

Facilitator John Sexton & Angela Wright, Time Keeper: Twiggy Billue

Attendees: TNT Southside Facilitators & Board Representatives: Angela Wright, Julius Lawrence, Regina McArthur. Councilmember Sue Boyle. City Court Judge Derrek Thomas, Palmer Harvey, Chol Majok, Dorris Harvey, Sandi Patterson, Al Freeman, Patti Maxwell, Karen Schroeder, Amanda Pascall, Tiffany Fine, Captain DelFavero, Lorri Covington, Tracey Corriders Howard, Kim Morrell, Trerr Franklin, Tae Cerutti, Tabitha Ugwashi, Camille Bellamy, Robert Steingraber, Caroline West, Russell Houck, Andrew Maxwell, Janis Schauty-Clemens, Charles Pierce-El, Geneva Hayden, Betty Morey, Jeffrey Morey, Maddy Hammin, Jake Thorsen, Ben Walsh, Michael Greene, Lou Carol Franklin, Robert R. Bucklin, Patrona Jones-Rowser, Walter Reiland, Ossie Edwards, Betty L. Pearson, Louella Williams, Blake Neumann, Haron Ross.

Ground Rules: John Sexton lead the group in developing new Ground Rules.

- 1) Be Respectful of Others
- 2) Raise your hand to be recognized by the facilitator
- 3) Turn your cell phone to silent
- 4) No Overtalking
- 5) No Interrupting
- 6) No Side Conversations
- 7) Keep an Open Mind

Review of the February 6th 2017 Minutes: Robert Steingraber corrected an address 412 Craddock st. as well as added Street after 'Leon' in Issues for City Departments. Betty Morey made the motion to accept the minutes with the corrections, Robert Steingraber 2nd. All were in favor.

Issues for City Department Officials

- 1) Captain DelFavero was informed of a teenager that has been breaking into cars on the 200 block of Elk between the hours of 3-4am. The teenager has been brought home by the officers, as he is a minor, but is currently on probation. Captain DelFavero offered to contact the teen's probation officer.
- 2) Caroline West asked for an update on the trees being stolen. Jake Thorsen, with the Landbank, mentioned that black walnut trees are the prime target on Landbank properties and there is currently an open investigation. Tina Zagyva stated that there are a group of individuals contracting legally to remove some of the trees and are using a middleman in Northern Oswego County to process the lumber.
- 3) A few residents asked for an update on the shots fired on Strathmore. There were a few people shot that drove themselves to the hospital. Hon. Sue Boyle mentioned that the area was not the target, the individuals were shooting at each other.
- 4) Robert Steingraber mentioned that 208 Glenwood Ave sold for \$375,000, while other properties in the area sell for around \$60,000. Home Headquarters has been hearing similar stories and it was mentioned that the Attorney General was looking into this, as it may be a scam.
- 5) The Pastor of New Covenant Church reported the shots fired on Beard and requested a camera or to work with someone to get cameras, Twiggy suggested we meet the Hon. S. Boyle to see how the Strathmore area got a grant or support for their camera's.
- 6) Tina Zagyva updated the group that Pete O'Connor, Commissioner of DPW, was contacted regarding the issue of the Bike Lane along Onondaga Creek Walk (Brighton & Newell) planters that were moved, allowing cars to drive down it. Mr. O'Connor communicated that DPW had moved the planters to plow

and they will be moved back by the end of the day (on Monday). It was also mentioned that if anyone has any issues with vacant properties, they should contact Brian Eisenberg at 448-8689. It was stated that it is our responsibility to share this knowledge with our neighbors.

Pixels and Print Workshop:

Jaime Howley and Lou Carol Franklin presented the final work from the Pixels and Print Workshop. The Southside will now have its own logo, tagline (The Soul of Syracuse), posters identifying each neighborhood, a gateway sign, website that is accessible for future development, a pictorial map and various merchandise. There will be an opportunity for editing the posters if anyone has suggestions.

