



Neighborhood & Economic Development Committee Minutes  
Wednesday, December 14, 2022  
6:00 P.M. **DRAFT**

Via Zoom Conference Pursuant to Ordinance No. 22-28  
And Resolution No. 22-29, Enacted March 22, 2022

Members Present: Carmella Williams, Chair, Council Member  
Anne Williams, Council Member  
Nancy R. Moore, Council Member  
Eric Bevilacqua, Committee Member  
David L. Owens, Committee Member  
Dr. Donna Whyte, Committee Member

Others Present: Mayor, David E. Weiss  
Laura Englehart, Director of Economic Development  
Kyle Krewson, Director of Building & Housing  
Theodore Darden IV, Neighborhood & Housing Specialist

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Carmella Williams at 6:00 p.m.

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**Approval of the November 9, 2022 Meeting Minutes**

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Good evening everyone. Welcome to the Neighborhood and Economic Development Meeting. Today's date is December 14th, we have a short agenda tonight. We will need to approve the minutes from last month's meeting and then we'll have a presentation from my Moreland neighbors about the Moreland Network. First order of business is to approve the minutes from last month's meeting. Are there any changes or corrections to the minutes? Is there a motion to accept the minutes?

Nancy Moore, Council Member:

I so move.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you Councilmember Moore. Is there a second?

David Owens, Cmte. Member:

I second.

**CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS**

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Carmella Williams, Chair:

Moved by Councilmember Moore, seconded by Mr. Owens. All those in favor say aye or raise your hand. The minutes have been accepted.

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### **Presentation by Residents in the Moreland Neighborhood Network**

I will turn things over to Director Englehart who will set the stage for our presentation tonight.

Laura Englehart, Economic Development Director:

Thank you so much Councilwoman Williams. Good evening everybody. As you can see we're doing things a little bit differently here tonight. We have a number of guests joining us today, residents from our Moreland neighborhood. And in recent years a city staff member has given a presentation to this committee each December to provide an annual update on activity in the Moreland Community Network. And while staff always has historically incorporated ideas and comments from residents in that presentation, after last year's presentation, there were some discussions about residents taking leadership to present their story themselves. And that's what we're here to do tonight. It will not look the same as it has in past years. We don't have any slides to share with you tonight. We're hoping to have a presentation from each of the residents, about 20 to 25 minutes total, then open it up for a conversation this evening.

We have seven Moreland Network stewards here to present from their own experiences and they're sharing an update from the Greater Network. Our partners from Kay Coaching have helped lead a process over the past few months with many more residents, some of whom are joining us tonight. Not everybody has presented, many more residents were involved in coming up with some of the things that will be shared with you this evening. Before each speaker begins they will introduce themselves. They'll tell you where they live and how they got started in the network and then they'll share their story and their point of view. So let's get started. I will first turn it over to Mr. George Eaton.

Resident, Mr. George Eaton:

My name is George Eaton and I live on Scottsdale Boulevard. I have been a resident of Shaker Heights for 44 years. In all that time I've lived in the Lomond area. One day I was talking with a neighbor and I was complaining about America and its lack of community. How people are putting fences up, how people are moving typically once in every seven years, how we are inundated 24/7 with news stories that are meant to represent the worst of us and make us actually question who and what we live next door to. Basically, we as Americans have become so selfish and so self-oriented that we don't have time for anyone else as a rule.

My neighbor responded to me by saying maybe (no audio) Moreland neighborhood. She told me that I should go over and get in and try it and just visit for a while. She told there was a play they were putting on also. As it turns out, during my college years, had done some acting. I was really curious and went over, got involved, and before I knew it I was in the play. It was surprising the amount of talent that was in the Moreland neighborhood. Not only did we have the producer, but we had director, an acting coach Monica Boone. I got involved in the play, I got a part in the play called Our Town. We only had two presentations but I really enjoyed it. Afterwards I made a commitment to get back to the Moreland neighborhood meetings, neighbor night meetings, which were held the last Tuesday of each month. I was really impressed with the people that were there. There was this sense of commitment that they had towards one another. There was the acknowledgement of the need for this community to help with the health of the city, the need for the health of the city as well. I was so moved that I began to come to just about every single meeting that they had with Moreland. There was a love and compassion that made me feel a part of what all they were doing.

