

NORTHSIDE-HESTER PARK NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION--  
APRIL 13, 2008 MEETING SUMMARY

MEMBERS PRESENT: John Augustin, Sonja Berg, Ron Brown, Julie Gaetz, Tom Gaetz, Carolyn Garven, Cindy Harner, Pam Haugen, Nancy Johnson, Mary Justin, Pat Justin, Dave Laliberte, Kristi Laliberte, Andra Middlestaedt, David Mohs, Marje Moore, Jan Reigstad, Kaye Schimnich, Ann Marie Schlichting, Nadine Schnettler, Peggy Scott, Steve Zinsli

PURPOSE: Begin Steps to Becoming an Effective Neighborhood Organization  
Work on Prioritizing Goals/Forming Task Forces

MEETING BEGUN: 1:05

GATHERING/INTRODUCTIONS: Thanks to David Mohs for the signs, room preparation, and neighborhood slide show as we gathered!

ITEMS PRESENTED/DISCUSSED:

-LEADERSHIP TEAM MEETING GROUND RULES/ROLES & EXPECTATIONS OF LEADERS & TEAM MEMBERS (see handouts from meeting--info from Healthy Neighborhood Partnership Program training)

-LEADERSHIP ROLES IN OUR ORGANIZATION:

-currently: Kaye Schimnich-temporary/start-up chair  
Kristi Laliberte-treasurer  
(Cindy Harner, Joan Rydberg, & Peggy Scott have been other core members/ "consultants" since beginning of process of organizing)

-?? began to discuss:

-how structure?:

-President, Vice-President, Secretary, Treasurer?

-Chairperson, 2-3 Co-Chairs, Treasurer?

-how formal/informal should election/appointment process be?

-should decision about officers be made by monthly steering team or annual meeting of entire neighborhood?

-can we try to get more diversity in our leadership team?

-Suggestion to continue with Kaye as Chair/ "Default Decision Maker" & Kristi as Treasurer

Kaye: "not comfortable making decisions by myself"

(post-meeting clarification of that statement: "As a representative of this group, I don't feel comfortable being the one to make a decision or take an action without having some input from/discussion with others from the group first. My preference would be to have 2 or 3 co-chairs working together to make decisions that would be in the best interest of the group as a

whole.”)

-Decisions:

- proceed for now as is: Kaye as Chair, Kristi as Treasurer, Cindy and Kristi as “consultants”--(Pat Justin okay with being called upon also)
- defer above questions to future meetings, possibly have sub-group work on so can move on to other important business today

MISSION STATEMENT:

-Kaye shared proposed mission statement as place to start:

*Our mission is to encourage neighbors to get involved and work together to plan, make decisions, and implement plans and projects to keep our neighborhood a safe, desirable place to live, work, play, and go to school. We will work to preserve the physical integrity and unique characteristics of the Northside-Hester Park neighborhood. And in the process we will build relationships between neighbors based on communication, respect, courtesy, neighborly concern, and shared efforts.*

-Decision: sub-committee to work on final draft: Kaye Schimnich, Chris Scott, Peggy Scott, and John Augustin

-EARTH DAY CLEANUP:

-Tuesday, April 22, 2008--(9:15-10:45 with ALC students near ALC, 11:25-1:00 with CHS students on/near campus, 3:20-5:00 with CHS students along river, and 5:00-7:30 with other neighbors starting at Hester Park--NOTE: middle times needed to be adjusted after our meeting)

-Targeted Areas: near ALC, CHS, along river, and Hester Park--if time and help allows, we'll also do along 6th and/or 7th Ave.

-City Assistance:

- providing garbage bags & gloves (at Kaye's house now)
- collection sites for garbage: along river, by Hester Park garbage cans, by ALC parking lot, and corner of 3rd St. and 8th Ave. N. (added)--larger items stacked next to bags

-Food/Snack?--discussed, decided not to this time

-Getting Word Out:

-Flyers--minor changes in copy, Kaye will have copies made & deliver to those who offered to help distribute--call if prefer to pick up or if want to confirm your area (259-8737)

--Reminder: no mailboxes--have to use door handles, between doors, whatever other creative ways can find so don't blow away

--shoot for delivery by end of week?

-Phone Tree (?)--Kaye will try calling people who are often

available during day especially--let me know if you know  
people I should contact

-pass the word to friends/neighbors

SETTING GOALS/FORMING TASK FORCES:

- Prioritized using Summary of Smartie Goals Worksheet (from training)
- Gave preference to practical order & those with volunteers ready to work
- Selected Goal Areas/Task Force Members

1) NEIGHBORHOOD ORGANIZATION/SOCIAL (Need in place if want to accomplish other goals)

A) COMMUNICATION (start with newsletter)

-Julie Gaetz (coordinator)

-Glenda Burgeson

-Peggy Scott

-Kaye Schimnich

B) SOCIAL (could include activities, parties, fund-raisers, walking or book club...)

-Cindy Harner (coordinator)

-Marje Moore

-Ann Marie Schlichting

-John Augustin

-Pam Haugen

2) HESTER PARK--(high priority with volunteers from Visioning Event--combine "short-term" & "long-term")

-(Joan Rydberg?--coordinator?--Cindy will call)

-John Augustin

-Sonja Berg

-Mary & Pat Justin

(-Glenda Burgeson?--preservation of WPA walls)

3) RIVER WALK (Have been in contact with city--work on extending Beaver Island Trail to Hester Park slated for 2010 this "perfect time" to get representatives from neighborhood in on planning)

-Sonja Berg (coordinator)

-Dave Laliberte

-Andra Middlestaedt

-Nancy Johnson

-(Steve Zinsli?)

-(Sue Pundsack?)

4) Historic Preservation (Information-seeking process begun, several volunteers, timely)

(-Cindy Harner--Coordinator?)

(-Joan Rydberg?)

-Safety, Homeowner/Landlord Responsibilities/Rentals--let's not

make goal areas right now, but begin process of addressing them by participating in Coalition where same issues being addressed city-wide

-Hospital Expansion/Hospitality House--let's address/discuss at next meeting--may formalize group of people already working on as another task force

#### ST. CLOUD NEIGHBORHOOD COALITION:

- presented info on benefits of membership as well as membership details (see handout)
- looking for 3 representatives to attend this Thursday (April 17 6:30-8:30) for additional info
  - Cindy
  - Kaye? (if can adjust schedule)
  - Joan
  - anyone else if Kaye can't?
- short on time--will finish discussing/make decision next time

#### FIREWORKS:

- began to discuss hospital's request to move location of July 4 Fireworks
- one comment: "If the hospital wants to improve their relationship with the neighborhood, this is not the way to go about it."
- Carolyn Garven: other neighborhoods affected also not happy
- bigger than just SCH and our neighborhood
- address again--next steps/who involve?

MEETING ADJOURNED: 3:20

(Sorry for going overtime, but look at how much we addressed!)

NEXT MEETING: Sunday May 17 1:00

(Homework: week calendar marking evenings or weekend times that work or don't work for you--Summer & School year different?) (use + - or (+) )

TASK FORCE COORDINATORS: Would it be beneficial for us to meet (no more than an hour) or at least be in phone contact regarding building our task forces and starting to think about distinguishing between goals and projects? The Initiative Foundation requires us to complete some paperwork for each project--it might be helpful for us, at least initially, to look at and work on that together.

Items to be included on next agenda:

- status of beginning task forces

- goal/projects--Initiative Foundation paperwork requirements
- volunteers to explore how to proceed with election/appointment of officers?
- Hospital Expansion/Hospitality House--status/formalize task force?
- Fireworks--status/coordinate with others/plan of action?