

Traverse Heights Neighborhood Association Meeting

- President Jordan Yeatts and Board Member Christine Nowak announced a door prize for this meeting: \$10 from the board was matched with another \$10 from The Filling Station for a \$20 gift card. Anyone who was new to the meeting or brought someone new was eligible to put their name in the hat. Read to the end to find out who won!
- Andrea Hornby from Girl Scouts of Michigan spoke. There is interest in the neighborhood from girls who would like to join a troop, but a shortage of volunteers to lead the troops. Anyone interested (or who has ideas on where to find volunteers) should contact Andrea at ahornby@gsmists.org or (231) 778-0063.
- Jeff Brown and Becky Tranchell got up to talk about their new businesses at 910 E. Eighth St., next to Potter's.
 - Jeff and Autumn run Stockist Coffee, a Direct Trade micro coffee roastery.
 - Becky runs Rose & Fern, a café serving breakfast and lunch. Produce is from Lakeview Hills Farms, and meat and eggs are from Michigan producers.
 - Their official opening was on Monday. Regular hours are 7 AM to 2 PM Monday through Saturday.
 - Traverse Heights residents can get a medium coffee for the price of a small, and they've introduced a Mug Club. The price is \$50/mug, which gets you \$1 drip coffee with free refills, or a 20% discount on other coffee drinks.
- Heather Brady and Brian Boals from Gourdie-Fraser were on hand to present preliminary plans for the 2019 rebuild of Eighth Street.
 - They've been visiting neighborhood associations to present the plan and solicit comments and will be at the City Commission meeting on the 28th.
 - Their presentation covered the foundation of the project (the Envision 8th Plan), the progress to date, the scope, and some conceptual designs for the street. Renderings were available for residents to view and comment on.
 - The rough schedule for the rest of the project is:
 - Jan/Feb - Final engineering

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- March/April - Put the plan out for bid
- May/June - Complete the construction plan
- July through November - Construction, beginning right after the 4th of July weekend if possible.
- The project will have a website that the city will put up (soon).
- The general scheme of the conceptual plan calls for:
 - Three traffic lanes (two travel and a center turn lane)
 - Increased green space—some of which may rely on property owners allowing the sidewalk to shift further onto their property—and canopy trees.
 - Utility overhaul, including a new 24” water main, storm and sanitary sewers, street lighting, and fiber internet
 - A combined cycle track and sidewalk
 - Closure of some business driveways that flow onto Eighth St.
 - The closing of the entrance to Railroad St. south of Eighth St.
 - Mid-block pedestrian crossings and crosswalks at Wellington and Franklin. No signals or stop signs are planned for these intersections, although they may include a button-activated pedestrian signal like the one at Elmwood and W. Front.
- Officer Justin (last name?) spoke and reminded residents not to block sidewalks by parking on them—pull all the way up your driveway. Also to follow the snow removal ordinances. Lastly, although there has not been an increase in petty larceny, this time of year it’s a good idea to lock your doors.
- Officer Justin also drew the door prize, which was won by Gloria Morgan.
- Larry (last name?) spoke about a phone call and flyer he received raising doubts about the city’s fiber project. Amy Shamroe (City Commissioner) and Jim Carruthers (Mayor) provided some details of the project, which is currently in the planning phases at TCL&P and which will be underway this year.
- Larry also asked about the city’s fireworks ordinance, and if it can be tightened up to reduce the noise nuisance, fire danger, and possible liability to the city. Amy and Jim spoke to these concerns: State law puts certain limits on what the city can do, and although there may be room for the city to further restrict fireworks,

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enforcement is a challenge. Jordan shared that there is currently a bill before the state legislature that would reduce the number of days when fireworks allowed and free up city government to be more restrictive.

- A resident expressed the desire for a more fleshed-out agenda prior to future association meetings, especially if there's going to be a vote.
- The next meeting will be held Thursday, May 16th.