

# MNA Town Hall Meeting

May 1, 2019

Notetaker: Amie Alscheff

Wayne Williams, MNA President, started the meeting at 7:15 pm. Meeting ended at 8:20 pm. Attendance: 21, not counting RPD officers.

## Report from the Rochester Police Department, Lake Section

Officer Maldonado delivered the report.

Crime report:

- Assault/robbery on April 13, reported at 1:27 pm. A man came into Rochester General reporting that he had been shot the night before on Clay Avenue. He said men in ski masks approached him, he ran away and they shot at him, hitting him in the leg. RPD says this happened at a known drug house.
- 7 burglaries
- 3 motor vehicle thefts
- Next PCIC meeting is May 21 at 7 pm at Aquinas
- Maplewood outreach event on June 20 at Sacred Heart, 5:30-7:30 pm
- No new “shots fired” incidents of the sort that have been discussed at recent meetings (Raines Park, Seneca Parkway, Maplewood Avenue)

Q: There actually was one on Bryan Street in early April.

A: Lt. Waldo will follow up on this.

- There's a planned upgrade to a camera on Electric which will cover both intersections.

Q&A

Q: A man who lives on Magee says he called 911 and watched people on the street scatter immediately before RPD responding officers arrived. He was told that he can ask the 911 operator to not put this call out over the police scanner, because people can monitor that easily on an app and be aware of where police are going at any time.

A: Capt. Dearcop is not aware that this is a policy at 911. Not familiar with it.

Q: With all the police cameras out there now, why are there still people running in and out of stores on Dewey Ave causing trouble?

A: Wayne Williams asks this question to hold on, because the next portion of the meeting will address this.

Officer Maldonado says he's spoken with the owners at the new convenience store and warned them not to let people hang out if they aren't shopping.

Q: Why don't cops get out of their cars and walk the beat anymore? The speaker says he doesn't ever see cops walking and chatting with children, just chasing them.

A: It's not an efficient use of police resources. They don't have enough staff to do this on a regular basis. Officers have to respond to calls for incidents in progress.

Q: A commenter says she sees a new trend in drug dealing on her block. People park, make a phone call, and the dealer walks up to the car and makes the delivery.

A: Officer Maldonado will follow up with this person to get more information.

Q: Why we don't have PAC TAC anymore?

A: Here Wayne Williams stepped in and transitioned to the next part of the meeting.

### **Special Activity: Identifying Neighborhood Challenges**

Wayne asked the attendees to participate in a group activity: identify specific neighborhood challenges. Once they are described, we will mark them down in agreement that these are challenges. Intent is seek out officials and others in the City of Rochester who can help us move toward solutions to these challenges.

The following were identified tonight as challenges:

- Too many stores
- Open air drug trade on Dewey Avenue
- Not enough programs for youth
- Traffic flow in the two plazas off Dewey Avenue
- Litter
- Lack of community participation
- Lack of block parties
- People driving crazy
- Absentee landlords
- Vacant storefronts

Feedback will be reviewed by the MNA, and the MNA may contact people to work on specific challenges. The intention is to develop a path forward and bring that to entities within the City who can help us develop solutions.

### **Guest speakers:**

#### Pathways to Peace

Joyce is the Northwest Quad representative. Contact number: 576-0851

Kayla is the Northeast Quad representative: 465-0964

Pathways to Peace works with youth, specializing in gang members. They work with kids on the streets. They respond to the scene and to the hospital anytime a person under 30 is shot, in order to help prevent escalation and retaliation.

They will be doing outreach on Dewey Avenue next week.

You can make a referral for a school, a street, or an individual that needs help. For more information: <https://www.cityofrochester.gov/pathwaystopeace/>

Karen St. Aubin, Director of Operations for City of Rochester

Reminder that Clean Sweep is happening Saturday May 11, meeting at Frontier Field

**Report from Lydia Rivera Warr (legislative aide for Molly Clifford, NW City Council Representative)**

Molly is on vacation this week. The City Budget is in the works—she'll report on that when she returns.

**Report from Monroe County Legislator Tony Micciche (26th District)**

County Legislature authorized a program with Veteran's Court to provide special services for veterans

Monroe County Sheriff's Deputies held a fundraiser to support two deputies with cancer

Upcoming events: Lilac Fest and Clean Sweep

Tony will be at an Ontario Beach Committee meeting on Saturday—rising water level is a big issue

Jonathan Hardin from the Charlotte Community Association is here tonight

Red Cross has a huge shortage of blood right now. Give blood now if you can.

Tony supported bringing police precincts back to neighborhoods when he ran for Mayor in 2017. This would create a hub of police presence, and help with some of the issues identified earlier.

**Report from Monroe County Legislator Cindy Kaleh (28<sup>th</sup> District)**

County Legislature is losing a member, LaShay Harris, to City Council. She is replacing Adam McFadden.

If you want to volunteer for the Rose Festival (June 8), contact Cindy: [cindy@kaltechsupport.com](mailto:cindy@kaltechsupport.com), (h)585-647-3929; (o) 585-753-1940

## Announcements and discussion

Jose Peo, a candidate running for City Council from Charlotte, is hosting a Financial Wellness Workshop at the Lyell Avenue Community Library, May 21, 4:30-6 pm. Register by texting "RSVP" to 585-397-7428.

Devon Reynolds is hosting a Father's Day Awards Show, June 6. The food pantry at Brothers & Sisters Unisex Salon just received refrigerators, so they are now accepting donations of perishable

foods. As always, they also accept non-perishable foods, clothing, socks, and shoes. Bring donations to 1274 Dewey Avenue.

Debbie Smith, president of the Edgerton Area Neighborhood Association: EANA is holding two “sit-ins” in May, to protest prostitution, drugs, and loitering. “Not on our watch!”

Friday May 17 at Jones Park from 4-6 pm.

Friday May 31 at the Lyell Avenue Library from 4-6 pm.

Bill Collins: the City Recreation Department is handing out “Park Challenge” booklets. Kids complete the activities in the booklet and turn it in at an R-Center. Each child who completes a booklet gets a free admission to the Museum of Play, and there are other prizes as well. Booklets were available on the table at the meeting tonight, or contact your local R-Center. R-Centers are listed here: <https://www.cityofrochester.gov/rcenters/>