

Neighborhood Task Force Meeting Notes, 2-23-16

Sam had a meeting on the SDAT report with the Mayor this past Tuesday. Well received. Mayor invited Scott, Louisville Forward, LMHA – proactive engagement that they were delighted to see.

Action steps to go forward – Mayor’s office will make a public announcement
Hope to get some media coverage. Discussed possibility of River City Bank façade or Louisville Gardens.
Meetings with Downtown Development Corp, WDRB

Community Conversation on Crime and Safety

Hope to pull in community residents, including youth

Conversation around: What’s important to you

Looking at Apr. 2 or Apr. 9 for the event, 11 to 12:30; **FINAL DATE IS 4-16-16** at LCCC

Discussion on possible agenda and content:

Start around 11-11:30am Meet and Greet, Kids Zone, LMPD Mounted Policemen – opportunity for children to interact with the horse, Hold a discussion within the KIDS Zone participants

11:30 to 12:15 - A discussion with: LMPD Officer/Major for this district, Someone with corporate concerns, residents at the table/James Thomas with LMHA

KIDS Zone – School resource officer (not available that day)

Quick break, grab box lunches

Report out from the youth sessions

General Q & A session

Carl: Has there been a profile on the type of crime in neighborhood and will there be any specialist that can address the issues? Kathleen: We have maps of hot spots. Perhaps talk to UofL about having someone talk about Crime Prevention through Environmental Design which is geared toward preventing specific crimes (i.e. burglary – thorny bushes planted by windows, etc.).

Carl: Is there a Neighborhood Watch Program in Russell? Scott: Major Brown will speak on this.

Kevin – What questions will we ask, what is our take away from this community conversation, offered suggestion to cross reference our questions to the grant application; also thinking about the Byrne grant and how the outcome of this meeting could be valuable for future grant opportunities. Kathleen: We will spend a lot of time thinking about our questions beforehand, good idea to cross reference to the grant application; we also plan for age appropriate questions and activities for kids of all ages.

Joe Reveran – Metro Planning and Design Services, joined the group

Business Survey Update

Scott – how to move forward on this survey now that Task Forces are working closely together. What can we do differently to get a better response. Amy said NOWs have a better idea of what businesses are where. Out of 70 postcards, about 10 came back with outdated information. Amy and Loren can meet with NOWs, one problem before was lack of incentives; we have money in the budget for this.

Scott, Kevin, Amy: Should we incentivize or not, how to structure that (i.e. small and larger businesses). May have to invest in some time to go visit the businesses; Scott will try to get his Louisville Forward staff to commit to going out. Amy offered her time and staff as well. Look at trying to get a more accurate list of current businesses in the Russell.

Have the Louisville Metro staff finish up the business survey.

Carl – suggestion to have the businesses come to a dinner meeting to explanation of overall CNI approach been explained to businesses. Kathleen – this type of meeting would require a large budget and time to plan and put it together. Incentives for participating in the survey might be more cost effective and time efficient at this time.

Scott asked for folks to respond back with suggestions: Louisville Forward staff to help. Change appearance of the survey. Simplify the survey to avoid having to do research to answer the questions. Google forms?

Goal of 20 to 25 responses; need to approximately 16 to reach this goal.

Reach out to furniture supplier OEC, Mercer, AD Porter Funeral Home, Caudill Seed
Sam will do three including the office place next to LCCC

Promise Zone application was submitted today. Unsure when designations will be announced.

Kevin and Haven brainstormed about the overall vision statement that would be supported by the 4 unifying themes discussed at the last meeting. The draft statements (2 versions) were read aloud, and further discussion will occur; another version was on the back of the agenda. Comments: Liked mention of past and the future of Russell and what it could be. Perhaps add something about Russell's extensive network of churches, including historic churches. Do we want to emphasize varied and unique housing types? Kathleen will follow up with Kevin, Jeff and Haven to finalize vision statement.

