



3RD WARD MEETING MINUTES – ALDERMAN DENISE RODD

June 11, 2014

AGENDA

- Adopt a Hydrant – Alderman Patti Haugeberg
- Improve Sustainability in Des Plaines – Cindy Morgan

WELCOME

Thank you for coming and welcome. Our Guests, Alderman Haugeberg and Cindy Morgan will be presenting topics concerning Des Plaines and how Residents can become involve and help. Gloria Ludwig is attending our 3RD Ward Meeting as a guest and has already adopted a hydrant in her neighborhood.

There will be no meeting next month (July). Come out to the 4th of July Parade and wave to Denise, who will be in the parade. The next 3rd Ward Meeting will be August 13, either at Prairie Lakes or Meyer Cement Company. Denise is trying schedule a tour of Meyer Cement Co. for the 3rd Ward. Recently, Denise was at Meyer Cement Company for a meeting regarding residential concerns and found it very interesting in the fact that cement is ancient and has changed much over these several years. Ward Residents were enthusiastic to take a tour.

ADOPT A HYDRANT

Driving around Des Plaines this past winter, fire hydrants were covered in snow from both people shoveling sidewalks or snow plows pushing road snow up onto them. Alderman Haugeberg met with the Fire Chief to re-invent the “Adopt a Hydrant” program that was part of city years back....**and it needs to be FUN!**

The importance of this program is the “adoption” of a hydrant by a community is to help keep the hydrant clear for an emergency. By adopting a hydrant it is the resident’s responsibility to keep the hydrant clear:

- Weeds and bushes in the summer: Do not place plants around a hydrant or bushes to crowd the hydrant.
- Trash and yard waste: Do not pile trash cans or yard waste in front of the hydrant. Place trash cans and lawn waste away from the Hydrant.
- Snow and ice in the winter: Don’t let snow pile up so high that the hydrant is covered. This makes it difficult for emergency 1) vehicles to see or find the hydrant and 2) get to the hydrant. Keep a path shoveled from the street to the hydrant all winter, as well as a clearing around the hydrant for easy access.
- Leaks: Puddling water or blocks of ice in winter is found near the hydrant, there may be a leak. Don’t chip the ice off the hydrant, Call the Fire Prevention Bureau at 847 391 5341. A frozen hydrant is detrimental to fire safety.

When you Adopt a Fire Hydrant, you will receive a certificate (suitable for framing), and a plastic, red fire hat with lots of goodies.

You can pick your hydrant. How do you know if the Hydrant was already picked? By the form you fill out and submit to the City.

Can you adopt a hydrant not on your property? Hydrants are located on the parkways and parkways are considered city property. Yes, you can adopt a hydrant not in front of your house.

Hydrant Flags? City is in process of putting flags on hydrants in certain areas later this year. We are approved for 700 flags/markers. Not every hydrant will be marked. There are 3,600 hydrants in the City of Des Plaines; and an area in 8th ward (Waycinden Park) that has their own private water.

How often are Fire Hydrants painted? Every 4 – 5 years. Cap color designates the water main size. Shoveling around the hydrant is important for the visibility of the side ports.

Is there on-line registration? No. Fire Chief will check into this possibility. Hydrants are mapped but this information is not shared with the public.

SUSTAINABILITY FOR DES PLAINES

Cindy Morgan, Director of Shift2Green provided a presentation of ideas for City and residents to reduce environmental and cost impact on our community. Des Plaines has formed an ad hoc group to look at how sustainability can best serve our community needs. This includes pedestrians, bikers and drivers. Cindy comes from a background in technology, audio visual, and smart boards as well as working with the Chicago Board of Education.

We need a benchmark for our community. Shift2Green's goal is help improve and extend communications, raise awareness and get community engaged in practices to improve and increase energy and economic security. This is where Shift2Green helps in seeing a 'clean house' and offer different kinds of program(s) which would work and we (as a community) would like to see.

Examples:

- Community farmer's market – why? Fresh and locally grown food that we purchase and share by staying in our own community.
- Community Land Share Program: If someone has land and is not a "farmer" the land can be shared with a person, who does not have land but likes to farm.
- Teacher Resources allow educators to tie curriculum into fundraising efforts. Health and Wellness can be done at different events and festivals. Iroquois school is developing an after school project of children growing their own food, which they prepare as a meal.
- Park District (children and adults) are introduced into and educated on a healthy lifestyle. Recycling is another factor that Sustainability assists.

Resources are here and available and Shift2Green is starting to communicate strategies and Sustainability allows humans to maintain themselves and do the "right thing" for our children and ourselves.

A new board is being set up to address community as stake holders to become involved and get people out and around the community to provide assistance. "Future is here and we need to meet the needs of today without depleting the needs for future generations."

CITY WIDE TOPICS

- Prairie Chicken Corner Store: New store opening by long-time residents of Des Plaines on 1st Avenue and Prairie. Store will carry ice-cream, packaged snacks and drinks (no liquor). Store is expected to open the end of July.
- Circle in 7th Ward: What happened to the garden in the middle? Circle is being re-worked as a State project.
- What has ComEd done to our parkway trees? Trees were trimmed on many streets to look very grotesque. City is doing systematic planting of trees as they remove the diseased Ash Trees. Full cost of replacement trees is \$400.00 with the city charging residents \$55. Choice is provided on trees. Trees replaced under ComEd lines will be shorter in stature.
- City Stickers: All 65 and over (even if more than one at a resident) will receive City Sticker for \$5.00.
- Grazie's property was purchase, don't know what is coming.
- Littlefuse property: Pace is looking to purchase to extend their barn.
- RR tracks on Lee Street. Haven't heard if or when Railroad will replace.
- Mary Lou from Caliente is at Taco Village.
- New Businesses:
 - Title and Loan at Algonquin and Lee
 - E-cigarette Store coming in.

NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, August 13, at Prairie Lakes, 7:00 p.m.....unless Denise notifies differently.
Have a great July! Happy 4th of July and see you at the Parade.

TO CONTACT DENISE

- Please contact Denise at or call/text (847) 514-6318
- Facebook is set up for the 3rd Ward: www.Facebook.com/DP3rdWard (or search DP3)
 - Twitter: @Denise Rodd
 - Web Site: www.3rdWard.org