Home Headquarters Block Blitz

Karen Schroeder with HHQ stated that the block blitz is a one day event with 100's of volunteers, donated resources and materials and skilled workers who focus on one area for exterior improvements. The type of improvements depends on the donations, which can include landscaping, painting fences and houses, remodeling porches, etc. This block blitz would like to focus on the Brighton neighborhood; HHQ is asking for input on the location. The location cannot be too extreme that volunteers can't do the work. The date is set for September 14th. Angela Wright mentioned that Camille Coakley would like the Southside to partner with HHQ and make the final block choice a contest. The goal would be to have the block present why their block should be chosen. Patrona Jones-Rowser explained that the submitted proposals would be narrowed down to the top three depending on community involvement, how clean the streets are kept, etc) Some of the criteria that HHQ will focus on are: are there more home owners than renters, proximity of houses, is the block near a school or businesses and is there an area to stage equipment. Julius Lawrence suggested the 300 Block of Kennedy St.

Q. How many homes do you like to include?

A. It depends on how many homeowners sign off or out of town owners sign off.

Russel Houck: Seneca Turnpike improvement project

The City of Syracuse will begin the project in late March/early April of this year, Barrett Paving is the contractor. There will be a number of improvements including street-scaping, addition of electronic signage, upgraded traffic signals, ADA compliant sidewalks, improved storm-water collection and drainage, etc. The project will last approximately 6 months.

Q. Are there restrictions as to when they can only go to 1 lane? (busy during rush hour 4pm – 6pm)

A. Yes, The contract language reflects some of this.

Q. How will this affect the school buses?

A. No detours have been planned, there will probably be delays.

Q. Have you done outreach to homeowners and businesses?

A. Yes, all have been notified and releases have been obtained. The driveways have to remain open.

Q. What kind of pavement will be done?

A. Mostly the street will be milled at 6" and repaved, some areas will be dug up and redone. This is a full repair, not a patch job.

Q. Will the road get wider?

A. No, some will get narrower

Q. Any bike lanes?

A. Not enough room, there will be shared lanes and sidewalks for pedestrians.

Q. Hon. Sue Boyle mentioned enhanced crosswalks between Mobile and the bank.

A. There will be countdown timers, new signals, new curbs that will be easier for pedestrians

Q. Are the improvements being coordinated with National Grid?

A. Yes, National Grid already put new poles in and water work has been done.

Q. Are the sidewalks disabled friendly?

A. All new sidewalks will meet the ADA standards.

Task Force Updates

Beautification Task Force: Patrona Jones-Rowser

- Sandi Peterson & Pastor Galloway informed the group of a community cleanup event at the New Covenant Baptist Church from 10am – 2pm. The group will cover Kennedy St to Brighton St, State St. to Midland. Snacks will be provided through donations. Twiggy Billue also mentioned that Jubilee Homes will also have an Earth Day event and that the organizations could join efforts.

-Patrona has applied for 5-6 grants; Walmart, Lowes, Greening Grant, Landbank Grant, etc. Most seem to provide money rather than goods. Regina McArthur, Southside TNT Board Alternate, mentioned that TNT City-wide currently is working on establishing a bank account and mechanism that would allow each sector to accept grant funding.

Neighborhood Management/Housing Task Force: Jaime Howley

-Ms. Howley met with an instructor at Fowler High School, Jessica Tiefke, in regards to her students developing a one sheet map and directory to Housing and Food Resources on the Southside.

-Janis Schauty-Clemens provided the group with a list of back taxes owed by a landlord on multiple properties in the area. There was question as to why one landlord was allowed to get away with this, when an owner occupied person misses 1 or 2 payments their property goes to the Landbank. Twiggy Billue commended Robert and Janis on their efforts. Hon. Sue Boyle stated that when it comes to rental properties the process to go to the Landbank is much quicker. The Council takes time with owner occupied and makes an effort to work with the owner to catch up on their taxes. Ms. Boyle offered to take the list of properties and come back to the group next month with an update.