I was so overwhelmed that I talked with friends of mine, Baha'i friends, which I'm a member of the Baha'i faith. Many of them came to one or more of the Moreland night meetings. We decided that we put two (?) trees in the Moreland area at Hildana and later we put in a garden in the shape of a nine pointed star which is in Hildana as well. It became important to me that I began to see what was happening in Moreland could be a model for other communities throughout Shaker. I think Shaker heads roughly seven communities and it could be a great model for all of them. I have in my past been a member of quite a few organizations. I am always interested in observing how organizations happen and how they maintain. But I noticed that this Moreland group had a different perspective. There was the City that was giving aid and assistance, even providing some of its employees to come and help. When people had an idea of what they wanted to do they would find a means for getting it done. Then there was Kay Coaching, which I think they did such a great job of guiding the energy and stimulating each person to think differently and out of the box.

Through that it meshed into this phenomenal organization that was able to get a lot done. I wouldn't even think about presenting, but it made me, even though I wasn't in the community I felt part of it. I felt it was important that other people in my own community began to know about this Moreland Neighborhood Neighbor Night. Also during the time I was there I met a guy and I got to the point where people began to see people as friends. I'm going to turn it over to my friend Sam Hooper.

Laura Englehart, Economic Development Director:

Mr. Hooper, before we go to you I was informed that Monica Boone was supposed to speak first and that was my mistake. I apologize Mr. Eaton.

Monica, if you are able to unmute yourself and if you'd like to share your video, feel free to share your remarks and then turn it over to Mr. Hooper when you're finished.

Resident, Ms. Monica Boone:

Good evening everyone my name is Monica Boone. I live on Hildana and I first got connected with my Moreland Network through Neighbor Night. I had lived in Shaker for a while, first on Avalon and then moved to Winchell and then eventually to Hildana. My parents had lived on Hildana for a quite a number of years. One night my mom says to me, all you do is work and come home, work and come home. Dad's supposed to go to this meeting and we need you to go for him. Little did I know it was a trick, she shooed me out of the house and I went to Neighbor Night, my first Neighbor Night meeting and I was quite surprised. I had never experienced anything like that.

Going around and connecting with individuals I ran right into Sonya Winlock, we talked about theater and community theater. She mentioned doing production she was excited about, that turned out to be Our Town. That was a wonderful, wonderful experience for which I am entirely grateful and blessed to have made. Through that I've been fortunate enough to do other productions in our area at the high school and at the library and continue live theater in Shaker and Moreland.

That being said, I would like to formally dedicate this meeting to one of our former cast mates who made her transition on Saturday that is Cordelia Huffman. Martinique Mims was in our last production, Here and Now, before the shutdown February 2020, and read a poem that her and her great-grandmother had worked on called My Great-Grandmother and me. Ms. Huffman was 95 years old. She was a long time, over 56 years on Menlo Avenue. It was a wonderful poem about her and her community and getting to know her through her spoken word. After the production I remember going up to Ms. Huffman and saying, thank you for being in our cast, and you were officially one of our cast members. I'm grateful to have had that moment with her. Now that she has made her transition I would like to offer a silent prayer to Martinique Mims and her family. I am grateful and blessed to have had that moment with her. Thank you Ms. Huffman for all you've given the Moreland neighborhood, for all you've given your neighbors, for all you've given your family and for the time that we had together. Thank you. That being said I believe the next person on the list is Sam Hooper.

Resident, Mr. Sam Hooper:

Hi, I'm Sam Hooper, I live on Pennington and I grew up right here on this street. We moved here from University Circle area when I was in second grade and was here for many years and left for about 25 years and returned 10 years ago this month. I was in Boston and Los Angeles and did a lot of traveling around the world and came back to help take care of my mom. She's 93 now and still very involved in the neighborhood stuff that's going on. I feel very blessed about that. There's been a lot of things going on with the network the last few years that have been very exciting to see. I came back and really had a hard time feeling where I fit in, feeling a sense of community. A lot of my friends had moved away. It was getting reacquainted with Shaker. Discovering neighbor night and the network activities that were being built with the support of City Hall, special leadership through Kay Coaching, and Colin and Kamla and the different people that were involved, it's been very exciting and now I feel like I have a second family. I go places and there are people that I know, we go to each other's homes and events and support each other. Even during Covid, people dropping off stuff, it's been very powerful to know that we're there for each other.

