

	<p>A neighborhood meeting of the Kalamazoo City Commission was held on Monday, February 20, 2017 at 6:00 p.m. in the Community Room at City Hall, 241 W. South Street.</p>
Roll Call	<p>COMMISSIONERS PRESENT: Vice Mayor Don Cooney David Anderson Erin Knott Matt Milcarek Shannon Sykes Jack Urban</p> <p>COMMISSIONERS ABSENT: Mayor Bobby J. Hopewell</p>
	<p>Also present were City Manager Jim Ritsema, City Attorney Clyde Robinson, and City Clerk Scott Borling.</p>
Commissioner Excused	<p>Commissioner Sykes, seconded by Commissioner Milcarek, moved to excuse the absence of Mayor Hopewell. With a voice vote the motion passed.</p>
Communications	<p>An opportunity was given for miscellaneous communications, but no communications were offered.</p>
Neighborhood Communications	<p>Neighborhood communications were received next.</p> <p>Representatives from the following neighborhood associations were present and addressed the City Commission:</p> <p><u>Kalamazoo College Council of Student Representatives</u> Dylan Calloway, Student Representative Cassie Cribbs, Student Representative Ian McKnight, Student Representative</p> <p><u>Parkview Hills Neighborhood Association</u> Joan Dombrowski, President</p> <p><u>Western Michigan University Student Commission</u> Thye Fischman, President Logan Brown, Sustainability Chair Malcolm McCants, Public Relations Rob Nyhuis, Academic Affairs</p>
Kalamazoo College Student Representatives	<p>The Kalamazoo College Council of Student Representatives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - stated there had just been a sizeable tuition increase. - reported the College was in the middle of a very active time for recruiting new students. - stated the recent Imagine Kalamazoo 2025 meeting on campus was very productive. - indicated the Admissions Office would move to the Hodge House in the Fall of 2017.

- stated students were glad the Arcus Center was becoming a leader in the community for social justice.
- requested pedestrian safety improvements to the area where West Main Street/Michigan Avenue/Stadium Drive came together and remarked that the major streets near the college presented a physical and psychological barrier to students accessing the downtown area.

Kalamazoo College Student Representatives (cont'd)

The Parkview Hills Neighborhood Association representative:

- expressed concern about speeding traffic in the neighborhood.
- reported that a lot of people who did not live in the neighborhood were using the recycling center.
- requested that Cricket Lane be resurfaced.

Parkview Hills Neighborhood Association

The Western Michigan University Student Association (WSA) representatives:

Western Student Association

- described the mission of the WSA and thanked everyone in the City who was involved with the Jay Rhoades Building demolition.
- reported on the following services and events that were being hosted or sponsored by WSA: a legal aid clinic; the United States Student Association annual meeting; a book discussion in conjunction with Kalamazoo Public Library's reading together program; #lunchbag events, where students distributed free lunches in the community; and a voter registration drive in the Fall of 2016.
- stated WSA was participating in the Adopt-A-Highway program for the stretch of I-94 between the Business Loop and US-131.
- reported the Association organized a cleanup of West Michigan Avenue between Howard Street and Drake Road.
- read a statement expressing opposition to bigotry, discrimination, and intolerance. A copy of this statement was filed with the papers for this meeting.
- thanked law enforcement officers who responded to the Uber shootings one year ago.

Commissioner Knott noted she would be hosting the Reading Together event on WMU's campus.

Commissioner Sykes thanked the WSA representatives for their work on campus and in the community.

Commissioner Urban thanked WSA for the West Michigan Avenue cleanup project and remarked on the level of community engagement by students.

Western Student
Association (cont'd)

In response to a question from Vice Mayor Cooney, Mr. Fischman stated WSA representatives would be meeting with the Vice President for Student Affairs to discuss university support for students in the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program.

Citizen Comments

In response to a question from Commissioner Urban, Mr. Fischman stated there had not been many concerns about bullying on campus or discussions about the need for "safe spaces." Mr. Fischman noted a lot of work had been done to encourage all students to understand each other.

When an opportunity was given for citizen comments, the following people addressed the City Commission:

Nehemiah Scudder, City resident, reported he had been banned from the campuses of Kalamazoo College and Western Michigan University. Mr. Scudder commented on the treatment of people with mental illnesses in Nazi Germany and the connection between mental illness and creativity.

Commissioner
Comments

An opportunity was given for miscellaneous comments by City Commissioners, but no comments were offered.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott A. Borling
City Clerk

For City Commission approval on March 6, 2017

Approved by: _____
Bobby J. Hopewell, Mayor
Dated: March 6, 2017

This page was left blank intentionally.