

Neighbors United
Meeting Summary - February 25, 2010

Attending

1. Cait Caughey, inCOMMON Community Development
2. Rev. Howard Dotson, Westminster Presbyterian Church
3. Rev. Robyn Fickes, First Christian Church
4. Vr. Laura Gerstl, First Lutheran Church
5. Brittany Hanson, inCOMMON Community Development
6. Zach Harmon, inCOMMON Community Development
7. Louise Jeffrey, First Unitarian Church
8. Lois Knutzen, First Lutheran Church
9. Rev. A. David Paul, First Presbyterian Church
10. Pr. Judith Rainforth, First Lutheran Church
11. Rev. Kate Rohde, First Unitarian Church
12. Dennis Selzer, First Lutheran Church
13. Laura Shennum, inCOMMON Community Development
14. Rev. Stephen Sinclair, Community Minister
15. Rev. Jonathan Sloan, First Presbyterian Church

Overview

- Members of Neighbors United met on February 25, 2010 at First Presbyterian Church. Snacks were graciously provided by First Presbyterian Church.
- Brief introductions were made and participants shared reflections on why they continue to be involved in neighborhood focused work.
- The primary foci of the meeting were to (1) hear reports from the task forces, (2) review the 2009 Financial Report, (3) discuss NU communication and (4) review the Volunteer Workshop held on Feb. 22, 2010.
- A meeting agenda (attached) was distributed and the meeting was facilitated by Brittany Hanson.



Task Force Updates

Promotion

- Handed out Summary from Meeting on 01-21-10
- Passed out Community Meal Covenant
- Community Meal Meetings for the sustainability of the initiative will begin in March
 - First Meeting: Tuesday, March 16th 7:30-8:30PM
Westminster Presbyterian Church

NU Organization Development

- Finished and approved By Laws and Membership Chart (see attached).
- By Laws and Membership Chart will be topic of discussion at the March meeting; please come prepared for discussion.
- NU is currently working toward establishing its status as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization; as NU moves toward this end, transition planning needs to occur as inCOMMON steps back from leadership and becomes one of the many crucial NU members.

2009 Financial Report *(see attached)*

- A Financial Report will be available in print format at NU meeting every six months and upon request in electronic format at any time.
- Participants agreed to communicate directly and immediately when and if concerns about the finances arise.
- Neighbors United meetings or personal communication outside of the Community Meals are the most appropriate places to discuss financial and administrative concerns.

Communication Discussion

NU/inCOMMON Roles & Responsibilities

Brittany Hanson, *Director of Neighborhood Development* at inCOMMON

- NU Finances/Budget
- Grants
- NU Facilitation
- Networking & Advocacy

Cait Caughey, *Neighborhood Advocate* at inCOMMON

- Community Meal Coordinating: (1) Meal Preparation (2) Hospitality (3) Supplies
- Community Meal Meetings
- Listening Project
- NU Promotion Task Force



Laura Shennum, *Volunteer* at inCOMMON through Meadville Lombard Theological School

- Community Calendar
- Resource Table

Volunteer Workshop Review

- Great participation! Nearly 20 volunteers at the workshop.
- Reviewed workshop handouts at NU meeting
- Discussed concept of agency/choice and those places where agency may be denied in the current Community Meal format.

Upcoming Events

- *Community Meal Subgroup Meeting #1*
Tuesday, March 16th 7:30-8:30PM
Westminster Presbyterian Church
- *Access to Healthcare for our Immigrant Families*
Wednesday, March 17th 3:30PM
Grace Lutheran Church (1326 S. 26th Street)
Contact: hr_dotson@yahoo.com
- *Listening Project Organizing Meeting*
Tuesday, April 6th 7:30-8:30PM
- *Community Meal*
Every Saturday, 11:30-1:30PM
First Baptist Church (421 Park Avenue)
- *Next NU Meeting*
Thursday, March 25th 11:00-1:00PM
Location: First Lutheran Church

