



## **KPNA END-OF-YEAR SURVEY BOARD SUMMARY**

**Overview:** As 2016 comes to a close, the Board of the Kutzky Park Neighborhood Association set out to hear from the community on its major social initiatives and community engagement. The 8 question survey was sent to the distribution list for the neighborhood association, which includes some local leaders outside of our boundary, and was open for two weeks. Forty-three individuals responded.

**Standing Mission:**

- To enhance the livability of the area by establishing and maintaining an open line of communication and liaison between the Kutzky Park neighborhood, government agencies and other neighborhoods.
- To meet with governmental representatives; report to governmental committees, agencies, boards; and generally to attempt to help local and state lawmakers establish enforceable legislation and policies to help protect and improve the livability of the Kutzky Park neighborhood, the City of Rochester, and Olmsted County.
- To provide an open process by which all members of the Kutzky Park neighborhood may involve themselves in the affairs of the KPNA.
- To provide an organizational structure through which the KPNA membership can coordinate projects and events to enhance community livability and vibrancy.

**Results Summary:** Overall, those responding to the survey are generally happy and supportive of the neighborhood association's efforts. Porchfest and the Kutzky Krawls were the top rated events. Respondents also indicated that they would like to focus on increasing our philanthropic/volunteer efforts and continuing to work with developers on projects within the neighborhood.

Following our 2015 strategic planning, creating a more streamlined process for development projects in the neighborhood was identified as a top priority. There were four projects that came before the neighborhood association this year:

- Francisco's Cuban Café on 2<sup>nd</sup> Street SW (by CRW)
- The James apartment building at 1<sup>st</sup> Street and 7<sup>th</sup> Ave (by CRW)
- The Alatus project (by Alatus)
- Miracle Mile (by Javon Bea)

The Board used a new process of having an initial meeting with the development team, inviting them to a neighborhood meeting or scheduling a full neighborhood meeting for a presentation, and using the minutes from that meeting as the foundation for a letter. In 2016, the neighborhood supported three of four projects. All letters contained comments based on the conversations. Miracle Mile was the only project the neighborhood did not support.

Survey results indicate there remains some lingering confusion about advocacy efforts by the neighborhood association. To advocate (defined as: *one that pleads the cause of another*) is a founding principle of the Kutzky Park Neighborhood. It is part of our mission, to look out for each other not only within the boundary of the neighborhood, but throughout the community. The nature of our current city leadership and processes make neighborhoods a key stakeholder in development processes, as indicated by the new required Development Informational Meetings. We are asked by our leadership to come forward with an opinion. As noted above, in 2016, we were overwhelmingly supportive of development in our neighborhood. This came from the work of the Board, but most significantly from those who attend the monthly neighborhood meetings and voice their thoughts and opinions.

The process developed by the Board was created with future Board members in mind. While the current makeup of the Board has years of experience with development projects and processes, that may not always be the case. It is our hope that this new process can weather changes in leaderships and can continue to bring stability to how we advocate for our neighborhood. Finally, the Board would like to stress that regardless of anyone's role, background or experience, all members of Kutzky Park are entitled to their own opinions (publically and privately) on projects. This diversity of ideas is what makes our community great.

**Future Action:** The Board of the KPNA will come forward with a strategic plan for 2017 in January of next year. Based on the results of the survey, this will include:

- Review of social events to focus on quality over quantity
- Finalizing updates to the bylaws (coming to the association for approval in January or February 2017)
- Increasing Board membership (following up with interested neighbors for orientation meetings)
- Setting an agenda to meet the interest/suggestions from neighbors around philanthropy and cultural/arts opportunities in the community

Sincerely,  
KPNA Board

Jesse Welsh, President  
Tim Hawkins, Vice President  
Susan Goettsch, Secretary  
Andy Masterpole  
Kellie Mueller  
Glenn Faith  
Annie Henderson

