

**Southside TNT October 5, 2020 Meeting Minutes****Facilitator** John Sexton**Attendees:** Patrona Jones-Rowser, Betty Pearson, Takarra Smith, Julius Lawrence, Emma Fengler, Council President Helen Hudson, Hon. Chol Majok, Shavel Edwards, Assemblyperson Pamela Hunter, Blake Carter, Jerry Evans, Nikki R. Jones, Elizabeth Morey, Jeffrey Morey, Emily Jane Winiacki, Robb Bucklin, Ashley Kang, Jimmy Monto, Palmer Harvey, Jaqueline LaSonde, Councilor Latoya Allen, Mark Jackson Sr., Walter Eiland

Meeting began at 6:00pm. Ground Rules were reviewed; Welcome and Introductions commenced.

**September 14, 2020 meeting minutes:** Jerry Evans motioned to approve the minutes as written, Emma Fengler 2<sup>nd</sup>. All were in favor.**Issues for Elected Officials/City Departments:** Assemblyperson Pamela Hunter provided an update on how the budget will effect non-profit services and the housing situation. Councilor Chol Majok took questions from the floor. Councilor Allen took questions from the floor.**Common Council Redistricting:** Hon. Helen Hudson, *President of the Common Council*Hon. Chol Majok, *3<sup>rd</sup> District Councilor*, Dustin Czarny, *Elections Commissioner*

The Council is currently working on enabling legislation to move the legislation to vote on.

President Hudson will be undergoing a process to appoint community members to be a part of the commission (15 members). These Commissioners will be barred from running for office for 5 years for the district lines they have drawn. Once the Commission draws the map, the council will have to adopt the new district map. A timeline for the panel selection was provided.

**Task Force Updates:**Patrona Jones-Rowser, Beautification Task Force, reminded folks of the 1% home improvement loan for the Sankofa District. Latoya Allen stated that there are only 8 slots left for the loan program. Patrona put a motion to the floor to apply for to ask the larger business in the area to donate \$500 with the spring plants for the planters as well as spring and summer upkeep. Also the planters will be installed in a new removable short basin that can be stored in the green house fall and winter. Betty Morey 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor.

Palmer Harvey, Housing Task Force, stated that the TF has been attending lead meetings and events.

**Community Garden Lease Agreement:** Jimmy Monto, *TNT Board President*, stated that on September 22<sup>nd</sup> TNT entered into a lease agreement with the Syracuse Land Bank to lease the community garden at 917 – 919 Midland Avenue for \$1/year. A brief history was stated. Questions were taken from the floor.**TNT City-wide Board Director Update:** Jimmy Monto, TNT President, spoke about the TNT 25% budget cut. The Special Project funding will need to be reduced for this fiscal year. Payroll is effected and the copier budget has been cut in half which will limit sector printing. HHQ has reduced their accounting fee by half. Complete the Census by October 31st if you have not done so already.**Announcements:**

- This Friday, October 9<sup>th</sup>, is the last day of voter registration.
- Sankofa tree lighting will be pre-recorded with about 10 – 15 people; if interested let Councilor Allen know you want to be added to the list. lallenpride@yahoo.com

Patrona Jones-Rowser motioned to end the meeting at 7:18pm, Julius Lawrence 2<sup>nd</sup>, all were in favor.