I mentioned neighbor night once a month. We also had the Moreland meet and eat pizza night at the Taste of Italy for a while, the learning teams, the stewardship group, leadership sessions, of course Monica's plays have been pleased to be involved with the creative work that Monica's been doing with her plays. It's been very powerful to be involved with those, especially the ones that have been helping out the young people. The Halloween party and my mom's been involved with that. The storytelling with the Halloween party and neighborhood concerts, people have been very supportive about that, my concert in Chelton Park and Mariama Whites concerts outside and during the pandemic.

And also when we had my band's concert at the Van Aken District, the core of it was our Moreland neighborhood people, plus my church people, people from all over Shaker, people I've known for a long time. It was a really connecting event for the whole community. I've been very pleased to see a lot of the work that has been done in this community of Moreland be really amplified and shared with the other parts of Shaker, through Shaker magazine and different events. Also that event we had at Chelton Park with the principal and the kids from Mercer was really cool too. That was really connecting event. My mom used to volunteer at Mercer, we've always had a connection there. She was very involved with Moreland on the Move education committee. It's been different since we haven't had a school right in the neighborhood. But we have kids, we have students, we have a lot of educational things and fun things to support each other. It's been good to have the leadership of Kay Coaching and other people involved to help us unlock and amplify the energy of the residents because a lot of the stuff that has been going on we didn't know the structure to put it together to get it going, but once we were led that way and exposed to it, it is like everybody's taking the ball, all these events are well attended and well participated because people are into it.

To have the type of coaching there when you don't know how the order of our meetings at Neighbor night, we've gotten used to that routine. It's been cool to be taught that and see how effective it is. That's pretty much what I want to say. I really appreciate what we've been able to accomplish so far. I hope the support continues and we continue to grow. Thank you. And I'm passing it off to Ronda.

Resident, Ms. Ronda Wright:

Thank you, Sam. Good evening everyone I'm Ronda Wright a Moreland resident on Menlo Road. I was first introduced to the network after going to movie night at the community building where I met Sonia Winlock and Councilman Tres Roeder. My sons and I started going and being involved with Neighbor Night and other community events. Unfortunately in 2020 things were quite different, we had to switch to virtual gatherings but now we're going back in-person after being virtual for two years. During the transition from virtual to in-person we have a new Neighborhood Housing Specialist, Theodore Darden IV. Theo has been doing an awesome and great job but he needs some support on the importance of bringing neighbors together, the reason for neighbor night and how to support it.

Kay Coaching has been beneficial with supporting the neighborhood housing specialists and more residents with bringing neighbors together and supporting their ideas and assisting with resources to complete the process and transition with a new person and being back in person, there is a

noticeable change that additional support is needed to continue the growth in Moreland. Resident attendance and activities has declined. As a resident, I want the growth to continue. Moreland residents have had many outcomes from being a network; stress conversations, game days, holiday events, and recent traffic comment on Scottsdale and Chelton roads just to name a few. One person can't do it alone. The support of Kay Coaching and other city departments, Shaker Library, Shaker City Schools, Shaker Recreation, the Planning Department, and Moreland residents. Together everyone achieves more. Thank you so much. And I will pass it on to Sonia.

Resident, Ms. Sonia Winlock-Jordan:

Thank you Ronda, I'm Sonia Winlock. My story's a little bit different than some. I was born and raised in Moreland. My father was part of Moreland on the Move, he also was the president of ARP before he passed away. I can say that community has been very important to me and has been something that's been part of my whole life. I want to continue that with my children and with other neighbors as well. One thing I can definitely remember is walking through the neighborhood as a young person, eight and 10 years old, I live on Sudbury, and able to walk on Pennington without my parents' not hesitating, like it's not safe. It was safe because my parents knew a lot of the neighbors. My parents had no concern about me walking, visiting my friends on Pennington, Ludgate, Menlo, and that's something I want continue to give to the children of Moreland.

