

Ward 11 Monthly Newsletter

Council Member Scott Benson

November 2005

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Living Wage Ordinance Passes the Council

The Minneapolis City Council voted 11-2 to adopt a living wage ordinance advanced by a coalition of labor unions, community organizations, and faith-based groups. Council Member Benson supported the Living Wage ordinance.

The ordinance will require organizations who have city contracts in excess of \$100,000 or who receive city subsidies in excess of \$100,000 to pay a wage of \$12.09 per hour. That represents an income equal to 130 percent of federal poverty guidelines for a family of four.

Unlike a previous living wage policy enacted by a City Council resolution in 1997, the new ordinance provides for enforcement mechanisms and financial penalties for organizations failing to comply.

Council Member Paul Ostrow among others challenged the Coalition advocating the changes to the Living Wage policy to work to see that Hennepin County, the City of St. Paul and other adjacent jurisdictions also enact living wage measures. "I can't underestimate the importance of a regional approach," Council Member Lisa Goodman said.

More than 100 communities around the United States have enacted living wage ordinances.

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Important Phone Numbers

- Ward 11 Office
673-2211
- Graffiti Hotline
673-2090
- Housing Inspection
673-5858
- Garbage/Recycling
673-2917

Walker Home Grand Re-opening

The Walker on Lyndale at Lyndale and 61st recently had a ribbon cutting after a major renovation. The facility was a nursing home, but it was renovated into 49 units of senior apartments. Walker on Lyndale offers affordable, income-based senior housing rental for adults 62 years of age and older. It offers a variety of one-bedroom/one-bath floor plans ranging from 530 to 618 square feet. The apartments feature oak kitchen cabinets, an electric range, a refrigerator, a double sink and a pantry. The common areas include a media center, a library, a lounge with television and fireplace, and a community room/kitchen.

To learn more, call Katie Hansen at 612-827-8604.

Minneapolis is #1 "National Night Out" city

For the fourth time in the last five years, Minneapolis was top-ranked among large cities for its National Night Out efforts. The National Association of Town Watch, which sponsors the annual event, gave Minneapolis its "National Night Out 2005 Award." This year, more people than ever participated in National Night Out on Aug. 2. 46,000 Minneapolis residents gathered at more than 840 neighborhood and community National Night Out celebrations citywide. Turnout was 21% higher this year than in 2004.

National Night Out activities help build and maintain Minneapolis' extensive network of neighborhood watch block clubs by giving people an opportunity to get together with neighbors, build relationships, meet new people, discuss issues and plan for the future. National Night Out is also a great way to encourage folks to start new neighborhood watch block clubs.

Minneapolis' effort was coordinated by the Minneapolis Police Department's Community Crime Prevention/SAFE Unit. Minneapolis Police officers and leadership from all the precincts and the K-9, Motorcycle and Mounted Patrol units all join in the CCP/SAFE effort. However, National Night Out is more than a Police program, with many City departments lending a hand. Donors such as the Target Corporation and Minnesota Twins also contribute to make the event a success. This year NNO organizers distributed a "Party in a Box" kit that made it easier for some groups to organize and hold NNO events.

National Night Out is a unique crime and drug prevention event scheduled annually for the first Tuesday in August. For more information on Minneapolis' neighborhood watch or block clubs, you can call 612-673-3447 or visit: www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/safe.

The National Association of Town Watch bases their ranking on a community's overall National Night Out effort, including the quality and size of the overall campaign, law enforcement involvement, neighborhood participation and special events. For more information on the National Association of Town Watch or specifics on the awards, go to www.natw.org.

September Crime Statistics

Below is the total Part I crimes for each of the neighborhoods in Ward 11. These are the crimes tracked by the U.S. Department of Justice as indicator crimes of the level of criminality of a community. If you have any questions, please contact your Crime Prevention Specialist. For neighborhoods in the 3rd Pct., which is east of 35W that is Sue Roethel at 673-2839 or the 5th Pct., which is west of 35W, contact Jennifer Neale at 673-2819.

NEIGHBORHOOD	TOTAL	Homicide	Rape	Robbery	Assault	Burglary	Theft	Motor Vehicle	Arson
Diamond Lake	10			1		3	6		
East Harriet	15					5	8	1	1
Ericsson	10					2	7	1	
Field	13			1		3	8	1	
Hale	4					2	1	1	
Kingfield	28			3	3	6	14	2	
Lynnhurst	14					6	7	1	
Northrop	26				2	3	17	4	
Page	2					1	1		
Tangletown	19			1		7	9	2	
Wenonah	6			2			2	2	
Windom	25			2	3	7	6	7	

Electronic Newsletter

Council Member Benson publishes an electronic newsletter to keep you up to date on what is happening at City Hall. If you would like to receive this update, please e-mail scott.benson@ci.minneapolis.mn.us and put the words “E-mail Update” in the subject line.

Monthly Community Meetings

<p>EHFNA Meets First Wednesday 7:00 PM, Lyndale Farmstead Park 3900 Bryant Ave S</p>	<p>Field Regina Northrop Meets Third Wednesday 6:30 PM Lake Nokomis Presbyterian</p>	<p>Hale Page Diamond Lake Meets Fourth Monday 7:00 PM Emmanuel United Methodist</p>
<p>Kingfield Meets Second Wednesday 7:00 PM Martin Luther King Park 4055 Nicollet Ave S</p>	<p>Lynnhurst Meets Second Thursday 7:00 PM Lynnhurst Community Center 1345 Minnehaha Pkwy</p>	<p>NENA Meets Fourth Thursday 7:00 PM NENA Office 3000 E. 50th St</p>
<p>SENA Meets Second Monday 7:00 PM Our Redeemer Lutheran Church 4000 28th Ave S</p>	<p>Tangletown Meets Third Monday 7:00 PM Fuller Community Center 4800 Grand Ave S</p>	<p>Windom Meets Second Thursday 7:00 PM Windom Community Center 5821 Wentworth Ave S</p>

Coffee With Scott

Join Scott for a cup of coffee and talk about City issues. He will be at the following coffee shops from 8-9 AM

<p>Betsy's Backporch 5447 Nicollet Ave S November 16</p>	<p>Nokomis Cafe 5155 Bloomington Ave December 7</p>
<p>Java Jacks 818 W. 46th St November 2</p>	<p>Sister Sludge 4557 Bloomington Ave December 21</p>

Open Appointments

[Minneapolis Public Housing Authority \(closes 11/18/2005\)](#)

For information <http://www.ci.minneapolis.mn.us/boards-and-commissions/open/>