



MEETING MINUTES

Neighbors United

January 21st, 2015 from 7pm to 8 pm

Ebenezer Baptist Church, Basement

Approximately 20 people gathered for the first meeting of NU for 2015. Those who attended were from the following streets: E. New; E. Clay; N. Shippen; N. Duke; N. Lime; E. Frederick; Olive; and Jefferson.

The group enjoyed a Potluck Supper and conducted discussions.

Communications

Andrew Whalen shared that a new website is online and can be checked out at:

www.neighborsunitedLancaster.com

The NU website is designed to be a launching pad for all that our group is involved in. On the site, those who are new to the neighborhood as well as neighborhood partners (who have lived here much longer) can learn about their community, catch up on news and events, and connect with other neighbors through Block Captains and social media.

The website is public. It joins our Facebook group and NextDoor George Ross app -- both of these are private and involve permission to join.

Chestnut Hill Neighbors

Timm Wenger attended the meeting of the Chestnut Hill Neighborhood group. This group is also working on a Block Captain program. He reported the city police are working on a bringing back a former project: Police Academy (more information will be forth coming).

Lancaster City Alliance Project

Noah Miller shared about the LCA initiative to make our community a Safer|Cleaner|Greener place to live. Monthly meetings of a steering committee are being held with Noah Miller acting as the project coordinator. At this point local businesses are being contacted to donate funds. The project goal is \$40,000 at this point we raised more than \$20,000. Lancaster City has pledged \$10,000. The project will bring the Bike Ambassadors to our area which includes a 20 block area; trash containers in this same 20 block area, planting of trees in tree wells and other quality of life improvements. One member of the group is very interested in working with the city Arborist. It is hoped that the project will be fully funded by July 1st, 2015.

Block Captains

Timm Wenger spoke about this new project, handed out some guidelines and requested feedback. Timm will coordinate the program for NU. He will have two or three blocks as a beginning group and then coordinate additional block captains to cover to the whole area. Several suggestions were offered to Timm.

Handouts similar to previous NU handouts:

- Fliers with topics and dates of upcoming NU meetings (generally 3rd Wed. of the month)
- Phone numbers for key city offices (maybe have this info made into a magnet)
- Neighborhood survey
- Find out if the city has a “Welcome” packet for new residents

Benefit Dinner

Sue Grimm Mattox (sgrimm28@aol.com or 717.575.6414) reported that Ross Street United Methodist Church with Monte Gerizim are planning a Spaghetti Dinner to benefit the Safer|Cleaner|Greener initiative. The dinner will be held on Saturday, February 28th, 2015. Serving time will be 4 pm to 7 pm in the church’s basement at 312 E. Ross Street. She requested two people from NU to help with planning. Noah Miller and Elaine Sharp volunteered. Sue also asked that people be available to help with preparation and on the evening of the event.

The meeting closed with a few neighbors remaining for informal discussion. Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 18th, from 7 pm to 8 pm, at the Ebenezer Baptist Church. Paul Davis Restoration and Remodeling will present on how to turn chaos into calm when disaster strikes.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Grimm Mattox, Secretary.