

Dixieland Neighborhood Association (DNA) Meeting February 21, 2012

Location: New Beginnings Baptist Church 404 W. Belmar St

Board Members in Attendance: President Mary Smith, Vice Chair David Whitcomb, Treasurer Karen Moore, Secretary Rebeca Whitcomb

The meeting started at 6:30 PM with an introduction of the officers and self-introduction of the attendees.

Officer Aviles was present and announced the Mar 10th Police Department Open House 10 AM-2 PM. Officer James Henry talked about the problem of panhandling. It is illegal to panhandle in the City Limits. It was mentioned that the panhandlers do not usually leave and move on after someone gives them food or money, but they stay all day and take all that is given to them. There are several organizations in Lakeland who focus on helping the homeless get back on their feet, for those who want to get off the streets and get help. The officers took questions.

Contact info for the police department:

Non-emergency number: (863) 834-6900

Email: Tips: tips@lakelandgov.net

Bill Haskell, Liaison to the CRA, gave the CRA update.

The Spring Arts Fest Event was discussed.

David Shibles from the UF Extension Office was the main speaker and gave a presentation on home gardening. He spoke about traditional and new ways to plant a garden. He mentioned <http://www.vertigro.com/> and had some handouts.

Email: gammawo@ufl.edu Phone: 863-519-8677 Ext. 109 Website: <http://polkhort.ifas.ufl.edu/>

The meeting ended around 7:30 PM.