



Martin Drive Trolley News

Martin Drive Neighborhood is a TIN!

By Pat Mueller, Martin Drive TIN Coordinator

In 2014, Martin Drive Neighborhood received a great opportunity when the neighborhood was designated a Targeted Investment Neighborhood, commonly referred to as TIN. This is a three year program where both homeowners and landlords can access no interest and/or forgivable loans for improvements to their properties. Landlords are eligible for up to \$14,999 for each rental unit.

This funding can help improve the exterior of your home and repair code violations. It can be used for weatherization, window replacement, siding, electrical, heating and plumbing updates. Construction of a new garage is not eligible but the funding can be used to repair your current garage. If you need to make exterior home improvements or want to upgrade the energy efficiency of your home or duplex consider applying. Income limits apply to homeowners. In the case of rental property, the income limits apply to the renter of the unit.

The first step is to complete a TIN application, include your recent tax return and a photo of your property and turn it in to the Department of City Development (DCD). A loan officer at DCD will review your credit; make sure tax bills and mortgage are up to date. If your loan is approved it goes on to a Rehab Specialist who will contact the property owner to inspect your home and write up a scope of work. Then you will be authorized to get bids and select a contractor and then go back to DCD for final approval and closing on the loan.

Many individuals, who are not approved on the first application work to resolve issues, reapply and are approved in a future year. For more information, go to the links on our Martin Drive website, Google NIDC Milwaukee TIN or contact Pat Mueller, the neighborhood TIN Coordinator at 414.933.5589 or pmueller4502@gmail.com

Worried About Credit?

I've learned through my business experience and other TIN Coordinators that credit is an issue for many. In the event credit is holding you back, consider credit counseling. GreenPath, Inc. also known as GreenPath Debt Solutions is a free, non-profit, credit counseling organization that offers debt counseling that is personal and tailored to your unique situation. GreenPath specializes in helping people eliminate credit card debt. They also assist people with student loan debt, help homeowners avoid foreclosure, provide reverse mortgage counseling to seniors, help people manage their credit score, and provide bankruptcy counseling and education for debtors filing for bankruptcy. Financial education is part of the process and they offer a wide variety of financial education tools and resources. Please check out Please check out their website for more information. <http://www.greenpath.com/resources-and-tools>



NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
809 North Broadway, Milwaukee, WI

Other Benefits of the TIN

Bloom & Groom ** TIN neighborhoods are eligible to participate in the well loved Bloom & Groom where we can purchase incredibly healthy annual and perennial plants at ridiculously low prices. Martin Drive's Bloom & Groom will be held May 31st in front of the Washington Park Senior Center. Details and plant varieties will be available at the Annual Meeting, Saturday, May 10th.



Victory Garden Initiative ** Martin Drive Neighbors will be offered ten (10) Victory Garden beds at half the normal price as part of the TIN. These 4 foot by 8 foot beds will be installed by volunteers of the Victory

Garden Initiative between May 11-14th. Soil will be added by May 25th. Beds normally cost \$160. Through the TIN we can purchase our 10 beds for \$80 each. There is no way you can build a bed and fill it with quality soil for the price.

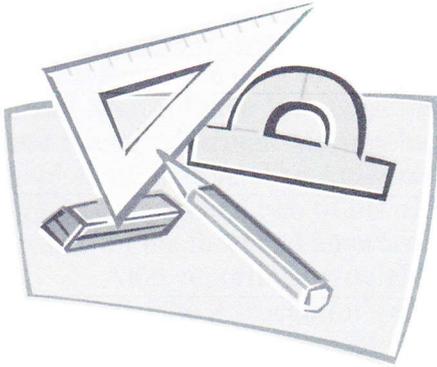


City Tidbits

MPD Third District Captain's Meetings **

The format of meetings has changed from monthly to meetings held every two weeks. The hope is to work with residents of each neighborhood by discussing crime issues and getting citizen input. The Captain values neighbors input as being a valuable tool to prevent and solve crime. A recent review of Martin Drive stats shows our neighborhood has exceptionally low crime rate and an exceptionally high amount of participation of residents. Dates of the meetings are posted on the neighborhood list serve. <>

President of the Common Council ** February 11, 2014 our Alderman, Michael Murphy was elected President of the Common Council. Alderman Murphy will continue to as our Alderman but will also Chair the Common Council, influencing the entire City of Milwaukee in the same competent way he has influenced the neighborhoods he represents.



Milwaukee Excel High School is located on 46th & State and opened its doors in August 2011. Since then, the school has grown to 114 students spread across all four years; freshman through seniors. Many of our students have come from a traditional high school setting and have enjoyed Milwaukee Excel's smaller class sizes, enthusiastic teachers and innovative and educational design, Project Based Learning. We currently have two Martin Drive Neighborhood students, but our doors are always open for more. We look forward to a further partnership with the neighborhood and always appreciate volunteers!

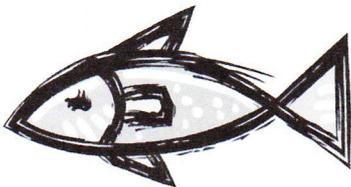
Thank you to all the people who decorated our neighborhood with red ribbons for the Christmas holidays. They worked well for Valentine's Day, too. When the weather changes and people can actually get out and take down the ribbons, be careful to also remove the staple. Check the ribbons for their condition and save only the ones you know could be re-used. Raymond will keep them in storage for us.



Block Captains** Welcome new neighbors to Martin Drive Neighborhood with a welcome pack. Lynn Grages assembles and makes available the packs of information concerning the businesses and local establishments. It might also be helpful to provide the new owners or renters with the garbage and recycling dates.

Upcoming Events in the Martin Drive Neighborhood

- Sign up for participation in the TIN Annual Meeting - May, 2014
- Victory Garden - May 11-14th
- Bloom and Groom—May 31st
- Neighborhood Clean-up
- Neighborhood Garden - ???
- Rummage Sale
- Annual Picnic at Garden on 46th Street
- Watch for movie nights



St. Sebastian Fish Fry
1740 N. 55th Street
4:30—7:30 PM

Dine in & Carry Out
March 7, 2014
April 4, 2014
May 2, 2014

Carry Out Only
March 14,
March 21,
March 28
April 11th
April 18th

St. Sebastian Cafeteria
414 - 453 -1061

The September Association Meeting was well attended because a very serious crime had occurred on lower Martin Drive in August. Besides all the signs and flyers, Alderman Murphy had sent each household an invitation. The Alderman, the 3rd District Police Captain and two of his officers brought us up to date on the facts and answered many questions.

After reporting on neighborhood projects and authorizing the Association's application to become a (TIN) Targeted Investment Neighborhood (see other article), we divided into small groups to further discuss and list ideas for making our area more safe. Each group then shared their ideas with the whole group. The P and P Committee collected these lists and invited everyone back to the important October meeting where we would begin figuring out how to follow up on their ideas.

Before **the October Association meeting**, neighbor Chris Happel categorized the ideas into three groups: (1.) ideas that would lead to better **communication** between neighbors, with Block Representatives, with the Police Dept, with various City Departments, etc.; (2.) ideas that would require more **observing** by neighbors; and (3) ideas that would require **organizing** activities. **(This list is at the end of this article, at martin-drive.org, or at our regular Saturday meetings.)**

A special voting process was used to allow each person to vote for the priorities they felt were the most important. After the votes were tallied, it was clear that a "blueprint" of principles and projects had been developed to guide the Association for the next year...or two. **BUT the "blueprint" means nothing if we don't go to the next step which is to put the principles and activities into action! The twelve or so folks working in the two Association Committees can not carry out all these ideas by themselves. We are hoping by doing the majority of the planning at our monthly Saturday meetings, neighbors will be willing to help by working in small planning groups during a portion of each Saturday meeting. This work will not monopolize anyone's time, but will make our organization stronger.**

Additional business at the October meeting:

MPD Officers Kong and Iverson gave a detailed update on the August crime, and requested written "Impact Statements" from all of us.

Alderman Murphy discussed the City Budget, the Mayor's proposal about garbage carts, and thanked Pat Mueller for creating a new Westside Guide

County Supervisor Stamper suggested that someone from the Sheriff's office attend our

meetings and asked for our endorsement of his plan to have MPD patrol the parks instead of the Sheriff's. We agreed.

The TIN proposal had been submitted.

Halloween Trick or Treat had some "special" activities to celebrate its twentieth anniversary.

The group voted to have Saturday morning meetings every month.

At the November Association meeting Alderman Murphy shared information on a boarded up building on 42nd St, on the City Budget, on the hiring of new police officers, and on the TIN proposal... the Association had a good chance of be awarded a TIN. The Fair Housing Council reported on the disparity between the upkeep and sales promotion of foreclosed houses in poorer neighborhoods and in wealthier areas.