As a Moreland steward, we want to involve more partners in supporting the network so that the city becomes a supporter of the network, not to support her. Relationships with institutions within the City, including Mercer, Woodbury, High School, which most of the young children live in Moreland. The library, which is located in Moreland, Public Works, which I have a story about Public Works since I do a lot of engagement activities. My recent one is after Covid, I suggested that we should do a sunflower patch. At first we couldn't figure out where the sunflower patch could be. We were talking to a city worker, we decided to put it in Hildana Park, with the Public Work approval. We talked about it where it could be and the children, adults, all came out to help with the sunflower patch. Also present was Ms. Huffman and her great-granddaughter Martinique. Martinique wrote a beautiful book and she read it to all the children and adults. The story was called Through the Colors of a Butterfly. Also, we would like to do more work with the Shaker Historical Society. I did a Moreland walking tour with them in business with the Lee Road Corridor, which is the Lee Road action plan. Now I'm going pass it over to Pam.

Resident, Ms. Pamela Fletcher:

Thank you Sonia. Good evening I'm Pamela Fletcher, this year I celebrate 30 years of home ownership on Menlo Road in the Moreland neighborhood. My three children have attended Shaker schools and my sons are graduate members of the classes of 1995 and 2019. I've been connected with the Moreland neighborhood initially through the Moreland Community Association when I first came to Shaker, and with each iteration my involvement remained, and I've been involved with the current community network model since the beginning. First of all I want to say thank you to the City for your continuous unique investment in the Moreland community over the past several years through the introduction of the Community Model Network. While the Moreland community involved the network, the past several years have created some unforeseen challenges, including the needed response to the pandemic, several current and upcoming building projects, as well as significant staff changes within the city. With that said, this becomes an optimum time to develop a

shared vision of what's required from both the City and Moreland residents to sustain and to grow the neighborhood network. How do we prioritize increased community cohesion through communication and events that bring neighbor members together to develop one-on-one relationships, both with the current residents and those anticipated new community members? This may also include additional steward training to assume leadership roles both in the network and to increase the number of contributing members from the Moreland neighborhood with other institutional partners within the city.

What is the return on investment that the City is expecting, both in terms of time and capital that's been expended? How should the community members be prepared to contribute, be more integrated and heard regarding upcoming decisions that will directly impact our home values and the community desirability for years to come? Having a voice regarding the current infill homes within the Moreland neighborhood is one example. Currently some Moreland residents are involved with both the Lee Road Action Project and the Forward Together projects. Question, how do we build on that involvement and see Moreland represented more broadly throughout the city? The Scottsdale traffic calming project is one that was spearheaded by the community to address a felt need. It represents a collaboration between the community and various city departments. Other areas that could be addressed in that same means include neighborhood concerns regarding recreational or educational related opportunities for children. In conclusion, it's my hope that these perspectives add to the framework that will be used for future discussions. And with that, I turn things over to my neighbor Calvin McIntyre.

Resident, Mr. Calvin McIntyre:

Thank you, Pam. Good evening neighbors and friends. When it was decided that the Moreland steward would be given the opportunity to address City Council members and Committee members I immediately asked to be a participant. I utilized the PIPES formula to organize my thoughts. It's my hope that the purpose of these words generate their intention. My name is Calvin McIntyre and I've enjoyed participating in Covid conversations, community concerts, home and park gatherings, festive and inclusive holiday. I've enjoyed participating with the learning teams of Moreland, learned how and what it takes to build a strong and strengthened community. I'm a longtime Moreland resident since 1976. I've never felt as energized to participate in community activities as I do now. The energy that I display and the relationships with my neighbors and friends was created with the neighborhood network. I want the next generation of Moreland residents to feel early on that feel and community relations that I'm experiencing today.

