Notes from the Fulton Finance committee meeting of December 5, 2018

Present

Jane Kohnen, John Finlayson, Ruth Olson, Dave Delvoye

Community Engagement

Ruth will check with the Board about whether they want to sponsor and organize a "happy hour" gettogether for neighborhood residents. There was a discussion about possible locations – it's unclear when the new restaurant at 50th & Xerxes will open and whether they have room for a community gathering.

Safety

At the last meeting, Ruth suggested that the Safety committee consider using some of its NRP Phase 1 funds for a program to provide residents with motion detector lights and / or surveillance cameras, which were recently recommended by 5th Precinct Inspector Kathy Waite as effective ways to deter the kind of property crimes which are prevalent in the neighborhood. The topic was on the agenda for the 11/27 Safety meeting, but attendance was very low so no recommendation was made. CPS Jennifer Waisanen reported that Armatage neighborhood had a program like that, along with a neighborhood on the north side. Ruth said that Lynnhurst neighborhood does, too. She offered to gather information from Armatage and Lynnhurst. The Safety committee will revisit the issue in January. Access to public information police reports has been limited and difficult to obtain from the MPD Records Unit, although there are signs that service may be improving. It appears that the major crime trend in the neighborhood is thefts from motor vehicles at commercial districts, especially 50th & Penn, 54th & Penn, and 50th & France.

Other business

Ruth reported that one application has been received so far for the 2019 grant program. The program was publicized in Fulton Neighborhood News and Ruth has been sharing the information with schools in the area.

Ruth reported on changes to the upcoming bike fix-it station project at Pershing Park. One of the bike hoops will be eliminated because the location does not work. However, other amenities could be added to the project, including signs explaining how the station works and a stand on which a bike can be placed to facilitate repairs. The Board will have to decide on a color scheme for the equipment.

Notes prepared by Dave Delvoye