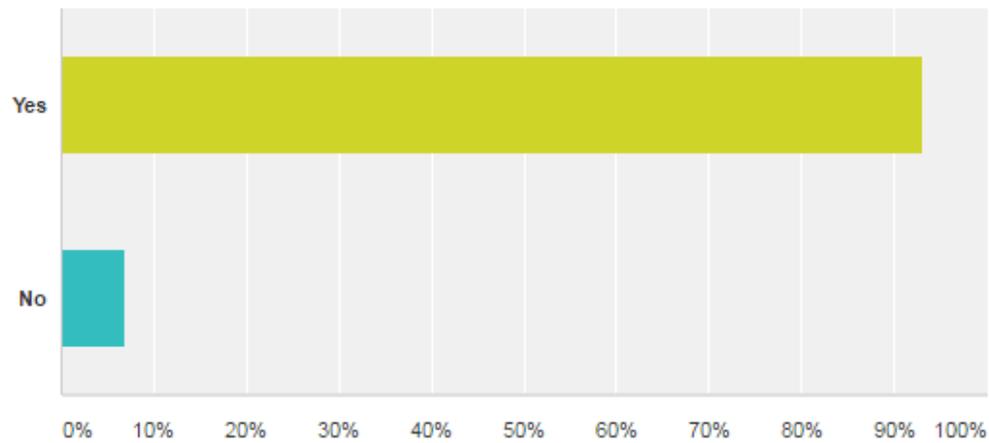
Pictures from 2016



**RESULTS**

**I live in the Kuzky Park Neighborhood.**

Answered: 43 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	93.02% 40
No	6.98% 3
Total	43

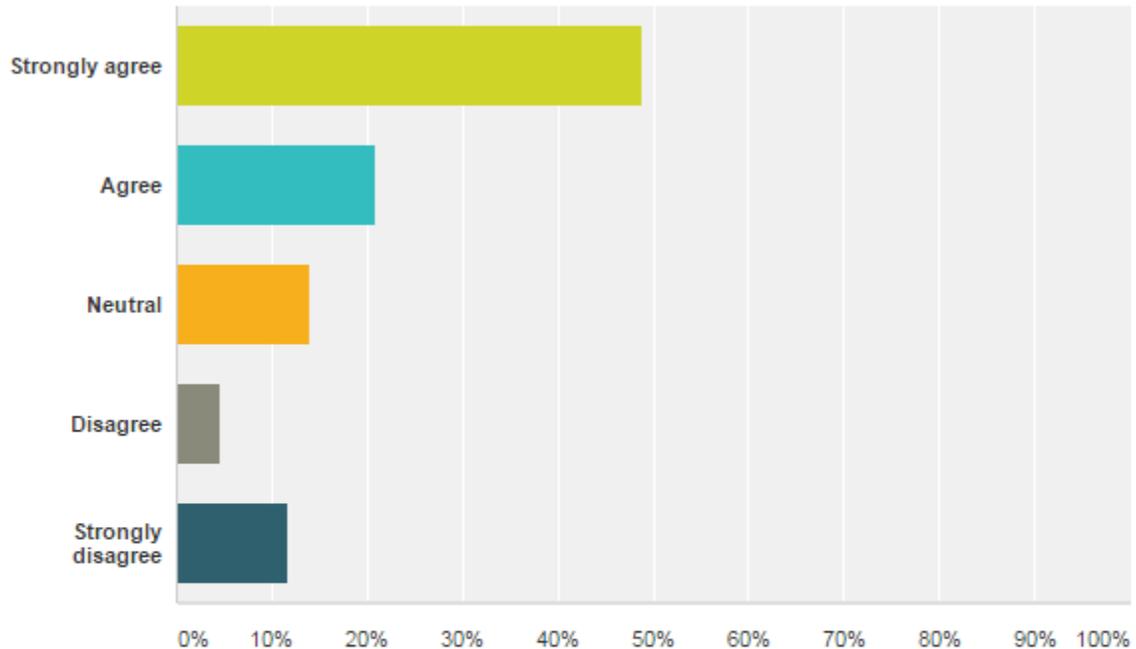
**Please rate the KPNA activities for 2016.**

