

A meeting of the Neighborhood Associations was held on **March 21, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.** at City Hall in the Planning Department's first floor conference room, 1911 Boundary Street. In attendance were the Neighborhood Association Representatives and City Staff.

**NEIGHBORHOOD OUTREACH CONNECTION (NOC) – CYNTHIA (CJ) JENKINS-JENKINS, J.D., EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND DANIEL MCKEOWN, M.ED., DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT AND MARKETING.**

*Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOC) is a local 501 (c)(3) Community Development Organization located through Beaufort County. NOC serves in under-served neighborhoods providing education, health screening, and workforce and community development programs. We are supporting the idea that the "American Dream" is possible and is achieved through economic independence, personal fulfillment, and self-reliance.*

Cynthia Jenkins-Jenkins introduced the Director of Development & Marketing, Dan McKeown. Mr. McKeown said the Neighborhood Outreach Connection (NOS) has 2 centers on Hilton Head and 2 Centers in Bluffton for undeveloped areas. We have yearly adult education at no cost for Pre-K to 8<sup>th</sup> grade; medical services, adult education, work force, and community events. Also, we are bringing into the centers the "7 Habits". We have a center in Beaufort for Park Avenue. We are trying to do a center in the Mossy Oaks area, and we would could potentially have 240 individuals.

Mr. McKeown asked if anyone has questions. Sue Sagui asked how long they have been in the area. Ms. Jenkins said 10 years. She said our policy is to "give back. Alice Howard mentioned that volunteers are needed in Mossy Oaks and also a center is needed for the Southside area. Mr. McKeown said the principle at Mossy Oaks Elementary is great and she is giving us numbers. In the Mossy Oaks area, we are looking to put one near the Mossy Oaks Town Apartments and the surrounding area can participate. Chuck Symes asked, "what skills do you need of the volunteers"? Ms. Jenkins said all types of skills are needed and if you feel you cannot volunteer, you can use us as your "charity of choice". These individuals basically need "common sense" skills. It would be ideal to have someone here in the Beaufort Center than having someone traveling from HHI to Beaufort.

Officer Phelan spoke as an individual and not an officer and said, "your model minimizes overhead, and your model is great. He asked them to speak about their results. Mr. McKeown said we use exactly what Beaufort County uses - - their teachers, curriculum, etc. so the students are familiar with the work and the teachers. Over the last 10 years the math scores are up, and the SC Ready Scores are showing improvement. Ms. Jenkins feels the program should also tie in simple things like planting flowers and working with the dirt. The kids will feel excited to see that they can plant and grow something.

Mr. McKeown said regarding our sites, we either lease them, own them, or they are given to us. We own the one in Hilton Head, rent the one in Bluffton, and were given the one on Park Avenue.

Barbara Nash said we have a few communities that have active associations and we pull together and have vitalized our area. Ms. Nash asked if the NOC could attend one of their meetings. Mr. McKeown said that would be great. He said Peggy Simmer invited them to attend her Old Commons meeting, too.

Mr. Symes asked how can some volunteer? Ms. Jenkins said you can contact NOC at their main number 843-681-4100 and/or email Mr. McKeown at [daniel@noc-uc.org](mailto:daniel@noc-uc.org).

### **NEWS FROM CITY STAFF AND STRATEGIC PARTNERS**

**Waste Pro, Christine Lambert**, introduced herself and said she's been with Waste Pro for 9 years and in the trash industry for 20 years. She provided new brochures that have information separated by neighborhoods as well as refrigerator magnets for everyone. Resident said she saw a commercial on television about the problems of recycling and asked Ms. Lambert what their common problems are. Ms. Lambert said the biggest issue was the plastic grocery plastic bags. She said if you are going to recycle plastic, make sure it has the # on it, so we won't deny it. Also, pizza boxes are not allowed. Jermaine Robinson from Waste Pro said diapers are another big issue. Ms. Lambert explained that Japan doesn't want to participate in our recycling anymore, so we need to find other facilities. Ms. Sagui said some places have more sorting options. Ms. Lambert said most people recycle but those that don't will contaminate the load and then we have to take it to the landfill. Resident asked if the information in the brochure is online too. Yes, said Ms. Lambert. Resident asked if shredded paper is ok to recycle. Ms. Lambert said yes, and it would help if the paper is put in a recyclable bag first.

