

Neighbors United
Meeting Summary
07-22-2010

Attending

1. Cait Caughey, *inCOMMON Community Development*
2. Kay Lynn Goldner, *First Unitarian Church*
3. Christian Gray, *inCOMMON Community Development*
4. Brittany Hanson, *inCOMMON Community Development*
5. Louise Jeffrey, *First Unitarian Church*
6. Rev. Damon Lacker, *Grace Lutheran Church*
7. Kevin Marik, *MCC-Omaha*
8. Liz McCue, *Project Interfaith*
9. Pastor Kip Mickelson, *First Baptist Church*
10. Modesto Olivo, *First Lutheran Church*
11. Pastor David Paul, *First Presbyterian Church*
12. Rev. Kate Rohde, *First Unitarian Church*
13. Calvin Smothers, *inCOMMON Community Development*

Introductions

- The meeting was facilitated by Brittany Hanson.
- Newcomers were welcome and a round of introductions was made.

Announcements

- Omaha World Herald article featuring inCOMMON and Neighbors United
<http://omaha.com/article/20100717/NEWS02/707179941#where-poverty-fight-is-personal>

Community Center Updates

- Pancake Breakfast (to raise money for the Community Center)
 - Saturday, August 21; 7:00 – 10:00 AM; First Baptist Church; \$5
 - Organizer: Kevin Marik; bigred1997@hotmail.com
 - Kevin has flyers for distribution
 - All supplies have been donated, so the will be 100% profit!
- Social Capital Campaign -- **Build Community. Create Opportunity. Change Lives - Forever.**
 - Christian Gray introduced the concept of the Social Capital Campaign:

“You’re probably familiar with a *capital campaign* – a fundraising campaign where money is raised for a *physical building*. Buildings, of course, serve an important function in our neighborhoods. They’re structures within which we work, raise our families, and find shelter from the elements. However, the most valuable resource in any neighborhood (and under-funded) is *people*. *Community* is the structure where we share life together, support one another, and achieve what is otherwise impossible alone.

We believe that physical capital (buildings) when leveraged by neighborhood-based social capital (people power) delivers an exponentially greater return on investment and is naturally more sustainable over the long-term. The *Social Capital Campaign* is a highly unique and critical opportunity to fund the powerful force of *community* through the development of a new Community Center in the Park Avenue neighborhood.

JULY 22, 2010



Neighbors United, bringing the area inter-faith community together in service to the local neighborhood

- Press Release for the Social Capital Campaign (community center fundraising)
<http://incommoncd.org/wp-content/uploads/2010/07/Press-Release-Kiewit-Foundation-Award-for-Community-Center.pdf>
 - The need for an 'elevator' or concise, clear and compelling speech or outline in order to more effectively raise awareness and money was suggested. A few ideas were given:
 - Moving from symptoms to causes
 - Logistics – we're out of room for additional services
 - Neighborhood-based
 - Collaborative
 - Communication and sustainability remain concerns and were discussed at length; the hope and idea is that many of these 'fuzzy' areas will be addressed in greater depth through the Community Center Task Force.
 - Several meeting participants also suggested the need for NU partners to take greater initiative in spreading the word about NU in general and most specifically about the Community Center and Kiewit matching grant.
 - Additional questions or concerns? Contact Christian at Christian@inCOMMONcd.org or 933-6672
- Task Force
 - This group will look specifically at the programming and fundraising components of development the Community Center.
 - First meeting will be on Monday, July 26 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM at Jason's Deli (near 72nd St. and Dodge St.)
 - Neighbors United participants are encouraged to consider who, within their faith communities, personal and professional networks, might be a good fit for this task force. Several meeting participants suggested that individuals not currently involved in the Community Meals would be the most ideal Task Force members due to current 'care-take fatigue' among CM volunteers.
 - UNO Case Management Partnership
 - Potential of additional Service Learning students in Fall 2010; details currently in process
 - Practicum students will begin placement with Neighbors United in Spring 2011; their work will include case management, referral services and individual and family therapy.
 - Brittany Hanson will be attending the UNO Practicum Training on Aug. 6 and is continuing to develop this partnership and program.
 - Questions or concerns? Contact Brittany at Brittany@inCOMMONcd.org or 933-6672

Community Meal Updates

- A detailed update is located on the second page of the July Agenda.
- Questions or concerns? Contact Cait at Cait@inCOMMONcd.org or 933-6672

NU Moving Forward

- The August NU meeting will focus on two main areas:
 - Board Development
 - Rotating NU Meeting Facilitation & Leadership (in lieu of Brittany Hanson's Nov. 2010 staff position departure)

REMINDERS

Community Meal – Every Saturday, 11:30-1:00, First Baptist Church

Pancake Breakfast (Community Center Fundraiser): Aug. 21, 7-10 AM, First Baptist Church

NEXT Neighbors United Meeting: Aug. 26, 11:00-1:00 – First Baptist Church

