

Community Engagement Committee

Committee Meeting Bullet Points

March 3, 2022

Attendees:

Commissioners - Russell, Curry-Da-Souza, Berry

Community Members - Lynn Stan, J.D. Flournoy, Nathan, Ernest Levert Jr

District Events

- District 1: Commissioner Hutchison will follow up again with Candice Igeleke from MAG regarding further renovation of the York Mason Building.
- District 2: Easter Egg Hunt scheduled for April 9th at the YMCA from 12-2pm. Commissioner Curry-Da-Souza will contact Equitas regarding possible vaccine clinic. Volunteers needed to help advertise within the next few weeks and stuff Easter baskets. 20-25 needed the day of the event. Expecting 400-500 kids. \$500 raised so far; \$100 gets civic logos posted on flyers. Popsicle donation from Commissioner Russell.
- District 3: JD will follow up with Lynn Stan regarding community engagement and partnership.
- District 4: JD will follow up with FPCA on events to support. Also will check on Earth Day in collaboration with 4 Seasons City Farm (contact Lynn Stan).
- Miscellaneous:
 - Neighborhood Arts Connection Near East is looking for artists to apply for fellowship grants (up to \$10,000 award). Deadline for online applications is 3/15. www.gcac.org/neighborhood for more information.

Speakers

- Jordan Miller CEO of Adelphi Bank
 - Proposed bank to be located on Long St at the Adelphi Development. First African American bank formed in 20 years and only the 18th in total. Ownership and majority of the board must be 51% black. Will serve Franklin County but target the Near East community which is a minority majority demographic.
 - Desire to focus on individuals and small commercial businesses in a way that big conglomerate banks can't. Commitment to education in the community: training staff in credit, underwriting and taxes. Opportunities for area college students. Mentorship for local startups.
 - Expected public launch is October 1, 2022 pending certain legal and financial approvals.

General

- Community outreach strategy
 - Desire to have the CEC become the starting place for neighbors getting involved in NEAC. Committed to advertising speakers ahead of time so that we're able to facilitate conversations between project managers and neighbors.
 - Nextdoor, Facebook, Discord and other ways to drive traffic to NEAC website.
 - NEAC website to become the one-stop shop hub of information. Owned by the Columbus Department of Neighborhoods. Commissioner Hutchison will seek to find out which 3rd party they're using to manage.

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General

- Moving to become an official committee
 - Currently an ad hoc committee. Incentive to have more committed people engaging with the community through a dedicated number of commissioners present. 5-0-0 vote approval.
- Leadership retreat
 - Idea to do a retreat for both commissioners and community members. A way to get people engaged in a meaningful way as well as build an effective leadership succession strategy.
- Integrating communication tool, Discord
 - Free communication app designed for groups that enables voice, video and chat functions. Effective way to communicate important updates in between meetings. All agendas, meeting minutes and possible audio recordings of meetings will be posted here for discussion.
 - For access, email JDFlournoy1@gmail.com. Contact JD for any questions about how to get set up & started.