



UNIQUE DIVERSE AFFORDABLE

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

April 9, 2013

UHC General Meeting Minutes

Mickey - Call to Order 7:10pm

Introduced Jacob Jordan UB Arct/Urban planning student.

1. Rails to Trails - Jake - The committee has met with mayor, commissioner and others. Positive feedback for the rails to trails project. The existing path will be repaved and extended to 10 feet wide, and will be extended to Kenmore Avenue (exact route is still being debated.)

Fred - concerns about the funding and use of federal dollars.

Jake - City - \$150,000 was earmarked to Linear Park improvements thanks to the hard work of Candy and Mickey.

Now that money will be increased to the 15% match of the federal dollars that were earmarked years ago.

They will widen the path (without touching trees) extend the path from LaSalle Station all the way to Kenmore Avenue. (Will cut over to NFTA property either at Merrimac or Nicholson.)

Fred - although it no longer cuts west to the water - if we connect to Tonawanda we will connect to the Canal (also water) and then if you're a hardy rider you could do the entire Riverwalk.

Michaela - asked about lighting, Jake - lighting was in the plan but with no specifics. There was no mention of garbage cans or benches.

Who will maintain Tonawanda portion? - The county will pay for Town/City Tonawanda public works people. Buffalo City will maintain city portion.

7:14pm

Mickey - We will continue to inform citizens and we need feedback ASAP, there is a strict deadline on this project. We need strong community support.

Jim - Doesn't understand why more money is going to Tonawanda section instead of going west towards Delaware. (10 years running, but there is still room even though the Colvin estates was built in a back door deal.)

Jake - show of hands who took the "Rails to Trails Linear Park" survey online...several raised. We will send out again still and it is on the UHC's website: www.ourheights.org

2. Community Garden at 73 Tyler Street. Property donated by Jeremy Dunn. Fruit Trees were donated and will be planted soon. Several raised beds are being built and have or need sponsors to garden in them. University Presbyterian Church, St. Joes, GJPCC, Restoration Society, and individual citizens. The lot was cleaned up during UB Gettin' Dirty, as was Linear Park. The city was out the next day picking up all the garbage.

Q Peter- Where is funding coming from? - A. Grassroots Gardens...and possibly some other donations. Also GG may send some McKinley Students to help with work.

3. Aaron talking about Pop-Up Living Laboratories (PULL) initiative

Main Street Grant from NYS –

Students trying to figure out what the citizens would like to see in the neighborhood, in an accurate and professional way. There is a survey going around online and paper copies present (available on www.ourheights.org).

Information collected from this survey will be used to support proposals for public art projects, business plans for emerging entrepreneurs in neighborhood, and grant applications for community and economic development. They need as much feedback as possible! Please tell you friends and neighbors.

There is undergraduate research work on display (including work done in The Heights) this Friday at UB Center for the Arts (North Campus) from 12-2 all welcome to check it out.

4. Linear Park - Candy

Focusing on cleaning it up! Did a lot of work last week with UB students and tools from the Tool Library and Buffalo ReUse. A lot is cleaned up but much more needs to be done including planting grass, filling in dips in the path etc. Last week there were people working at either end of the park. Candy corrected Mickey - the city came down THAT NIGHT to pick up the extracted garbage.

Anne Q - Will you be organizing clean ups?

Candy -A. Yes. This one was early, there will be additional cleanups later, right now it's really muddy!

Peter - Is there any effort to separate leaves from trash so they may be composted?

Candy - There was a bit. There are garbage cans down there, and many dogs use the bathroom down there and the owners don't clean it up. The city will put up a sign.

Michaela - Do you know if the city composts the leaves etc.

Candy - No, I don't. They did spend a lot of time removing large slaps of cement.

Also noted - people may be driving ATV's down there. If you see this take a photo, or dogs leaving their mess.

5. Garden Walk - Linda Young

Now accepting Applications for Gardens - All applications are accepted. App avail on website www.ourheights.org/gardenwalk and Facebook - Capen Garden Walk, if you previously included your garden you will get an email. The committee would like to include even more gardens! Please sign up to be included on the email list.

Flyers and Posters are almost ready to go out!

GW - July 13th 10-4pm Rain or Shine!

Plant and Seed exchange will happen! Date TBA

Anne - Is there an opening for the Farmer's Market on May 18? And is there a TL Fundraiser in May 18?

A. Yes to both questions

6. Mickey - in absence of Jim Rozanski –

Tree Planting Meeting on Saturday 4/13 at 9am in the Parking lot behind Franks Mobile. Please Come!!!

7. Gail - Farmers Market

Different events going on within the market -education etc. They are looking for more daily market supervisors, and will partner with the UB School of Nursing who will help with this. Also applying for grants to help with things next year.

Looking for vendors! (Must be insured.)

Market Starts May 18th and runs through mid-October

Like us on Facebook!

8. Mickey Announce a nice write up on Buffalo Rising about Darren.

Also articles on UB Alum, and the UB Neighbor.

Mickey is trying to get UB to take a more active role in engaging the neighborhood.

Anne - Are these articles on the UHC Website?

Darren - They are on the Facebook - We can put them on the site.

9. FBI - Community Outreach Specialist

FBI recognizes that community outreach is important.

Recently in the press was the Bailey Boys, some are already incarcerated and there were more charges of murder made and they will be behind bars now.

If the community lets them know what's going on then they can act accordingly. They currently have a really good relationship with the BPD.

Peter - I'm confused - Is murder a federal crime?

A. In this case it was a "racketeering" charge because there was a whole enterprise going on. FBI sentences therefore are harsher and they make several arrests at a time.

Mickey - Encourage People to stay and talk, but we'll adjourn now at the 1hr mark.

8:02pm