

### **Council on Neighborhoods Mission**

All are welcome who are interested in neighborhood cohesiveness. Meetings are intended to give members the opportunity to:

- strengthen connections between Rochester neighborhood leaders
- inform on neighborhood-related topics
- engage and contribute collectively to highlighted initiatives

### **Meeting Summary**

January 31, 2023, 5:30-7 pm, 4001 West River Pkwy NW, Police DSIC NW B163 A Classroom



**A. Welcome** to the 21<sup>st</sup> CoN Meeting, Taryn Edens, RNeighbors Exec. Board member

#### **B. Introductions**

- Neighborhood Leaders: What neighborhood are you from and what is either a challenge or an excitement for your neighborhood this spring?
  - 10 in attendance with 8 neighborhood associations represented
    - Indian Parks (Working with City on deer concerns)
    - Lowertown (volunteer labor and \$ resources)
    - Valhalla (getting membership/ bouncing back)
    - Sunnyside (getting involvement again and \$ resources)
    - Cimarron (working on neighborhood garden signups)
    - Elton Hills (develop unified feeling and sense of place)
    - Oak Terrace (getting back into the rhythm)
- Community Action Team, Rochester Police Department

### C. Poll Questions

- Future Council on Neighborhoods and Social logistics
  - Attendees preference for CoN meetings to take place quarterly and to push back the time to commence at 6 pm or 6:30 pm.
  - Recommendation to have the social twice a year, one being in summer or warm time

### D. Words from Mayor Norton

- The Mayor shared some history of the Council on Neighborhoods, that it was an opportunity for neighborhood leaders to hear about city initiatives directly and learn from each other about successes and challenges in their neighborhoods.
- She has a vision of a volunteer program for simple exterior work like painting for households that don't income-qualify (make a home grant program or partner with volunteers like paint suppliers, Kiwanis, Family Service, Habitat for Humanity, etc.). A lot of grant programs are more limiting for mobile homes, so something more volunteer led directed at mobile homes might be another good consideration.

## Speaker Topics

### E. Sidewalk Improvement District Program

**Presenter - Megan Moeller**, City of Rochester Public Works, [mmoeller@rochestermn.gov](mailto:mmoeller@rochestermn.gov)

PowerPoint and handout attached

On November 14, 2022, the City Council adopted the Sidewalk Improvement District program that reassigns the cost of sidewalk repairs and replacement from the adjacent property owner to a distribution among a greater portion of the community, as sidewalks are a benefit to, and are available for use, by all. 2023 construction will occur in the Southeast District with a project area that includes Slatterly Park and Sunnyside neighborhoods. (Southwest – 2024; Northwest – 2025; North Central – 2026; Northeast and Downtown Core – 2027)  
[www.rochestermn.gov/sidewalks](http://www.rochestermn.gov/sidewalks)

### F. Housing Rehab Program Summary for OCHRA Rehab Loan Programs

**Presenter - Luke Tessum**, Olmsted County Housing Rehab Coordinator, [luke.tessum@olmstedcounty.gov](mailto:luke.tessum@olmstedcounty.gov)

PowerPoint and handout attached

The Housing Rehab Loan Program is offered to residence in the City of Rochester and Olmsted County (excluding Stewartville) the goal is to assist homeowners with upgrade improvements to their homes. We focus on health and safety, energy efficiency and home remodeling improvements along with handling home emergency situations and accessibility upgrades to the home. The rehabilitation loans are 2% interest for 15 years with a total loan term of 30 years. The max dollar amount for a rehab loan is \$25,000.00.  
[www.olmstedcounty.gov/residents/land-property/housing-rehabilitation-programs](http://www.olmstedcounty.gov/residents/land-property/housing-rehabilitation-programs)

### G. Adjournment

Thank you for attending. Please spread the information you've learned tonight to your neighbors.

## Upcoming Meeting

Council on Neighborhoods

Tuesday, April 25, 6-7:30 pm

4001 West River Pkwy NW, Police DSIC NW Classroom

### Speaker topics

- "How to Work with Challenging People"
- Racial Equity in Your Neighborhood Association
- The Police Department's Community Action Team