Since I've felt like a vital part of the community, I've acted in a more neighborly way, in a much more responsible manner. Safety and cleanliness has become a shared item. It's the Moreland community, a block of Shaker Heights, and then Shaker a block of Ohio, Ohio a block of America. That's how we've built the Great America. We've confidently built, we've expertly and continuously built, we built block on block. When I glance back, and if you think back, or maybe perhaps even just take a look back at some of the communities that have struggled to become strong and prosperous again, it is evident that community leaders left or died, and once upon a time home were torn down. It is noted in communities like the Kinsman, central area, 40th Street and 30th Street, the Kinsman, the Woodland Garden valley neighborhoods, the Glenville, the Hough, the Mount Pleasant, the East Cleveland City, the Harvard and Lee Road area, all of them have that common

denominator, departure and tear down. The infill housing project is great. Infill housing, the project provides a way to fill up space and remain in line with the residential zone. However, some have said that a house is not a home. Others may even testify that a house standing alone is just a house.

Shaker Heights was built as a beautiful community and lovely homes. The architect and the plans were expertly devised and expertly implemented. There was no shortcuts to build the Shaker Heights. The beauty of Shaker Heights has been admired by the whole of America. Some of those beautiful and admired things are its wealth, it's public school system, racial harmony, integration, city services, it's library, and at a time void school busing. If we slack on prioritizing building strong and healthy community then all of the infill houses will remain houses, not lovely homes. It is the effort of experts and willing residents who intend on building community relations that will create outstanding communities. The build will be block by block, not brick by brick. Any weak building material or shortcuts to building communities will fail because of poor circumstance. Faith is the substance that has made America great. The faith and desire to support one another. The want to know and help your neighbor, the care for our community and the looking out for the whole group, that's that kind of working faith, that binds American together. I'm proud to be an American that resides in the Shaker Moreland block. Thank you for listening to us. Thank you for listening to me. Thank you again and again. We so greatly appreciate you.

Laura Englehart, Economic Development Director:

Thank you Mr. McIntyre, all the presenters, we very much appreciate hearing from all of you this evening, in your own words and telling your own stories. We were so excited to do something new and have that be the format for tonight. For the Committee members here tonight I know this was different but we're hoping to open it up if you have any questions. We're intending on having a conversation for the next 20 minutes or so, Ms. Williams, however long you want the meeting to go. I'll let you take over the meeting, but we're hoping to have conversation on any questions and on what you heard this evening?

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you Director Englehart and thank you to all my fabulous neighbors. You know, I don't want to take up time because I'm always ready, willing and able to brag on my neighbors and my neighborhood. How about I open the floor to Committee members. Any questions? Comments? Go ahead Councilmember Williams.

Anne Williams, Council Member:

Thank you. Good evening everyone. I want first to express my appreciation for all the comments that were given. Some of these sentiments I'd heard a little bit before, but I learned so much more tonight, and so much more detail about what this community and the connections have meant to you and how it's evolved over the years. I think that's really moving, I feel our commitment to making sure this expands, stays in the Moreland area, expands in the Moreland area and hopefully we can use this model in other areas of the city where I think it is desperately needed. But I'd like to hear from anyone here tonight about what can we do as the city to continue to support this effort? Can you give any advice to us about how to move this into other neighborhoods? I think it's been an incredible movement in Moreland, so impressed by all the work, I know it's based on the individuals that are there on Moreland and can't necessarily be duplicated in other areas. I want to get your



thoughts on those two things. What we can do to continue to support this as a city and your ideas on how to expand this? Thank you.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Anyone have any thoughts? I saw it looked like three hands going up. I saw David Owens, Donna Whyte and Sam Hooper. Did you have some thoughts? And if you do, let's go in that order. David, Donna, and Sam.

David Owens, Cmte. Member:

First I'd like to thank everyone who presented this evening, bless you all. I am also a longtime Moreland resident. We moved here in 1966 from Glenville. I came back, Mr. Hooper like you, to take care of my parents, and then raised my family in this household. Now my children and grandchildren are in this house. It's a great big old house with plenty of room. The family sentiment of Moreland is something I have realized for many, many years, for decades being here. I'd like to say, I think Councilwoman if you all continue to include the residents of Moreland in city plans, I appreciate the fact that I have been invited as a longtime resident to give input, participate on the Lee Road project along with Director Englehart and Mayor Weiss, to be asked my opinion about not only things concerning residents but city services, public safety.