Ms. Sagui asked if the trash was picked up at Newcastle. Mr. Robinson with Waste Pro said we have a new guy and we're on top of it now.

**The Greenery, Mike Fowlkes**, reminded everyone not to be putting out fertilizer yet; brown grass is sleepy grass. There is a new moon next week and we could have a frost. We're working at the Waterfront Park and private properties and will have two more weeks of leaves and pollen spurs.

**Southern Palmetto Landscape, Linda Roper was present** and said they are working with Public Works on Bellamy Curve to open the view of the waterways. Also, they are working heavily on pruning the ROWs.

**City Public Works Department, Neil Desai**, went over the following updates:

- Washington Street Park bathrooms close to completion; selecting a painting contractor, sign specs are in, fixtures on the way, and minor concrete/sidewalk work.
- Azalea Drainage Project 95% complete, fencing contractor remaining.
- Southside Park palmetto tree maintenance completed.
- Southside Park dog parking area construction started.

- Continued drainage easement maintenance.
- Continued rights-of-way maintenance.
- Street sweep operations started at night this week. All Sea Island Parkway completed.
- In March, we will be concentrating on turf fertilizer/management and insecticide (primarily fire ants) in the parks and playground.
- New mushroom and handicap swings installation started yesterday in Pigeon Point and Tic Toc playgrounds. Proposed completion by end of week.
- Earth Day Participation.

Dave Easton mentioned that people walking their dogs at the Washington Street Park is still an issue when the kids come to play. Mr. Desai said dog waste stations will be added once the bathrooms are completed.

Kay Merrill said the right-of-way at Newcastle & Godfrey still looks really bad. Mr. Desai said he will check on it and email her.

Mr. Symes asked about the status of the State to raise storm drains. Mr. Desai said he reached out to Elizabeth, but received no response yet.

Alice Howard mentioned the Clean Up date is April 22. Mr. Desai said we will do the sweep; plans with Pigeon Point area for a Pigeon Point Park Clean Up.

Councilman Steve Murray said council agreed to the Boundary Street pick up, Tuesday in the mornings.

**Director of Public Projects and Facilities, Matt St. Clair**, said went over the following projects:

- Upfit to the Arsenal roof work will start the first week of April and be completed at the end of May.
- Greenlawn Streetscape will begin in April/May.
- Boundary Street Median – city is now the owner and responsible for maintenance and Public Works will be out there every Tuesday morning.

Mr. St. Clair said there was no good time to work on the medians. We had to close a lane and put up cones. Next Saturday is the last part of the center of the median. We may remove some materials and replace them with materials requiring less maintenance.

**Director of Down Operations, Linda Roper**, said regarding the Boundary Street medians, she drove to Myrtle Beach and said the city's weeds are much less than theirs. She also mentioned the medians in Mt. Pleasant. Regarding city events, the tour season is taking off; the Santa Maria boat will be at the Waterfront Park on March 29 through April 7 – there is a fee to tour the ship. The First Friday event on April 5 will include an Art Walk event and animal

adoptions between 5 – 8 pm. Also, spring cleaning of downtown is going on and getting ready for the summer season.

Ms. Nash asked about the trash in between the close buildings downtown. Ms. Roper said we are working on this with the property owners and The Greenery. She has noticed cigarette butts were an issue and said now we have the cigarette containers that help.

Ms. Simmer asked if the shuttle service has started up. Ms. Roper said yes, it began in March and runs Thursday – Saturday, 10 am to 7 pm.

**City Fire Department, Fire Marshall, Jeff Anderson,** said we are in the first week for burning. Remember you will need a permit. He spoke about the importance of smoke detectors. He reminded the group that the smoke detectors do have an expiration date on the bottom corner of the detector for both residential and commercial. He said it doesn't matter if they are battery operated or hard wired. He also reminded the group to change their batteries every two years (at the "time change"). Mr. Anderson recommended people have their home fire extinguishers inspected to make sure they have not expired and are working. Ms. Horn asked what about the ones the Fire Department installed for free. Mr. Anderson said they have the same 10 year expiration date. If they have been recalled, the manufacturer will replace them. Some also may have a warranty and the company will replace them each year. Andy Roberts asked where someone could purchase a detector. Mr. Anderson referred to Amazon.com but said they are cheap.

