

Southside TNT November 4, 2019 Meeting Minutes

Facilitators Patrona Jones-Rowser, Julius Lawrence, John Sexton, Morgan Williams II, Betty Pearson

Attendees: Takarra Smith, Jaime Howley, Blake Carter (representative for Assemblywoman Hunter), Shavel Edwards, Dashiell Elliot, Andrew Anguiano, Jett Jonelis, Betty Morey, Jeffrey Morey, Councilor Latoya Allen, Nicole Odom, Chol Majok, Lt. Ryan, Ossie Edwards, Dorris Harvey, Palmer Harvey, Jacqueline LaSonde

Meeting began at 6:02pm. Ground Rules were reviewed; Welcome and Introductions commenced.

October 7, 2019 meeting minutes: A change was made to a name; it was changed from John Morey to Jeff Morey. An addition change was made to an announcement; freedom commons is located at 450 Burt St. Betty Morey motioned to approve the minutes as amended, Jeff Morey 2nd. All were in favor.

Issues for District Representatives/Elected Officials/City Departments: LT. Ryan provided a brief crime report, questions were taken from the floor. The person responsible for damaging the pumpkin displays (purchased through the Southside Gala funds) has been captured on film through the COPS cameras located on S. Salina St.; the SPD will work on identifying the individual. Lt. Ryan can be reached by email at ryan@syracusepolice.org or at his office number 442-5229. Councilor Allen provided an update on the seizable properties; the City is currently on phase 16 which primarily consists of elderly or handicap individuals. It was requested that Blake Carter speak with Assemblywoman Hunter in regards to funds for additional COPS cameras.

TNT City-wide Update: Takarra Smith stated that there will be a TNT city-wide leadership meeting on November 18th. The TNT board is currently planning a city-wide fundraiser for sometime early next year. Jaime stated that she would be requesting an amendment to the bylaws regarding nominations. If anyone would like to email recommendations send them to Jhowley8@gmail.com.

Task Force Assessment: Signup sheets for each TF were available; crime & safety, community/media/special events, economic development, grant writing/fundraising, health & wellness, housing, neighborhood beautification, voter education & outreach, youth & education. Morgan Williams stated that the crime & safety TF consists of Morgan & Al Freeman. Morgan stated that the TF held a community event with the Chief of Police & Fire Chief. Currently, the community/ media/special events task force is in need attention; there has been no activity by this task force over the past year. Economic/business TF currently has no activity. It was suggested that the facilitators reach out to the current known chairs to see if they would like to continue. Grant writing/fundraising & the health and wellness TF currently do not have chairs. It was stated that the chairs of each TF should live, work or own property on the Southside, however, Palmer Harvey doesn't qualify but volunteers profusely & co-chairs the housing TF which is co-chaired with Jaime Howley. The housing TF meetings are no longer open to the public. They are currently working on the 'Get the lead out of the block party', homeless issues, tenant's rights and collective housing co-op. Neighborhood Beautification TF is currently chaired by Patrona Jones-Rowser. Ms. Rowser stated that the TF solely focused this year on the items that were started last year: the greenspace at Furman & Midland (an arbor was damaged & is currently being looked at by a welder to stabilize it), the garden shifted responsibility from

the youth & education TF back to the beautification TF. The planters along south Salina Street were planted with perennials for budgetary reasons. The pumpkins that were purchased out of the Gala funds were installed, however, a few were vandalized. Ms. Rowser is working with the police to identify the person. Voter education & Outreach will continue being chaired by Charles Pierce-El. Betty read an update provided by Sue Wood, chair for the Youth & Education TF. A question was asked if the TF only does outreach for Ms. Hayden's program or if other schools are approached. Morgan motioned to extend the meeting for 10 minutes, Chol 2nd, all were in favor. Takarra Smith stated that there has been extensive tension & strain in the TNT meetings; if the community would like more participation in each TF and initiatives, the leadership with the Southside are expected to present themselves more professionally outside as well as within the meeting. Rules & regulations are in place for a reason & should be followed. It was requested that we show each other kindness & respect & stick to the mission.

Announcements:

- The TNT meetings will be held at the Southside Innovation Center beginning in January 2020.
- Councilor Allen will need help for the December 6th Sankofa park tree lighting.
- December 2, 2019 TNT meeting will be a potluck.

Betty Morey motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:51pm, Morgan Williams 2nd, all were in favor.