Answered: 43 Skipped: 0

	Unacceptable	Below average	Average	Above average	Excellent	Total Respondents
Kutzky Krawls	0.00% 0	4.65% 2	13.95% 6	37.21% 16	44.19% 19	43
Neighborhood Happy Hours	4.65% 2	9.30% 4	39.53% 17	32.56% 14	13.95% 6	43
June Block Party	2.33% 1	2.33% 1	25.58% 11	51.16% 22	18.60% 8	43
National Night Out	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	30.23% 13	44.19% 19	25.58% 11	43
Porchfest	2.33% 1	2.33% 1	11.63% 5	27.91% 12	55.81% 24	43
Halloween Parade	0.00% 0	0.00% 0	30.23% 13	44.19% 19	25.58% 11	43
Yoga in the Park	2.33% 1	2.33% 1	32.56% 14	37.21% 16	25.58% 11	43

## I feel the Board of the KPNA appropriately manages and represents our neighborhood.

Answered: 43 Skipped: 0



Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree	48.84% 21
Agree	20.93% 9
Neutral	13.95% 6
Disagree	4.65% 2
Strongly disagree	11.63% 5
Total	43

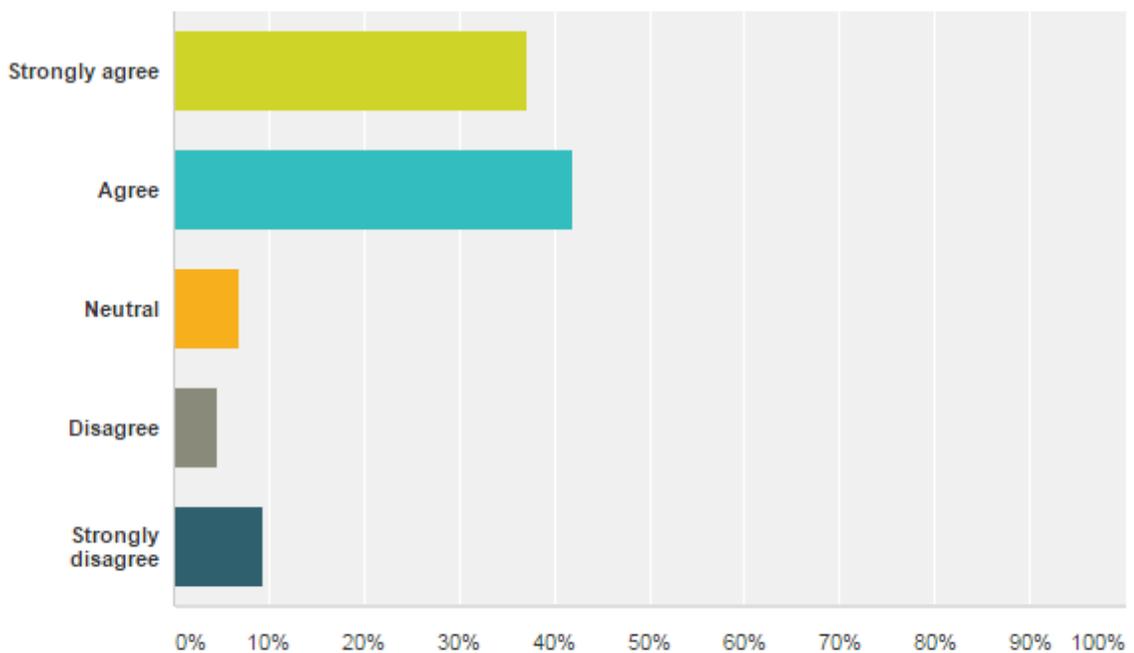
- Amazing to see the energy and commitment.
- I have not been able to attend as many meeting or events as I'd like. I greatly appreciate all the creative activities and efforts others are putting forth, however, to keep our neighborhood strong and considerate to all. I hope to get more involved in the future and look forward to participating with such a great group of people!
- I appreciate the time the Board puts into representing the neighborhood.
- I feel that the Board does what the board wants to do and quells dissenting opinions. There is nothing on the agendas of substance anymore. I don't know why anyone would come to the meetings, other than to meet neighbors.
- I have not been very attentive to this, so not sure I could give an informed response.
- I am so grateful to all the leaders/members of the KPNA who have worked so hard to give everything they can to create and keep the Kutzky Park Neighborhood a great place. I am also inspired and very proud of all the KPNA leaders/members who have been willing to speak-up publicly to the Rochester City Council, Zoning and Planning, and other governing entities in such an intelligent, eloquent, and passionate manner about their own