We discussed two priorities: "How to effectively complain", and "How to develop a stronger connection between neighbors." We concluded that the MDNA needed to

devise ways to support our neighbors as they develop their "complaining and reporting" skills. This can be uncomfortable for a lot of folks, but, when numbers of us complain or report, it usually gets the best results. Also, our complaints are automatically forwarded to our Alderman.

produce a list of clear steps for complaining to neighbors about neighbors, calling MPD or the City, reporting bad smells, derelict houses, etc. This would also include important numbers, how to use the internet to find landlords, property information, ordinances, etc.

devise a plan for finding and connecting neighbors who aren't connected to our listserv The computer lab at Excel High School may be a resource for us. Contact Raymond Duncan at raymond.duncan@gmail.com to join the listserv.

There was no December meeting (we went caroling). Weather canceled the **January meeting**. The **February meeting** focused on the new MDNA TIN loan program.

The Projects and Planning Committee:

Mary Andres, Raymond Duncan, Charlotte Jackson, Terry McCauley, Carole Rouse, and Sharon Williams

The next meeting will be on Saturday, March 15th.

10:00 AM Washington Park Senior Center

Martin Drive Neighborhood Block Reps

Martin Drive	
Sharon Williams	933-6800
Martin Drive Apartments	
Eric Penebaker	313-9861
McKinley Court	
Mary Andres	344-3970
42nd Street	
Betty & Al Siemsen	344-3846
43rd Street (Juneau to Vliet)	
Raymond Duncan	294-3828
Vicki Provencher	828-8250
43rd Street (Martin to Juneau)	
Amy Peterson	750-1005
44th Street (Juneau to Vliet)	
Tim Singbeil	708-7176
44th Street (Martin to Juneau)	
Linda & Pat Devitt	344-1019
45th Street (Juneau to Vliet)	
Rod & Sandy Washington	763-8848
Maggie Blaha	344-0688
45th Street (Martin to Juneau)	
Kathy McCauley	517-9797
Tom Gillard	688-3185
46th Street (Juneau to Vliet)	
Steve Falsesti	608-443-9337
46th Street (Martin to Juneau)	
Christine Happel	916-2465
46th Street (Martin to State)	
Bonnie Morscher	339-0731
Vliet Street & Business Rep	
Pat Mueller	933-5589

Website & Other Social Media– Martin Drive has a beautiful website designed and maintained by Raymond Duncan. Check it out at www.martin-drive.org/ He also maintains a Facebook page and “tweets” on Twitter and has followers from as far away as Malaysia.

Email List Serves - Martin Drive is great at communicating with all neighbors. Residents are informed and communication is accomplished by newsletters, signage and fliers delivered to your door. Most committees have listserves. By using these e-mail addresses you can send a message to an entire committee.

Martin-drive@yahoo.com – This address will send your message to neighbors who have attended meetings or events and signed up for the listserv. Currently there are 274 members of this group which includes neighbors and our elected government leaders.

MDNAPandP@yahoo.com – This committee plans for the agenda of the bi-monthly meetings and plans events and programs for the association.

MDNAReps@yahoo.com -- Martin Drive has a Block Rep for almost every block in the neighborhood. Block Reps attend meetings as needed, see to the distribution of newsletters and fliers on their block and are the liaison between the Association and individuals on each block.

MDNABandF@yahoo.com -- This committee reviews neighborhood financial information, approves neighborhood expenditures with proper receipts, maintains neighborhood checking account, accounts for neighborhood expenditures, retains receipts of expenditures and prepares proper financial reports for grant purposes.

Good Neighbors of Martin Drive do:

Light Up the Night - All residents are encouraged to turn on porch & yard lights at night to increase safety.

Home Sweet Home - Car horns, loud and continuous barking of dogs, loud music from cars & homes, loud parties and loud disagreements all disturb your neighbors’ peaceful enjoyment of their home and yard. Let’s keep the peace!

Kids R US - Please observe the 11 pm summer and 10 pm school year curfew & remind your children not to cut through neighbors’ yards.

Wrong Way on a One-Way – Going the wrong way on a one-way street is dangerous and unnecessary. Cars pulling out and kids playing don’t expect it.

Tool Time - Shovel the snow! Dream of Spring!

Give thanks for helpful neighbors — who help those who cannot shovel snow or do lawn work.



MARCH 15, 2014
MEETING OF THE MARTIN
DRIVE NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION
10:00
 Washington Park
 Senior Center



MARTIN DRIVE
MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Martin Drive Neighborhood Association, through programs and projects, is to embrace and foster a sense of belonging and common purpose, resulting in a neighborhood that is beautiful, diverse, secure, and fun for everyone!<>

