

Slatterly Park Neighborhood Association Neighborhood Meeting – Minutes - 2/7/17

1) Introductions

2) Upcoming events:

- Litter Bit Better coming up in April. Slatterly Park will host an event on April 22 at 1pm. We will meet up at the Slatterly Park shelter, then head down to the multi-use path by the river. We will do a fun walk along the path down to 4th street and back, picking up trash along the way. Cub Foods will most likely be donating some snacks, but the Association needs to submit a written request.
- Next Quarterly Meeting is April 25, Hawthorne, Room 114.
- Art on the Avenue May 20. 1100 block of 6th Ave SE. The Association will be hosting an art booth for kids. We need some ideas of fun, cheap projects we could offer for kids to do, perhaps involving recycled objects, yarn, and other such things. Is anyone interested in helping out at the booth?
- Music and Movie in Slatterly Park will be happening on August 26. This year is the 10th anniversary. We need a crew to organize it. It's fun and easy to do, with all the steps outlined in advance. We also need ideas for a movie to show and a local band who would like to play.
- Rneighbors will be doing a Spring Tree Planting. Watch for more information on this in a couple of months.
- Slatterly Park Neighborhood Garden signup email will be going out soon.

3) Other general updates:

- The Association has begun getting regular notifications from the City Council on developments. We will let you know if we receive a notification about anything affecting Slatterly Park.
- Flats on 4th – the Neighborhood has been involved in the design and we expect it to be a very nice building. There may be opportunities to work with the developer to incorporate some public art. There will be two retail spaces on the ground floor and the developer is looking for businesses who are interested. Would be a good location for a coffee shop. There may also be space set aside for a community room as well.

4) David Lane – Rochester Water Reclamation Plant

David and two staff members attended the meeting to address questions about a mailing that recently went out to some neighborhood residents living on 5th and 6th Avenues. The mailing was an educational flyer about non-flushable products. Main points:

- Non-flushables include items such as: “flushable” wipes (which really should not be flushed despite package labeling), tampons, and other trash. These items should be thrown in the trash, not flushed.
- These types of products are becoming a serious problem, as they can plug lines and get wrapped around equipment.
- The City cleans the main lines about once per year.
- Lateral sewage lines from the house to the street are privately owned and are the responsibility of the homeowner. Homeowners may want to consider periodically having a plumber “snake” their lateral sewage line with a camera to check for blockage issues, particularly if they have experienced issues in the past with sewer backup or flooding in their basements.

- Homeowners may also want to consider purchasing sewer backup insurance to cover the costs of a backup or flood.
- The residents on 5th and 6th avenue received this mailing because the Water Reclamation Plant noticed increasing problems in this geographic area. There are a lot of older clay pipes in this part of Rochester. The Plant sent the mailing to residents as part of an education strategy, to prevent future problems. Residents are not required to take any specific action at this time, but are advised to avoid flushing “non-flushables” and to consider the other recommendations mentioned above.
- More information is available on the Sanitary Sewer Maintenance web page:
<http://www.rochestermn.gov/departments/public-works/programs-and-services/infrastructure-maintenance/sanitary-sewer-maintenance>

5) Jon Espy – Infinity Real Estate

Jon Espy attended our meeting to share some information about the current real estate market in Rochester and what makes Slatterly Park unique. Main points:

- More homes are being sold and are spending significantly less time on the market. Majority are selling first day on the market with multiple offers. Buyers market.
- Homes \$200,000 and under are seeing the most demand. Demand far outweighs supply.
- Average sale price in Rochester has risen 22% since 2008. Kutzky: 34%, Mayo Park 32%, Slatterly Park 15%. We’re a bit behind the curve, which means the homes in this neighborhood are a comparably better value.
- Slatterly Park offers “affordable historic” homes with character.
- People who get priced out of Old Southwest look to Kutzky, then Mayo Park, then to Slatterly/Silver Lake/ Quarry Hill.
- People will choose Slatterly over some of these other neighborhoods due to location, price and condition of the home.
- Slatterly Park is close to downtown, transit, and parks and rec. Price is 59% cheaper than Kutzky and 5% cheaper than Mayo Park. We offer older homes with character, although many need updating and restoration.
- To improve property value: Pay attention to curb appeal- buyers want well maintained property and neighborhood. Look at small cosmetic upgrades, such as fresh paint, refinished hardwood, new kitchen/bath flooring, new kitchen hardware.
- Make judicious choices about major upgrades. Some may be worth it, some may not.
- Talk to a realtor before making big expenditures. Find out if it makes sense to invest in relation to your long-term plans and investments.

6) Ken Jackson – New Development Project

Ken Jackson is a local realtor who attended our Association meeting to let us know about a potential new development project with the Kwik Trip on the south side of our neighborhood. He and Kwik trip want to get the support of the neighborhood before taking any significant steps. There will be more discussion on this and more information shared at our next quarterly neighborhood meeting in April.