

METRO NORTH BLOCK CLUB BYLAWS

MISSION STATEMENT

The MetroNorth Block Club is a voluntary group that meets monthly to address common concerns in the block club neighborhood. It provides information on and promotes the living, business, and cultural conditions of the neighborhood. The block club is an open and welcoming forum for a diverse, multi-lingual community. While the MetroNorth block club is an independent entity, it works in cooperation with the Tremont West Development Corporation.

BLOCK CLUB NEIGHBORHOOD/BOUNDARIES

The MetroNorth Block Club defines its neighborhood/service area within the boundaries: NORTH: Clark Avenue, SOUTH: I-71 at intersection of Scranton Rd. and West 25, EAST: I-71, and WEST: West 25 – not the business district of West 25.

MEETINGS

The MetroNorth Block Club meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the months of March thru November at 6:30PM in the St. Michael Assembly Room. (Pastor Fr. McCreight invited the MetroNorth Block Club to have its meetings at St. Michael.) Each meeting has an agenda and membership is notified prior to the meeting via postcard mailing and/or e-mail, listing a brief summary of the meeting agenda.

The July meeting is the summer potluck picnic and the November meeting is the holiday potluck before winter recess. There may be short business meetings with the July and November meetings. At the November meeting, the Good Neighbor Awards are traditionally presented.

Anyone attending a meeting agrees to the following rules of conduct:

- Only one person speaks at a time and is respectful in language and manner and time.
- Other attendees listen respectfully in turn.
- No recording devices are permitted at the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP

The MetroNorth Block Club membership is available to:

- 1) any resident living in the MetroNorth neighborhood, over 18 years of age,
- 2) any non-resident property owner of property in the MetroNorth neighborhood,
- 3) the owner and employees of businesses located in the MetroNorth neighborhood, and
- 4) representatives of institutions located in the MetroNorth neighborhood.

A member cannot be a member of the MetroNorth Block Club and another block club at the same time. Members must sign in at each meeting on the sign-in sheets provided. Only members may vote on official block club business. To be eligible to vote at a meeting, one must have attended three (3) block club meetings in the 12 months prior to the current meeting. Only one vote per individual is permitted.

For 2), only one non-resident property owner of a specific property may vote. For 3), the business owner or a single designated employee may vote. For 4), for a given institution, only one representative may vote. The voting eligibility criteria must be met in each case. Again only one vote per individual is permitted.

There is open invitation to city officials, 2nd District police, TWDC personnel, and other CDC personnel. These representatives may provide clarity on an item under discussion. These attendees and any other attendees are guests and sign in on a separate sign-in sheet.

VOTING PROCEDURES

For any matter involving a variance request for property in the MetroNorth neighborhood where the support of the MetroNorth Block Club is asked: the preferred process is for presentation at a meeting with the vote taking place at the following meeting. The property owner or his agent is responsible for providing all necessary material for an informed decision to be made before the vote. Additionally, notification must be made to parties that will be affected and/or impacted and pertinent information supplied to them by the said property owner (or his agent). This request will be listed on the postcard/email sent prior to the meeting where the presentation is made and for the following meeting.

However, if the variance request is time critical and a vote is requested at the meeting where the presentation is done, the property owner or his agent must provide all necessary material to the block club membership at least 14 days prior to the meeting. It remains the discretion of the block club membership whether to proceed to a vote at the first meeting.

Voting may be executed by either a show of hands or a paper ballot. For a letter of support to be written, a 2/3 majority vote of voting members present is required.

For any other matter, the voting members present will decide whether to vote at the meeting where the matter is first presented.

BLOCK CLUB OFFICES

The MetroNorth Block Club prefers to operate with two co-chairs (if possible) with their terms of office to overlap. Term of office is 2 years. The membership may decide to add other offices as necessary. Officers must be eligible to vote as members of the block club. Block club elections are to be held in April.

BYLAWS

These bylaws may be amended at any meeting of the block club by 2/3 affirmative vote of the voting members present provided that the proposed amendments have been provided (given) to and discussed with the members at the meeting immediately prior to the meeting when the vote is taken. Members will be informed of any amendment to the bylaws.