If you continue to include the residents of Moreland in the economic development plans for the city, allow opportunities for our residents to be consulted and spoken with from other neighborhoods, because what we do realize is each neighborhood is unique, is made up of similar families but also folks of different backgrounds. If we can be a catalyst to promote what we have here in our unique neighborhood, I think we've all heard that there are people who are willing to share insights, criticisms, suggestions and recommendations, to make this city and to continue to have this city be a role model, not only in Ohio, but in, as Mr. McIntyre said, the United States. Those would be my suggestions, and again, I appreciate everyone who has presented here and I thank you for the time you spent and took to share your experiences in this great neighborhood we call Moreland.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you. Dr. Whyte and then Mr. Hooper and Mr. Eaton.

Dr. Donna Whyte, Cmte. Member:

I think in the best of all worlds, this would be, or at least the best of all communities in Shaker, this would be something that is replicated in all neighborhoods across the city. I would say with the history that many of us have had with the network, we know that it did not happen on its own, that it was a concerted effort. It would not have occurred had it not been the support from the City, through Kay Coaching, through staff members being employed with the city who worked directly with us. It is certainly easy enough, and I am part of the Committee, but I'm a Moreland resident and very involved with the network. I could not envision this occurring without similar types of support, with principles that we've learned under the leadership of Kay Coaching.

When I came into the network, I don't even know what year it was before the pandemic, a couple of years before, I had not been exposed to a process like this. I've been in Shaker for many years and been involved in many things in Shaker, but this is very unique. It's closer to home. Surprisingly, when we look at it as a process, it certainly has created friendships. We are committed to not only our community but the people who live in it. It really would be important for it to be strategic, in however it is that it could occur in other neighborhoods, because people cannot do it alone. It definitely needs leadership and the other part of it is that we don't want to spread ourselves so thin that suddenly what happens in one place that worked cannot happen in other places because there is a demand on people's time and ability to actually recreate something somewhere else. We have to be realistic with capacity, but we would like to share this. It is something we want Shaker to be. It is a real honor to be among my neighbors tonight and to hear all that everyone said because we really are family.

Resident, Mr. Sam Hooper:

I would concur with Dr. Whyte and Mr. Owens. I think that it has occurred because we've had the support from City Hall, from various places. We have to know that if we're going to expand it, it is going to need more support and we can look for other sources other than just City Hall to get that support, that's what Sonia was talking about. We were introduced to a community network building model through Kay Coaching that I had not known before. That has been the genesis for a lot of stuff that has happened. Of course, we've taken the ball and expanded it, then we're, what else can we do? Because it's working. I would also say that, number one, the core thing we started with was neighbor night. I think that probably the first thing would be to invite other people from other neighborhoods to our neighbor night to see what goes on and start there. Thank you.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you. Go ahead Mr. Eaton and Mr. McIntyre.

Resident, Mr. George Eaton:

I would echo everything that's been said. I guess a couple of other things though is, I know that we would need to continue through the help of Kay Coaching. As mentioned earlier, they have a way of stimulating energies and helping us to find ways to funnel that energy and to active projects, specific projects. That's been invaluable along with the City personnel that has been there. It would be a shame to lose either one of those. Because I belong to the Lomond community I'm very conscious of how we say things sometimes at neighbor night. I would like to see representatives from each community. Many communities have their block clubs more or less. I'd like to see representatives from those areas all come to neighbor night one time. Sometimes we have an item called Business of the Neighborhood. It makes it sound like it's only for Moreland, but clearly things that are done in Moreland do reach out and ripple into other parts of the community. So those are two things I think that addressed what Councilwoman Williams had asked.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you. Mr. McIntyre go ahead. Thank you, Mr. Eaton.