Voting Task Force: Angela Wright

Voter Task Force Meeting on March 15th at 5:30pm at the Southside Innovation Center.

-The I-81 forum (that was canceled in December) is back on the calendar for Thursday, April 6th at 6pm at the Southside Innovation Center)

Economic Development Task Force: Regina McArthur

- Ms. McArthur stated that the Economic Development task force will be working hand in hand with both the Voting and Youth and Education Task forces.

Youth and Education Task Force: Sue Wood

-Ms. Wood met with the principles at McKinnley Brighton and Danforth schools. They met with kids and asked them their concerns. From the conversations, they are focusing on 3 things. Grades, Attendance and Participation, or G.A.P. There are several initiatives the schools are doing such as Power Saturday, which assists kids in reading. Thursday at Mckinnley Brighton the Principle has Parents Café from 7:30am to 9am in the Parent Room. The next one will be on March 9th. Ms. Wood thanked Ms. Williams and Ms. Hayden for working on parent involvement with their school child(ren). Judge Derreck Thomas mentioned that it is important for someone such as himself to be in the community as a positive role model, please let him know if he can attend any of the meetings. Hon. Sue Boyle also offered to be at the Parent Café meetings.

'Taste of the Southside' Event

Tina Zagya stated to the group that she is part of a Leadership Classroom program through the CNY Community Foundation with Camille Coakley, Dana McKinney, Jaime Howley and Doug. Once the program is completed, the group will receive a \$3,500 grant for a project on the Southside. The team is developing a fundraising event entitled, The Taste of the Southside. Jaime Howley mentioned that there will be music, a youth talent competition and local food vendors. This will be the beginning of an annual fundraising event; the group is still developing the idea but needs the approval of the TNT group in order to move forward in the Leadership Classroom. The funds that are raised during the event will be used for initiatives within the Southside. The event will take place later in the summer, once TNT has the mechanism to be able to accept grants as well as any money raised during the event. Twiggy Billue asked the group if they approved, all were in favor.

City-Wide Update

Tina Zagya stated that TNT City-wide will have 3 Strategic Planning meetings: Thursday, March 30th, Thursday April 27th, and Wednesday May 31st. A flyer was distributed with the meeting location, The Gifford Foundation, as well as the time 5:30pm to 7:30pm. Members are asked to RSVP to determine how much food should be ordered for the event. There is also a page on our website www.Tomorowsneighborhoodstoday.org and a facebook event page.

Announcements

- 1) The grand opening for Price Rite is April 9th. If you would like to apply for employment there are several organizations that can assist with resume building: Jubilee Homes, SUNY EOC, SUNY OCC, SWCC
- 2) WOSA will have an Earthday cleanup on April 22nd. The group will meet at Onondaga Commons, the volunteers will split their efforts (one group going to the Westside, the other to the Southside). Free lunch will be provided, and free t-shirts to the first 150 people. They will also be providing 4 free LED lightbulbs to those who bring in 4 incandescent bulbs in exchange. VNA homecare will also be present.
- 3) Quadrant Debris Cleanup: quadrants have changed, Southside is now Quadrant 2
- 4) The SHARP Home Improvement grant will be available through HHQ on April 1st. NEHDA and PEACE can assist you with this application as well. This is a grant for \$1,000 and can be obtained every other year; you must be current on your taxes and water bill. If you are on Medicaid, you can also get help with an accessibility ramp. Call Home Headquarters for more information.
- 5) On March 27th the Landbank will have a meeting to discuss a Pocket Park.
- 6) Assmelywoman Pam Hunter informed Twiggy Billue that she has been awarded Exceptional Woman of CNY. All are welcome to join in honoring Twiggy at SUNY OCC on March 25th at 11:30am.
- 7) Visioning Voices will take place on Tuesday, March 21st on the Northside at Assumption Assembly Hall. The workshop is on Tactical Urbanism. There will be a third series in Eastwood.