personal concerns as well as speaking on behalf of others in our community regarding changes that affect everyone in the Kutzky park neighborhood. Even if decisions made about changes to Kutzky are not exactly the most favorable, you definitely should be proud of yourselves (you know who you are). It takes courage to speak up the way you have. Thank you and please keep up your great work!

- To me the board seems to be hardworking, dedicated and a strong advocate for the neighborhood - but I am not sure they always represent the views of neighborhood.
- The board seems to be a good mix of ages and abilities that represent the neighborhood well
- Our KPNA only cares about the IK agenda. The president has conflicts of interests with all the other boards she's apart of. (Q'ed, IK, yada, yada) she doesn't represent all our resident and is very polarizing with her public comments. Her actions have embarrassed longtime Kutzky residents.
- The board represents the narrow vision of IK.
- I feel the current board is the most cohesive since I started attending meetings 4 years ago.
- I'm too new to comment on this and am eager to learn how the board can ensure that it represents the variety of opinion(s) and points of view within the neighborhood. Would like to explore how we can get more neighbor participation, so that we have the opportunity to understand diverging points of view of our neighbors, and manage any associated conflict.

In 2015 development was identified as the top issue concerning the neighborhood. In response the Board has worked to streamline the process by holding an initial meeting with the Board, inviting a developer to a KPNA meeting and the writing a letter summarizing the comments of those in attendance. Do you feel this process has helped keep the neighborhood informed, engaged and well represented?

Answered: 43 Skipped: 0



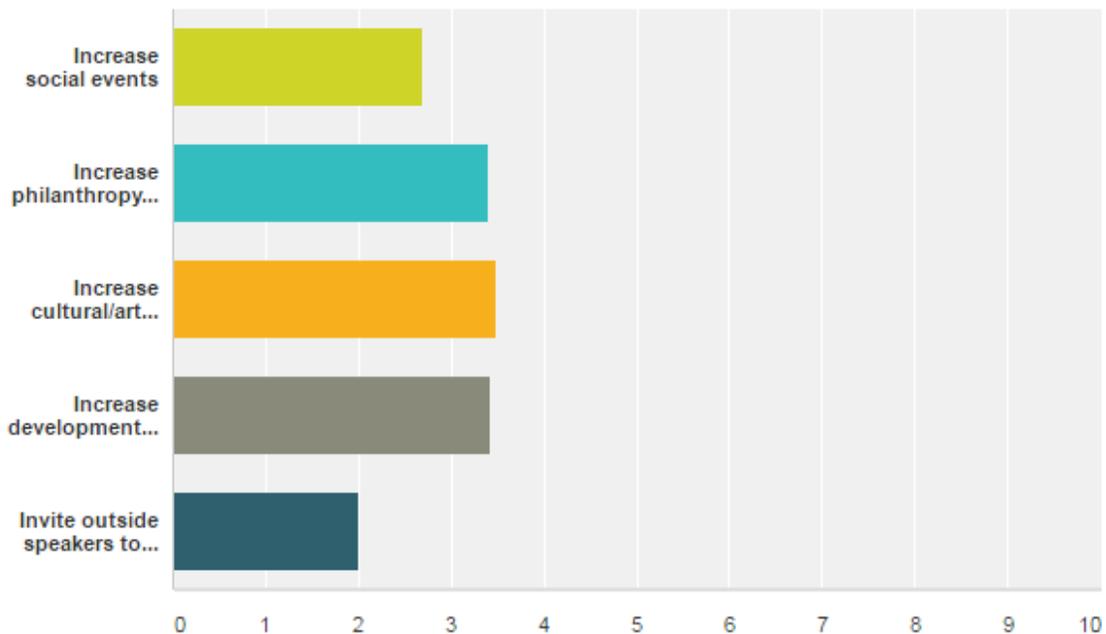
Answer Choices	Responses
Strongly agree	37.21% 16
Agree	41.86% 18
Neutral	6.98% 3
Disagree	4.65% 2
Strongly disagree	9.30% 4
Total	43

