

# Minutes

## **Watrous Heights Neighborhood Association Members Meeting, Monday March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

### **Joel Van Roekel- Parks and Recreation Liaison Officer:**

- Parks and Rec is hiring
  - New program starting like Evelyn Davis, Martin Luther King Park, and Weeks (May through August)
  - Staffing is needed. 7 month or 120-day roles.
- 31 miles your way program
- Spring Break Staycation
- Virtual Trivia
- Brenton skating plaza scheduled to close March 27th, weather permitting
- Team presented with 2021 public interest award

### **Josh Raleigh- Inspector:**

- Josh to provide updates on blight homes
  - 4 guys started 6 months ago
  - Goal is still to identify buildings not suitable for habitation
  - 6 to 9 months process to remove blight homes
- With weather turning additional reminders
  - Reminder with nice weather, city ordinance doesn't allow for items for free on curb. Josh provided hand out with locations for where stickers can be purchased
  - Items need to be set out no more than 1-2 hours before pickup. Also call Public Works to advise the item is out. Due to sticker theft, take a picture with tag and date for security
  - Scrub days starting. Look online DSM website for details
- Department put together a community resources program. Packet handed out at meeting. For more info reach out to Josh
- Neighbor asked about Air B&Bs. As of now they are allowed as long as the owner gets a rental certificate. If reports of Air B&Bs, without rental certificate, they will begin to monitor the traffic.

### **Sargent Yanira Scarlett- Crime Report:**

- Not In Attendance

### **Guest Speaker – Heather Tamminga Neighborhood Outreach Coordinator**

- Contact number (515) 283-4775
  - Works directly with 51 neighborhood associations
  - Help come up with ideas for events
- Vote on the Addition of the new Quarter section
  - New section Voted Yes (total of 4/4 votes)
- Block Grant Challenge Program
  - 200k in funding (vote to come)
  - Available for all neighbors
  - Teams of 5 to 9 or 10 to 19 households

- Bigger the team, the more the grant funds
- Applications open May 1st
- 90 days to complete (with supply issues they can work with you on that deadline)
- Have to be able to see at least 1 other neighbor from your front door
- Project has to be seen from the street
- Renters can engage with landlord approval
- If you did the challenge last year, you don't qualify this year

**Dave Johnston-**

- Any Neighbor that believes they have any area that would be good for a block party or even just for a Neighborhood Meeting to be held outside, weather permitting; please email Dave or call him at (515) 287-1976.

Meeting Adjourned: 7:53