostly burglaries, larcenies and theft from vehicles. He said it was relatively quiet and hopefully that continues. He explained that city patrols are to be divided into 3 districts. Valley is part of the Southeast District. Captain Lynch will be in charge of the Southeast District. He said he likes to have one person for each group as a contact person and that could be Tina Giblin, who has his email and phone. Discussion of a break in on Empire Ave, big trucks on Dorwin, panhandlers, and four wheelers and dirt bikes. Captain Lynch advised that it's best if caller can identify where the bikers live, so police can find them. He inquired about the speed reader on Dorwin and said it had been turned off in winter because it's solar. Panhandlers are best addressed by social services and can no longer be arrested for loitering.

County Legislator Miles Bottrill said he grew up by the duck pond. He talked about the county's approval to pursue bonding for the Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Math STEAM school as part of the Syracuse Surge to renovate old Central Tech for SCSD and county students, County and city are renewing the effort to work together, on economic development perhaps Valley Plaza. The departments would be in Carnegie Library. The STEAM project will take at least a year or two. There's no timeline but the sooner the better for planning maybe within the next year. Central High is a big building and will require lots of work and investment. There is a need for buy in from suburban districts to make it work. Building structurally very sound but needs lots of work. He was asked about the county legislature voting down a plan for advisory panels on redistricting and outside agency doing it. He said it would be done in 2020 and needs data from 2020.

Common Council – Bryn Lovejoy Grinnell said budget time is beginning. CDBG money is under discussion for tenants at Valley Vista, In a meeting to discuss the STEAM school the price tag had been discussed as \$90 million, It will be necessary to bring in 40 percent of students from suburban schools. There was discussion of the plan for the county to take over sewers, potholes, and vacant homes. She took addresses to pursue follow-up.

Librarian: Volunteer tax prep assistance is going on. Call to schedule. There will be April school break activities.

4. **Bureau of Administrative Adjudication (BAA):** The BAA was established to hear and decide property code violations in accordance with the City of Syracuse Property Conservation Code. The BAA will begin select ticketing in mid-March. Leah Witmer Director and Chief Administrative Law Judge Office of Administrative Adjudication spoke. She's new to the job, which is entirely new, and comes to it from a background in civil litigation with Hiscock Legal Aid Society. Joining her was Ken Townsley, who directs the Codes department. BAA is a new bureau to hear code enforcement cases, improved compliance, homeowners or landlords. They are not altering the code enforcement process but providing an additional option to pursue code violations to reduce the backlog of cases in the law department. The process provides for increasing levels of fines if violations are not addressed. She will supply the slides displayed to Tina Zagyva to put on the web site

Timeline: last week Codes sent out violation letters to rental property registry notices 500-600. Community outreach mailings and postcards to landlords, media outreach and web page to come. April first tickets for noncompliance. By Mid-May Codes will have ability to issue tickets for new open violations. If paid and ticket not corrected Codes will review and consider whether to up fine or refer to law department. They will begin with rental registry issues. It can affect tenants. If tenants have problems reach out to legal aid, volunteer lawyers project. Ken noted that they are two different offices and once it's referred it's out of Codes hands. There was some discussion of tenant concerns and how to handle LLC ownership mysteries. Leah's email is lwitmer@syrgov.net .

5. **Committee Reports**

Beautification, Parks, and Planning committees had no updates from last month.

6. **TNT Citywide Board update** – Dee Klees noted that the board had made the change to two voting delegates for each sector.

Facilitator meeting: There will be a citywide meeting for facilitators March 28 at the Community Foundation.

Videos: The Community Foundation has been very supportive and will fund production of two public service announcement videos to inform people about TNT and how to participate.

St. Pat's Parade float. TNT also has a float in the St. Patrick's Parade this Saturday and will be marching with the Munster edition which will gather at 1 p.m. All are welcome to march.

7. **Discussion: Special Projects** Joe Romano said he had gotten approval to proceed with the **end cap project** and was putting together a work group for it.

Carl Sharak noted that there was a need for \$50 more to cover the cost of **the bench** approved at the last meeting. Dee Klees made a motion to approve an additional \$50 out of the remainder left after last month's vote, bringing the full cost to \$1,250. Pat Hageman seconded the motion a voice vote was taken and all were in favor with no objections.

George Matthews said there is a new special project and Lisa from ELMS, presented the proposed project for the students to cast and design **12"x12" pavers**. She would come back to TNT to identify a path to use them on in the community and hope to make it a yearly endeavor. Suggest where you would like these 12 x 12 pavers. There was discussion of whether since there was not \$900 left unassigned if the balance of about \$700 would be enough. Dee Klees moved to approve that the remainder of the sector's \$5,000 be used for this project, Joe Romano seconded. Tina took a voice vote and it was approved with no objections.

Meet and Greet: George Matthews said there is a need to get councilors to the meet and greet before the **June 12 TNT meeting**. Joe Romano said he would make the invitations.

ELMS seventh grade night will be the first Thursday in June and TNT can set up a table with information on the TNT. Lisa from ELMS will send invitations by email.

E-recycling Joe Romano noted that Assemblyman Magnarelli has a recycling event coming up.

School announcements: Lisa said the Clary and ELMS musical is Alice in Wonderland on March 22 musical shortened version.

Quadrant pickup: Caroline West said the first of the season is April 13-14th. for the west Valley and April 6-8th .for east Valley and to watch for the city postcard in the mail. George Matthews said he would post it on Valley Views,

Rabies clinic at Meachem is April 25, Caroline said.

Earth Day: there will be an Earth Day clean up with MAPA.

Webster Pond Fishing: Kids fishing program begins first Saturday in April 6. The program lasts until September.

Thursday Morning Roundtable Citizens Review Board: Ranette Releford, Administrator for the Citizens Review Board invited all to attend the Roundtable at 8 a.m. refreshments.

MAPA board meeting: George Matthews announced the board meets at the Cecile Center next Wednesday and all are invited.

Hockey team won statewide championship: Kurt noted that the Syracuse Cougars team whose home ice is the Meachem Rink won the state championship for the first time.

8. **Adjournment:** Joe Roman moved to adjourn at 8:11 p.m., Caroline West 2nd, All in favor, no objections.

Next TNT Meeting: April 10th 2019