01/20/15 – Neighborhood President’s Council Meeting

- Neighborhood Reports:
  o Clifford (Blaine/South-East) – association began meeting after MAP was created; recently received a KaBoom playground grant and have officially elected officers.
  o Kyle (South Central) – moved into neighborhood in July and joined the association; are working to build membership.
  o Lynn (Westbrier) – association began meeting again after MAP was created; are a loose group but do work on projects like advocating for neighborhood sidewalks and beautification.
  o Mark (Forest Park) – working on bylaws; want to get 501c3 status; working on a Spring Fling; will be turning over maintenance and updating of neighborhood Facebook to another resident; Senior Center has a social coming up and will be looking for a new Executive Director soon.
  o Eon (EKNDC) & Russell (EKHD) – formed in 2007 but are more active now; updating bylaws with goal of becoming a 501c3; have set fundraising events/projects for this year; also working on a re-treeing project.
  o Bill (Riverside/Normal-City) – formed in 1999 but were dormant for 10 years – reactivated about 1½ years ago; drafted firm but friendly form letter for rentals that have code violations; have an immersive learning project starting this semester looking at ways to attract homeowners into the neighborhood.
  o John (Pettigrew Acres) – has been a member of the neighborhood association for 17 years, just elected President; very active association with only 26 houses – small but it works well; have a summer cookout and Christmas party; removed Ash trees and re-planted; trying to make this the best year ever.
  o Jason (Northview) – acting President; will be voting on by-laws; blend of homeowners and renters.
  o Nicole (OWE) – active in most recent form for last 5-7 years.
  o Rachel (Robinwood) – association has been through a lot of stages; working on “lawn of the month” for 2015 with potential for gift card prizes; hoping to revitalize the 4th of July tradition; are using Mail Chimp for mass emailing (snow removal, etc.); have collected 85 dues so far this year – more than what was collected all of last year; are reporting to residents on where money is being spent.
  o Stan (Kenmore) – treasurer; have been successful in getting the substation re-named the Tillotson sub-station instead of the Kenmore sub-station; still not comfortable with the design but happy with the progress made to tighten up the proposal (air-cooled to partially gas-cooled with decorative view-blocking wall); association has a history of advocating for the neighborhood (CSO separation, vacating Main St., etc.).
  o Larry (Gatewood) – association has been meeting for over 10 years; host a Christmas and summer party; embrace neighboring associations.
  o Cornelius (Whitely) – association bought new van and first house to rehabilitate; working to transition new President – had 93 people at last meeting with at least 60 people active on committees working on neighborhood goals.
  o Misty (Anthony/Northside) – association has been active to some degree since the 1980’s – often dissolve after rallying for a certain purpose; working to make the association a more constant presence in the neighborhood.
  o Sylvia (Western Woods) – working to grow association – like two separate neighborhoods; have a good board in place and are working to re-establish building the association; have an online petition out for a stop sign at Riverside and Clarksdale; hosting a meeting on February 4th for Western Woods and nearby neighborhoods – will have a panel of speakers to answer questions and possible traffic calming solutions.

- Announcements:
  o Heather Williams (BBN)
    - This year is the city’s sesquicentennial celebration with a kickoff next month
    - There will be a calendar of events on the BBN website – would like to post neighborhood events that can be branded sesquicentennial (i.e. block parties, summer cookouts, garden parties, etc.);
neighborhoods might find a sesquicentennial planning committee useful and Heather would be happy to communicate directly with them to plan this event and help market/brand it

- The Muncie Arts and Culture Council is working on a 10 day event leading up to a final sesquicentennial celebration in October; one of these days would be an “art in the neighborhoods day”; may want to utilize same location that association meetings are held and have small gallery showing of neighborhood artists; will get back to neighborhoods on planning this event.

  - Ginny Nilles (MAP) – Planning speakers/topics for this year
    - Bylaws – best practices
    - Mapping – how to map your neighborhood (including topographical information)
    - Immersive learning
    - Sidewalks & traffic calming
    - Paving & potholes
    - Urban reforestation
    - Rentals and how to work with landlords
    - Hardest Hit Fund update
    - Pathstone – down payment assistance and encouraging home-ownership

  - Aimee Fant (MAP) – If anyone still needs assistance in setting up Facebook accounts – please contact Aimee