Resident, Mr. Calvin McIntyre:

Thank you. I'm excited hearing all of my neighbors and being with them. What I really wanted to say, in addition to some of the things that have already been said, that a lot of times the proof is in the pudding. So what I'm trying to say is, when we continue down the road that we are going and we start seeing the houses and the lawns and the community itself, and the friendliness, all of those things that people have an opportunity to see, and that word gets spread around, they look at them, I don't think it's something that's going to remain just for Moreland but it's an event and it's a movement that'll move all the way throughout any area. You need professional people to help you do that. If it didn't take professionals to help you build a community, all of those blighted communities would never have went down to blight and have such a struggle to get back to prominence. I do think and I do feel that we are not down to the bare minimums yet, we got a golden opportunity to raise up Moreland, it can be a model not just simply for the rest of Shaker, but model for the Mount Pleasant area, the Glenville areas, and all of those other areas around us. And people again will say look at those Shakerites. So that's what I think. If we continue down the road we are going right now, with the City and the help of professional community builders and the interests of the residents, the older residents, that's going to trickle down to the middle age and then the younger residents too, with the proper building and the proper building material, I think we are going to be just fine. I got the faith and the hope, that's all.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you all. Are there any other questions from the Committee members or anyone else?

Laura Englehart, Economic Development Director:

If I could just add one comment, and I don't want to close out if other folks have comments. I want to thank all of the residents again. I know that it was a lot of conversations and a lot of work to put all of this together tonight. It's one of many conversations for the committee members here. I want you all to be aware that we're still having lots of conversations about how the work continues next year. I fully intend as the Director of my department to bring a contract request to this committee to continue Kay Coaching's involvement in 2023. What that looks like and the scope of their contract, we're still talking about that. This work is growing. As you heard from Ms. Ronda Wright, there are a lot of things that need to be addressed. There are lots of transitions that are happening right now. As you heard from Ms. Fletcher, we want to talk about how the City and stewards can work together to provide that support. And what do we as City staff members need to do to provide exactly what types of supports? What do residents want to step up and do and take over to make sure that the work continues and that the foundation is shored up and that we can build on it successfully? And how do we best use Kay Coaching's skills and expertise? Those conversations are still happening. We're hopeful to come to you in January with a full contract request; that's my expectation. We have some conversations ahead of us. If there's anything you want to add to that, please feel free. I want to make sure everybody was aware of where the conversations are now, and we're very hopeful to continue all of these partnerships to continue to grow this network.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you Director. Go ahead Councilwoman Williams, I see your hand up.

Anne Williams, Council Member:

I wanted to ask quickly if it would be possible if the residents would be willing to share their comments? I don't know whether this is an expectation to put those comments together to provide to the rest of the members of Council? I think the comments that were made tonight were so meaningful and gave us some new information that we hadn't heard before in the prior year's presentation. So if that's possible, I think that would be really wonderful to share, they were such terrific comments.

Laura Englehart, Economic Development Director:

Great. And we will be providing minutes of this meeting, so I'll loop back with the residents and Kay Coaching to see if you have things written out that you would like to share. In any case, we'll have the minutes and we can make sure it gets circulated to all of the Council members.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Go ahead, Dr. Whyte.

Dr. Donna Whyte, Cmte. Member:

I want to share that it is really a privilege for me to be a member of the Moreland neighborhood and to be a witness this evening to the presentations. Thank you all. I want to thank you my Moreland neighbors.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you. And you know, Dr. Whyte, before I recognize the Mayor, since you hinted to it, when are your Witness to History episodes?

Dr. Donna Whyte, Cmte. Member:

My witness to histories are usually the second Sunday of each month, except in January, it will be the third Sunday. And I'm ordinarily second Sunday on Zoom. If you're on the email list you'll know all about our witness to histories each month. Thank you.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you. Go ahead Mayor and, I'm sorry, Director.

Laura Englehart, Economic Development Director:

I wanted to interrupt to let you know that Iris Anderson is listening and she is raising her hand as an attendee. If you're willing I'll go ahead and allow her to speak.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Mayor, if you don't mind we'll go ahead to Iris first and then come back to you. Go ahead Ms. Anderson.