- Yes, but somehow I missed that letter. Is there a way to receive another copy?
- I feel that the Board inappropriately allows Imagine Kutzky to control the development process and advocates based on the Boards own personal opinions and biases and not what is best for neighborhood. The Board thinks that it and IK know best and intentionally shield people who disagree from the process.
- I think the development process works good, but the problem is with the planning dept and developers.

- From what I have read in the papers, this seems reasonable.
- The board has done a great job keeping the neighborhood informed, it just sometimes feels like a futile effort
- The neighborhood association thinks they are the city building and planning office. They should be a minor part of negotiations concerning area development and the extent of their power should be to merely offer advice or suggestions to changes of plans. These should only be taken as suggestions and if the developer doesn't accept all of the changes that does not entitle the board to stall, delay, or publically whine when it doesn't get its suggestions met.
- The board continues to work behind the backs of neighborhood and take up positions that do not represent those shared by the neighborhood. I think much of this is created unintentionally because a few board members are active in other groups and activities outside of those that represent the neighborhood, unfortunately the public does not see the separation even when these members call out that they are not speaking on behalf of KPNA, for that reason I think the board should either be in or out. It's fine to work with other groups and on projects, but any conflicts or special interests should be disclosed, and all public communication from board members should only be communication as approved by the KPNA. With being a board member comes responsibility and sacrifice, and part of that is understanding that as a public figure representing KPNA, there is not a separation between yourself and KPNA that occurs just because you said there is.
- The board has their own opinions as an activist sub-group and uses KPNA as larger pool of voices to share at City Council, P&Z, and with the media.

### Please rank the following initiatives you'd like the KPNA to focus on in 2017.

Answered: 43 Skipped: 0



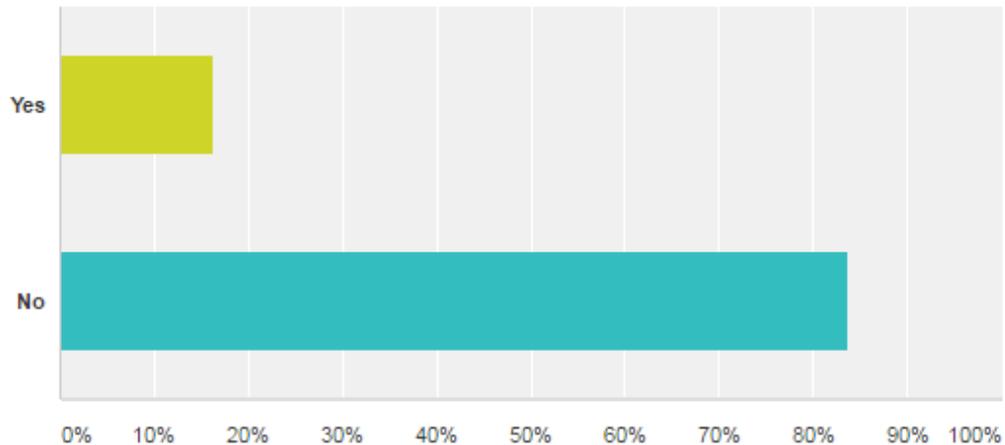
## What other activities or initiatives would you like to see in 2017?

