



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

UHC General Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 13, 2016 at 7pm

Called to order at 7:09pm

- 1. Guest Speakers: Michael Anderson - Project Architect for O'Connell's Expansion**
 - a. Addition (storage building) to be built over driveway next to store. Will serve as staffing entrance and display space
 - b. Has been to planning board and given approval, no zoning change needed.
 - c. Will need new curbs.
 - d. Shouldn't be any impact on traffic on Main Street
 - e. Schedule: Finishing construction documents next month, up to contractors when start date will be. Desire to have done as soon as possible. Will probably take 12-14 weeks. Start date within the next 5-6 weeks (hopefully)

- 2. Project MOVE Buffalo - VISTAs in University District**
 - a. Tess Morrissey - Initiative Mobilizing Opportunities for Volunteer Engagement - Funding 13 positions in the city. UB sponsoring 2 positions in the area (UDCA, Tool Library). Goal is to increase capacity of block clubs and community organizations.
 - b. Open to anyone with a college degree (fresh out of college, mid-career, recent retirees, any background)
 - c. Service position - approximately \$10k and \$5500 education credit w/health benefits
 - d. Goal is to have them start at the end of September

- 3. ReTree Watering Campaign**
 - a. Darren Cotton: Online fundraising campaign is currently at \$500. Total needed for Gator Bags is \$5000
 - b. Go to ourheights.org for campaign and donation information
 - c. Sept. 24 will be a tree removal - will be replacing 125 of the trees in November
 - d. October 29th is a practice planting and the last planting is November 5th
 - e. Last 215 trees will be planted this year - 40 out of 215 in Shoshone park
 - f. Will be hitting 1000 tree total this fall, will then focus on stewardship and targeted plantings

- 4. 300 Kenmore Avenue - Snyder Ridge**
 - a. Deli Grocery to be called "Back in Thyme"
 - b. Will stock seasonal produce and have a small bakery

- c. Will not be selling alcohol or cigarettes
- d. Tenants would like to do renovations on the facade of the building
 - i. Will return to the next meeting with drawings and are willing to take suggestions about design, any input
 - ii. They have been doing cleaning around the property

5. Updates

- a. Garden Walk
 - i. Seed exchange Oct. 1st from 10-2pm at the University Presbyterian Church
 - ii. They would like seeds ahead of time to package them, but no one will be turned away 10-2 Presbyterian church
- b. Tool Library
 - i. Will be working with Tess and the City for a Vista position
 - ii. Currently, Tool Library has 675 members with an average of 150 transactions per week
- c. CoLab
 - i. Oct.1st - art show by the DopeArt Collective
- d. Tyler Street Community Garden
 - i. Strength and Conditioning class in the garden -9/14 at 5:30, bring a yoga mat
 - ii. Automated watering system designed by UB Engineering students. Waters at 6am and 6pm, back right bed.
- e. UDCDA
 - i. Applied for \$300k grant and awarded in for Bailey. Will be used for installing new storefronts, signage, etc.
- f. Main Street Business Association
 - i. Progress being made
 - ii. Comptroller Schroeder invited, working on ways to develop
 - iii. Next meeting the 27th September

6. House Parties & Neighborhood Quality of Life

- a. Mickey has been out assessing the situation
- b. Buses seemed to be coming 5-10 minutes apart. Opening weekend was on orientation schedule and UB will try to correct the problem.
- c. Safety is a huge concern, especially with several 300+ person house parties
- d. Community service will be done at “the scene of the crime”, goal is to come up with a community solution to the community problem
- e. Chief Menza spoke about proactive approach the E district

7. Any new/old business

- a. Parkside storefront renovation should start soon
- b. UB Community Day - This weekend
- c. 3 Dates of Service in coordination with UB.
- d. Oct. 1st - Community Day - Meeting up at Allen Hall

Meeting concluded at 8:31pm

Next meeting will be October 11, 2016 at GJPCC. Please visit www.ourheights.org for meeting minutes and to learn more about the University Heights Collaborative.