Resident, Ms. Iris Anderson:

I had to jump in, I wasn't able to participate in this actively at this stage. I am so proud, so pleased. We sit in the meetings and communicate about the things that are on the table at the time. You listen to people but you don't really see or know where a person's heart is until they're in a position like this. It was so clear to me tonight, I was happy to be able to listen because I could tell it was just so heartfelt. Everything everyone said, it's incredible. I happen to know that people wrote this themselves. The things they said came from the heart. I think that's another thing that's so important and so key to the success of the Moreland community, people truly believe in Moreland, we love the city. Most people have been here for many years. We've got some who've been here for 50 years, we've got a few that've only been here few years but they've come into the fold and they want to be a part, and there's a reason for that. It's because of the energy they feel, the goodness they feel, the compassion, the caring, the concern for one another. I had to comment on that, it just feels so good to be a part of this. We know it takes a village, we can't do it by ourselves, the City can't do it by itself and Kay Coaching has been amazing. They are professional community network builders, that's what they do. And I sincerely hope that they can continue.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you. Go ahead Mayor, and I don't know if you want to go first, but I plan on exercising a little Chair privilege. You can go ahead if you'd like.

Mayor David E. Weiss:

I will be very brief. I wanted to weigh in and say that's a hard act to follow after the comments provided by the community. All of you I know and have spent time with, you are all amazingly articulate and heartfelt. I thought Ms. Anderson really kind of captured it. And lastly that this is really one of the things I think that makes Shaker so special. We have neighborhoods, we have communities, we have relationships, we have neighbors and friends and family that make it really different. It was clearly on display today how special it is to live in a place like Shaker. I wanted to say thank you.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you Mayor. Let me ask if anyone had any other comments? I see your hand up Mr. Eaton.

Resident, Mr. George Eaton:

I wanted to comment that I heard love and compassion, those words being mentioned. I go back to when I first heard about Moreland Neighbor Night and those issues that I had, which were not just things that came off the top of my head, but have a lot to do with the research I was doing in my architectural career. The need of community and the falling down of community. I think it's so important the things that I saw at Moreland Neighbor Night were the things that really teared down those complaints that I had. When we talk about people building fences and having little fiefdoms in their minds about where they live, and they buy a house and not even concerned about the community, they're just looking at how it will increase in value, but when you buy a house you buy a community as well. That, I think, can come into people's ideas and into their psyche with things that we're doing there. It's like America being selfish, typically Americans, and come to one of the neighbor night meetings and you see the selflessness that so many are expressing and the love that comes out of that, it becomes a great thing. So I see it as eventually, first of all, it has to infiltrate

through the rest of what we've done in Neighbor Night as to infiltrating into the other communities neighborhoods of the city.

Carmella Williams, Chair:

Thank you. Before we close tonight I wanted to briefly touch on my Moreland experience because funny as it is, I have lived in Shaker and in Moreland longer than I have lived anywhere else, and that's 22 years. I wouldn't want to live anywhere else, although I may want a vacation somewhere else when the snow falls, but that's another story. But the thing about my experience is that I am serving as Co-President of Moreland on the Move Community Association. That neighborhood association is just part of the network because I know the people here know this, but anyone that's listening, if you haven't picked up on a common theme, the most important thing, or the most important component of any successful thriving network, are the people.

It doesn't matter if those people are neighbors or city or schools or what have you. The people make up the network and the commitment, the passion, and the care that the people put into the network is what makes it what it is, however successful it is. And you've heard the success here. The advantage of this community network building is that it brings all of the separate components together and it adds a layer onto it that allows for easy on, easy off, for people to participate however they want. But like all things there needs to be some structure involved. But the community network building model allows for both of those things. What I value most about our network in this practice is the relationship building, the resident led initiative, and the practice of creating space for everyone's voice to be heard and respected. With that being said, I love my neighbors and thank you all for sharing. All of your stories and your experience and that energy that lets people know why we're all excited about this effort and excited about what it can do in expanding the network to ideally connect all of our neighborhoods together with each other.

Unless anyone has anything else, I think we can stand adjourned. Thank you all, have a good night. Thank you everybody and I'll see you around the neighborhood.

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There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:05 p.m. The next meeting will be January 11, 2023.

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Carmella Williams, Chair  
Neighborhood & Economic Development Committee