

REVITALIZING NEIGHBORHOOD COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

November 17, 2009

Present: Mike Williams, Frank Lynn, Pamela Benjamin, Chris Thompson, Christine Helms-Maletic, Russ Lewis, and Carol Townsend

Before the meeting started, there was much discussion on the budget meetings the City Manager held. Of particular concern is what these cuts mean to neighborhoods and how will neighborhood association respond. 2 basic questions surfaced:

- ◆ What are some 'applications' that neighborhood associations can develop/use?
- ◆ How can the RNC help neighborhood associations develop apps, and then help them implement the apps?

It was suggested that at a future meeting, we could further brainstorm on how these funding cuts will impact neighborhoods and how the RNC can help neighborhood associations deal with all of this – and help frame the issue.

Frank, secretary, called the meeting to order.

Updates

Neighborhood Indicators – Pamela reported on commitments made by the Eastown Board. Carol said that she was scheduled to attend NOBL's meeting 12/8. Chris and Frank said they would also attend.

IPMC – Frank reported that the N/A groups are working on a position paper. They will support the IPMC under certain conditions including inspection of single family rental housing.

New Projects

ESL – Carol reported on a potential project around ESL. She is working with MSU prof Dr. Stephanie Nawyn who wants to research why immigrants are dropping out of ESL classes as well as other barriers to acclimating to a new culture. A meeting will be held here with interested parties to start to rough out the areas of research.

Energy efficiency – Carol reported on her work with ENTF/ACSET on an energy project. We have obtained Urban Planning students who will start in January to put together an energy-related resource directory. Carol has also met with the City about the energy efficiency proposal they are submitting for federal funds, which might help launch a neighborhood-based program.

Future – Mike gave an update on the Board planning for United Growth that has been occurring during November. He suggested that the RNC go ahead with their own planning, and then propose it to the United Growth Board.

Next meeting: January 19 at 9:30 a.m. at the Fair Housing Center. However, you will want to attend the United Growth Coalition meeting at 8:30 a.m. because Ken Parrish, County Treasurer, will explain the Land Bank and its possible impact on neighborhoods.