Answered: 15 Skipped: 28

- Keep up the great work! I need to get better connected, and yet I know you are all doing all you can to make our neighborhood great! :)
- I think the current amount of social events is appropriate. I don't know what you mean when you say "increase development activity." Do you mean increase advocacy? The advocacy is so poor that we would probably be better off doing nothing.
- No thoughts to offer
- For clarity, regarding Item 5 above, I ranked 'Increase Development Advocacy' as being what I feel is the most important (#1). Although I feel social events are important, I also feel there are already a really good number of social events that if continued would be great, therefore, at this time, I ranked it as least important to 'Increase' (#5).
- Maybe Christmas caroling in the neighborhood- I think that would be great- maybe culminating somewhere to hot cocoa after?
- Identify 4 candidates for upcoming city council elections.
- I think we should stay committed to porchfest and try to make it bigger every year; it's a cool and unique concept
- It seems like we should be able to help Tim Butorac with his proposal to improve the tennis center. It could be an outstanding feature of Kutzky.
- 1. Removal of the failed Kutzky garden boxes off the bike trail. This was an ill-conceived attempt and getting people (who already have yards) a space to garden. So far it's only grown 5 ft weeds. 2. Winter trail activities. Snowman building fest, Public Ice skating area off the trail. 3. Leaf removal ordinance. We own homes in the neighborhood and therefore have a responsibility to the yearly maintenance of them. Raking leaves into the public right of way is unacceptable and can clog storm drains. Not raking leaves at all makes it difficult for our elderly neighbors to walk on public sidewalks. If we have snow removal ordinances then it's only fair we should require timely removal of fallen leaves. 4. Enforcement of snow removal ordinance. Again we own these homes we are required to maintain them in a timely manner.
- I'd like to see more things that bring the neighborhood together. There are still many people living in the neighborhood that are unaware of thing current things that are going on, we need to find a way to engage with these neighbors and at least make sure they are aware of things that are happening. Some of this could be done by working with the managers of rental properties and even having a welcome kit for people new to the neighborhood.
- More activities in the park inviting the community to see what a great asset we have in Kutzky Park.
- More house decorating ir garden contests. More themed potlucks ie: vegetarian, ethnic, holidays. Movie in the park and street art with vendors. (Like what Slaterly Park does). Also another Porch Fest!
- Collaboration with nearby core neighborhoods.
- Explore ways to get greater involvement within the neighborhood.
- Someone using the KPNA garden next spring. It's been full of weeds and not used.

## Are you interested in becoming more involved in the KPNA leadership (Board or a subcommittee)?

Answered: 37 Skipped: 6



Answer Choices	Responses
Yes	16.22% 6
No	83.78% 31
Total	37

## Please provide any additional feedback.

Answered: 16 Skipped: 27

- I think the KPNA is serving the neighborhood well.
- I loved being part of the Porch Fest and look forward to next year.
- Again...you're doing great and you need to know how much we all appreciate your efforts! Thank goodness you've stepped up for us all! :)
- Kutzky Park is a neighborhood that is full of life and change. I really appreciate all the hard work KPNA has put in to maintaining culture, while also adapting to change. Thank you for advocating and truly caring for the neighborhood!
- I thought that Porchfest wasn't a neighborhood event? Confusing, since neighborhood resources were used to promote it and now it's on this survey.
- Did not attend some events but had to rate so used Average
- It was hard to answer Item 2 above on the survey because out of the seven events listed I have just attended the 'National Night Out'. I have heard really good things from others who have attended the 'Yoga in the Park'. They all seem like really great events. So far, I just haven't been able to attend all of them. Hopefully sometime in the future, though!
- I really like how you keep me informed with these emails- and I really enjoy the social gatherings.
- Thanks for your work. It is appreciated!
- Over-advocacy is a weakness. . . It is seen as a busybody organization and micromanagers.
- Thank you for all that you do for our neighborhood!!
- I will continue to be involved in the neighborhood, but will not be involved in the KPNA leadership until there is recognition that the group is a volunteer organization that is to serve as a mechanism for the neighborhood to

have a voice, it is not a political grandstanding organization and has no power outside of being able to provide a consolidated voice for the neighborhood. Instead of fighting developers, the KPNA should be working with the city to bring responsible development management practices into place and working productively with developers to help steer them toward amicable solutions.

- I think there is a need to focus on quality over quantity.
- I just recently moved to the neighborhood and love it! Eager to roll up my sleeves and see how I can participate/contribute.
- KPNA has been doing a great job!