



**UNIQUE
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University Heights Collaborative
5 W. Northrup Place
Buffalo, NY 14214
www.ourheights.org

March 12, 2013

UHC General Meeting

Mickey - Call to Order 7:10pm

Introduced - Police Chief Kim Beaty - along with her, Captain Stabler, Community police officers Floyd(day) and Threats(night)

- Many UHC members come to E District meetings
- Came to us this meeting to take questions
- Noted - David Gilson - Building inspector
- Peacekeeper Pastor Giles
- Chief Beaty talked about parties on the weekends, and the increased student population the neighborhood experiences due to UB Stampede bringing students from North Campus
- Students and crime - increased Buff Police, have made arrests
- Chief asked why do students come and what are some of the issues associated with them?
 - Socializing, getting drunk, littering, etc.
- Chief mentions underage drinking as one of the biggest problems - it's illegal, immoral, etc. and has spoken to many parents who are obvious to the fact
- Lynne wonders how to call when there is partying/underage drinking
- Chief says to call 911 and for chronic problems call 311
- University Park/Radcliffe area is having issues with traffic speed/people running stop signs – concerned about elderly citizens/young families with children
- Captain Stabler asks for days of week and times of day to try to send traffic enforcement – knowing details helps
- D. Bradley mentions students are seen as a opportunity for criminals
 - Chief states that if they are extremely intoxicated they are victimizing themselves. (beer pong, funneling, other games)
 - Students need to practice Crime prevention!
- Chief mentioned that students are involved with home invasions, robberies, etc (interfering with police)
- Mickey thought Spectrum article was 1-sided. Student who spent a day with the police understood the other side of the story a lot better

- If an Officer does wrong they are accountable - if a student does wrong they are accountable also - now they don't think they are!
- Office Floyd - does safety training at UB, it is not well attended by students. (yourself, your car, your home)
- Gail - in past crime was because doors unlocked etc- Chief confirms - this still true
- UB Police - Chris Bartell(?) - confirms they try to teach students.
- Resident recommends that the police partner with the UB Dept of Criminology
 - Captain Stabler states that would be great - more students should do ride along with officers.
- Landlord accountability for student parties/underage drinking? - takes longer, need to investigate/follow-up
- UB taking responsibility for student parties off campus?
- Captain Stabler stated they do when BPD reports students - they are suspended etc.
- Fred - how about transparency - tell us what happens in these cases.
- Chief refuses and recommends attending the E District meetings
 - E District Meeting - 4th Wednesday of the month at 4pm at the Edward Saunders Community Center (Bailey Avenue)
- Jim asked about shooting at Lisbon and Main - what's going on?
 - Captain Stabler states it is an ongoing criminal investigation, also looking into the bar (Buffalo Live)
 - Chief mentioned there was supposed to be 2 performers, but were 15 and the headliner was 2 hours late (causing confrontations)
- Mickey introduced next speakers - Pastor Giles and Murray Homan from the Peacekeepers organization
- The represent Back to Basics Outreach Ministries - Stop The Violence Coalition
- Mickey met Pastor as a correction officer when Pastor was inmate. Started a "scared straight program"
- Pastor - History - 2004 there were several violent shootings involving kids.
 - Along with Antoine Thomson he started a March to raise awareness.
 - Pastor thought March was not good enough, he proposed to get several groups together - to work together.
 - BPD - wasn't solving the homicides - they didn't even have a homicide unit! They instituted one the following year.
 - Shootings at Juneteenth festival were scaring families away - Peacekeepers effectively prevented crime at the festival, are now invited every year.
 - Also now invited to Guss Macher, New Years, Thanksgiving Eve, now has full support from the mayor.
- A resident wondered if it would be beneficial to have peacemakers at bars, restaurants, etc.

- Peacemakers are a buffer between the police and the patrons (they have bus and vans - they talk to bar owners and patrons) Often set up through the business association- they obtain info from people through talking, facebook etc. -
- Larry mentioned St. Joseph Univ Church/School has been operating for 163 years - oldest school in the district
 - open house 8:30-2:00 open house - tomorrow night 5:30-8:00
- 100% of last year's grads got 1st choice high school and scholarships
- Mickey made several announcements:
- Garden Walk - Committee in full effect! Date set is July 13th - Linda Young is Chairperson
- Rails to Trails - Jake (UB Student) did a lot of research including an online survey, (95% responded positively to a bike path/walking trail being built on the old rail line)
 - Meeting with the Mayor to get his administration on board with it.
- Community Garden to be built at 73 Tyler Street - (owned by Jeremy Dunn - donated to UHC and Grassroots Gardens.
 - Partnering with University Presbyterian, St. Joes , Campus ministries, and individual residents
- Darren gave an update on PULL (Pop-up Living Laboratory) – Partnership between UB Academies and the Tool Library - service learning that teaches skills while improving the neighborhood. Four community projects include:
 1. Research Main St Grant Program - incl community needs assessments
 2. Business Plan - unique coffee shop next to TL (pop-up)
 3. Rails to Trails - abutments - gateway into the trail - community art project
 4. Neighborhood branding strategy (unique diverse, affordable)
- Mickey stated the UHC will continue with movie clips/vignettes featuring local businesses, institutions, and individuals and the UHC started a youtube channel to house the completed clips. (search UHC Buffalo)
 - Still making more videos with Buffalo Performing Arts and UB (Paula's, Amy's , GW etc.)
- Main Street Businessmen's Association – UHC would like to reactivate it (Miranda and Tucker want the younger buss men to take it on.)
 - Sr. Jeremy's idea - get the people from Bethune Hall, McGuire Group etc - talk to the Businessmen about their plan for the University Community.
- Jim brought up the ReTree event that will take place in the Heights on **Saturday, April 13th at 8:00am**. The group will be meeting at the triangle park at Winspear and Tyler. We will be planting 30 trees - need volunteers! (if running late look for the group on Angle or Custer Street
 - Do you want one in front of your house? Know somewhere they should go? Contact the UHC at info@ourheights.org and we will pass the message on

8:17 - Meeting adjourned.