

Neighborhood Task Force Meeting Notes - October 27, 2015

- Welcome and Introductions

- Business Survey & Related Discussion – Scott Love
 - Review business survey draft
 - Discussion of survey roll-out
 - Notification postcards to be sent October 29 or 30
 - Media advisory will be sent out November 2
 - Survey will close November 30
 - Can outreach workers do follow up calls with businesses to encourage participation? Visit businesses and fill out surveys on the spot using a tablet?
 - Discussion regarding use of survey results
 - Sam Watkins – We’re trying to answer the “No one ever talks to me” complaint we often hear, and come up with solutions for businesses with like needs
 - Scott Love – The workforce manager in his department will follow up with respondents regarding their reported hiring needs and with those businesses with international sales to let them know about the city’s BEAM Program (Build It Locally, Sell It Globally)
 - Rev. Gerald Joiner – Do we know what business clusters (from the West Louisville business survey) are in the Russell Neighborhood? And which growth areas?
 - Scott Love –
 - Yes. My department was formed in response to the West Louisville study, so we are aware.
 - Would like to see resource networks of similar types of businesses form in West Louisville, for example, manufacturing.
 - There is a national workforce certificate program with 4 levels that can tell businesses that this many people at this level live in the Russell Neighborhood, and encourage them to hire in Russell.
 - General discussion of the West Louisville Business Alliance, and the fact that they are no longer active.
 - What role, if any, does GLI play?
 - Should the co-leads meet with the head of GLI and the head of the West Louisville Chamber of Commerce?
 - A task force member voiced the concern that it costs money to be a member of GLI, and a lot of businesses don’t have the money to join.

- Review of emerging strategies – Rhae Parkes
 - Rhae Parkes reviews list of emerging Neighborhood Task Force strategies. Questions & comments from task force members about list:
 - Does the Downtown Master Plan contain language talking about linking CBD to Russell? Sarah Galloway to verify.
 - Choose Russell, Inc. will roll out in about 3 weeks. Will need to figure out how to line up strategies.
 - There are 19 early learning centers in Russell. LCCC will be working with them to improve quality.
 - Rhae Parkes reviews lists of emerging strategies from other 3 task forces: Housing, People, and Education.