**City Police Department, \_\_\_\_\_ Phelan,** referred to the boat accident and said the woman was found. He said the officers are now riding in new Ford Explorers. The United Community Task Force Program will be starting up on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The Love House Ministries also has an afterschool program, Love House Academy, at the Greene Street Gym. \_\_\_\_\_ Phelan said these organizations are great because they don't conflict with one another.

**Codes Enforcement, Ken Meola,** said we're going to get busy soon with grass, weeds, etc. Ms. Merrill asked about the house on Harrington Street that is getting worse. Mr. Meola said there is a gentleman on site daily and it's moving forward, but slowly. Ms. Merrill said there is a lot of stuff on the front of the house. Mr. Meola said yes there is, but it's "useable" stuff. Ms. Merrill also mentioned the issue at the end of the ball field. Mr. Meola said he looked at it and will get with the County and PALS. Ms. Sagui mentioned the boarded up house with the sofa and material on the porch. Mr. Meola said this is on Greene Street and he is familiar with the house. He said it's an absentee property owner. Ms. Merrill mentioned her neighbor who is shooting a raccoon that she has spoken to Officer Phelan and Mr. Meola about. She said she wasn't aware firearms could be discharged in the City of Beaufort. Officer Phelan said Ms. Merrill is correct, firearms are not allowed to be discharged in the City of Beaufort and this is possibly against the ordinance, unless he felt threatened, but he will research it. Officer Phelan asked Ms. Merrill if this has happened before with this neighbor. Ms. Merrill, said, "No". Officer Phelan said to call her if it does happen again.

**Community Ombudsman, Peggy Simmer**, advised the group that her email has changed and is noted on today's agenda. She is working on getting some new areas to start associations. The Town Halls with City Manager, Bill Prokop, the Communications Manager, and myself will be on April 4 at the Mossy Oaks Elementary School at 6:00 p.m. Ms. Simmer thanked Chuck Symes for inviting her to their meeting. She reminded the group that this meeting next will be in the evening at 6:00 pm at City Hall in the Planning Conference Room. Other things going on are Monday Movies on the Lawn at USB; a discussion Opium at USCB on 3/26 at 5:45 pm with speakers at 6:00 pm. Lastly, the Old Commons Meeting will be tomorrow at 6:00 pm and covered dish potluck dinner in the Education Building at Wesley United Methodist Church, located in the 800 block of Duke Street.

**City Planning Department, David Prichard**, referred to the schedule for the update on the City's Comprehensive Plan as follows:

- Staff Assessment of Vision Beaufort - 2009 Comprehensive Plan and Civic Master Plan (2014) Suspense Date: April 5, 2019.
- Presentation of Staff's Assessment and Public Comment of Vision Beaufort - 2009 Comprehensive Plan and Civic Master Plan (2014)  
Meeting Date: April 8, 2019, 2 pm, City Hall, Rm 135
- Presentation of Staff's Assessment and Metropolitan Planning Commission's Assessment of Vision Beaufort - 2009 Comprehensive Plan and Civic Master Plan (2014)  
Meeting Date: April 15, 2019, 5 pm, City Hall, Council Chambers
- Presentation of Staff's Assessment and City Council's Assessment of Vision Beaufort - 2009 Comprehensive Plan and Civic Master Plan (2014)  
Meeting Date: April 23, 2019, 5 pm, City Hall at Work Session

Mr. Prichard acknowledged County Councilwoman, Alice Howard, and City Councilman, Steve Murray, and asked if they had anything to add. Ms. Howard mentioned the Book Mobile and said there will be more services available. If anyone is interested to contact the Director of the Library.

Mr. Murray said the Redevelopment Commission (RDC) has been deactivated. The RDC information will be addressed at the worksessions. Mr. Murray thanked everyone that was involved in the Beaufort Vision. At last night's council worksession, Mr. Murray said, we discussed our goals and will now be talking about them again. Lastly, Mr. Murray said the budget sessions will begin soon and encouraged everyone to participate in this process.

## **NEWS FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVES**

**Northwest Quadrant, Dave Easton,** said a week from the 28<sup>th</sup> Peggy Simmer will be at their meeting to speak.

**Old Commons, Mr. Harvey,** said the NOC is coming to speak at their meeting.

**Next Meeting is April 17, 2018 at 6:00 pm**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am