

# *M*emorial Park Neighborhood Block Club Niagara Falls, New York 14303 - 1407

June 21, 2011

Block Club Meeting @ the NACC, 1<sup>st</sup> floor Niagara Room.

## **Attendees:**

John A. Cooper, Ruth Cooper, Mary Jo Sutter, Karen Mock, Larry Larratta, Rose Hovivian, Helen Bradum, Kathie Kudela, Karen Johnson, Manny Yellow, Noreen Chatmon, Gregory McClinton, Angie McClinton

Meeting called to order @ 7:15 pm

Prayer given by Noreen Chatmon

## **President Report:**

1. Burglaries in the 500 block of 12<sup>th</sup> also 400 block of Memorial Parkway. Be aware and lock your doors. Be vigilant in all you do.
2. Sheriff Work Program was another success for the cleanup.
3. Police training program for neighborhood residents is Thursday July 14<sup>th</sup> at the NFPD. Programs run eight weeks from 6:00 – 8:30 pm.
4. Busi-Catts Program has begun with the help of Ruth Cooper, Linda Gibbons, Mary Jo Sutter and me (John Cooper). Has been going well so far, the City has been following up on all our reports.
5. Looking into the W501C register for non-profit organization. This will open up new avenues for the block club.

**Treasury Report:** Has been table until next month's meeting due to Sr. Barbara being absent.

Approval of last month's meeting minutes. Move to pass first by Karen Johnson, second by Ruth Cooper.

## **Old Business:**

Concerns regarding NFR and their properties, Noreen Chatmon read that Mr. Sam Furcione supports the NFR and says their property is tidy and boarded up.

Manny Yellow asked what the update was regarding the house next to him with the porch falling down in the 400 block of Memorial Parkway.

Noreen Chatmon has been policing the neighbors regarding the trash being put out too soon. It should be out only eight hours before pickup time on Monday mornings.

Karen Johnson has concerns about people and cars blocking the alley way between Memorial Parkway and 12<sup>th</sup> Street.

## **New Business:**

Ruth Cooper – City says they are not getting calls regarding problems in the neighborhood. So as of March we have been driving around the neighborhoods documenting addresses with trash, abandoned cars, broken window, roofs with holes in them, etc. Ruth has come up with a form called the “Busi-Catts Hot Spot” sheets. On this sheet is a list of concerns or activities:

1. Abandoned Cars – any car without a license plate
2. Debris – fallen trees limbs, wood building materials, leaves, brush
3. Junk – mattresses, box springs, couches, chairs, furniture, stoves, refrigerators, ANYTHING outside a building or on a porch that can be seen.
4. Rubbish – scrap metal, containers, glass, plastics, carpeting, wrappings, paper, and broken concrete.
5. Weeds – overgrown grass, ragweed and other plants, bushes.
6. Housing – peeling paint, broken windows, stairs, roof, abandonment.
7. Garbage – MUST be in covered cans, putting in alley or front of house before SUNDAY 5PM. Leaving cans in alley or street after 11 pm on Monday.
8. Police – drugs, gangs, loud parties, prostitution, underage drinking. GET LICENSE NUMBERS OR PICTURES

Our system is failing our community. The 96 hours rule is a problem with the city inspections office. It needs to be revised to 48 hours. Every week these sheets get turned into the appropriate department to be investigated and followed up with.

The City charges for (2) hours of cleaning with a crew of:

- (1) Supervisor, (1) pickup truck, (6) laborers, (3) weed whackers, (3) mowers at a cost of \$774.72 to the home owner of the property. This amount is usually added to their tax bill.

Noreen Chatmon suggested that the rules be printed in the local newspaper to inform the residents of the code ordinances so they can't say they didn't know.

Ruth spoke with Syracuse regarding their Rental Registrations, along with their ordinances.

Noreen Chatmon mention having a car show for the July 16<sup>th</sup> Arts in the Park sponsored by the NACC. Kathy Kudela said they were already having a car show.

Kathy Kudela has been working on a grant for de-construction of houses. It will help us once we apply for the W501C in working this program and will provide some jobs for the neighbors who wish to work.

October 21, 2011 is when the “Day in Niagara Falls Neighborhood Revitalization” Bus Tour leaves from the NACC at 1:00 – 5:00 pm and tours the area neighborhood to see the old homes and gardens.

Meeting adjourned @ 9:00 pm first Larry Larratta second by Karen Johnson

Next meeting is July 19<sup>th</sup>; 7:00 pm at the NACC 1<sup>st</sup> floor Niagara Room.