Kathleen: learned yesterday that there were 64 applicants for the recent Choice Neighborhood Planning Grant (LMHA applied for Action Activity portion only). 18 of those applicants are already planning grantees. The rest may be requesting funds for both planning and the Action Activities. HUD will award approximately 8 grants. They have allocated \$10M in total, we would be eligible for up to \$1.5M; June 27th is approximate award date.

Sam: disclosed he was struck by the poverty in West Louisville (WL) when reviewing the Promise Zone application. He has family invested in WL, so it's personal. Heavy lifting that must be done by somebody. People are trying to get out of WL. This is critical – Russell and its connection to downtown. Economic engines are necessary to turn the neighborhood around. Sam advocated putting market rate housing in Russell 15 years ago. Market wasn't responding to shotgun style houses, but Urban renewal wanted to put in shotguns.

Said we need to be smart, take risk and be brave in creating a way forward. Look at the marketability of what we create.

Allison: As sad as some of the data is – doubt that WL has experienced as much investment as now in a long time

Kindergarten Readiness (KR) Summit – LCCC, March 19th – co-convened by several parties

Looking to mobilize some 200 individuals

Early child development folks

Community at large – families with young children to focus on the issue of KR

Glaring issue of upwards of 70% of kids in target zip codes not being KR

How to educate parents and child development providers

Three series in the summit that will run throughout this year – solution oriented

June – School Age Youth

October – Adults, Economic Stability

Help it to go viral, social media and other various networks

Pre-registration on the email blast and on the LCCC.org website

Kevin asked about applying for the Byrne Criminal Justice Innovation grant. Kathleen: the CNI implementation grant includes a rating factor for having a Byrne grant underway and coordination of CNI and Byrne efforts; Unfortunately timing is off to have that in place for an application this year.

Kevin: Last year in DC – HUD had a break out session on Byrne. Came away feeling it imperative that we apply. How do we do a different brand of community oriented policing. Kevin wouldn't mind working on that proposal; Kathleen will inform BJ, Rashaad, Gretchen and Jeff.

Center for Neighborhoods (CFN) is having their first annual neighborhood summit, at KY exposition Center, will have a Choice Booth there with NOWs; needs additional planning, handouts and backdrop for the booth, we will have a sponsorship there. Allison can help with the event. Also have CFN Neighborhood Institute grads helping at the booth.

HUD recently published Fund Forecast. Estimated CNI Implementation Grant NOFA publication date is 4-25-16, estimated Implementation Grant application date due date 7-25-16 (originally they put 6-25-16, but they corrected it quickly). If we apply, we would have approximately 3 months to do grant application. Our draft CNI Transformation Plan is due 7-15-16 as well as our CNI quarterly report. We are recalibrating to see how we can best use staff and consultants that we have on board. We have a lot to accomplish and have to be very targeted with our time and energy, and help maximize each others efforts.

For example, in the past, there was an idea of having a CNI community conversation on economic development but now LCCC is doing the economic mobility workshop in October it may be better use of time and energy for our group to support LCCC with that workshop.

Also want to remind everyone that while we are developing a comprehensive plan now, we have the opportunity to implement our plans and strategies over several years. For instance, we can meet with 19 childcare centers in Russell individually in the future to discuss their individual needs, but, based on our data and for purposes of our plan, we know that they need support to enhance the quality of their programs and/or spaces, and training opportunities for staff. Our CNI team needs to narrow our ambitious draft TP outline down to something that is implementable and manageable. LMHA staff is preparing a leverage worksheet and we keep a running tally of all the leverage reported in the quarterly reports, which we'll be sharing with everyone.

Natalie Reteneller, Louisville Grows: Good things happening. Have been canvassing Russell for upcoming tree planting – Knocked on 300 houses; have 100 trees committed and 66 to go. Getting information on the event out on Facebook; Anyone can get professionally or personally involved. Training this Saturday. Chef Space is hosting the event for them. Volunteers will be planting on April 9th from 10am – 3pm. Talked about including photos and an article with quotes in a future newsletter.

Next meetings for this group will be the April Community Conversation on April 16th at LCCC, then the Joint Task Force meeting on April 20th at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage.