

Muskegon Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting
Woodcliffe Association
January 17, 2019
Meeting Minutes

Meeting began at 6:05 pm with prayer by Larry Fife.

No review of the minutes.

A) Review of Millage Funding

Carolyn Cook (Planning Dept.) – Mileage Benefit for Seniors

Program will accommodate at least 25 persons and will spend at least \$7,000/person. The criteria is you must be 60 years of age or older, a homeowner, and the income eligibility is still being determined. Housing repairs assisted with are repair/replacement of siding, steps, roofing, plumbing, electrical, etc.

Program period is April 17, 2019 thru September 30, 2019. A homeowner may qualify for more than one repair, based on cost. Repairs will be determined by the City inspector and homeowner.

Senior Navigator Program: Program will take place every Wednesday in the Muskegon Heights City Hall, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Anyone over the age of 60 and receives Medicare, will qualify for assistance with primary care, utility bills, help with medication, food/housing, etc.

Customer Assistance Day – DTE and other agencies will be available on Thursday, January 24, from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm to help anyone who needs assistance paying their utilities (lights, gas, water). They will also provide kits with lights, insulation, door stoppers and carbon monoxide detectors. Legal assistance will also be available.

Julie Aaron Shyne – Housing & Rehab Specialist

Owner occupies houses and must be in home for two years to apply. Family of one max income is \$33,250, family of two \$38,000. Limited to doing one repair. Also has exterior program (June – Sept) doing paint and siding. Lien on property for the program of \$15,000. Also participate in DTE Energy Assistant program. Will provide County of Muskegon also participates in the DTE program. Rebates to change out appliance for more energy efficient appliances. Contractors will be provided by the City.

Knox box program for seniors – real estate program if there is an emergency and cannot come to the door, there will be a spare key in the box to access the home.

Fire Chief Chris Dean

Discussed fire safety and distributed pamphlets. Although the numbers are down, the leading cause of fires in Muskegon Heights are cooking related fires (someone not being attentive to a stove once cooking has started). Also, the use of space heaters being too close to something flammable is a problem. Space heaters should not be plugged into a strip plug.

Fire Dept. has smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors available for city residents that they will install and fire extinguishers

Call (231) 733-8893 for the smoke alarm program and alarms are usually installed within 4 days of the call. Even if you have a smoke alarm, it may not be up to today's fire code. Smoke detectors will be installed in every bedroom on every floor, and hallways. Smoke detectors should be replaced every 15 years.

Jamie Deagen from the Fire Dept. stopped by the meeting to sign up residents eligible for smoke detectors.

B) Newsletter Review

Newsletter was made available and a review of the calendar of events took place. Chili Cookoff is part of the Sled Day at Johnny O Harris Park being held on Monday, January 21.

C) Beautification Update

The need continues for residents dedicated to being active members of the Beautification Committee. Desire to further improve the overall appeal of the neighborhood.

Larry Fife reviewed the list of improvements accomplished in 2018.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.