

Livingston Avenue Area Commission



Meeting Minutes **640 S. Ohio Avenue ~ Columbus, OH 43205** **Annual Meeting Highlights**

- City Attorney Rick Pfeiffer swore in new Commissioners, Demetrius Curry, Latricia Sparks & Mary Simons.
- Columbus City Capital Improvement Fund issued ½ million for improvements along Livingston Ave. Al Berthold with the Neighborhood Design Center will be involved in the planning. The NDC became a consulting partner with United Way to facilitate the creation of successful neighborhood programs. It is looking to select stakeholders to decide on the direction to take in this area. One idea is to create a visually interesting corridor with different themes as a pedestrian or motorist progresses East or West along Livingston.
- Commissioner Aaron asked all in attendance to share their thoughts on what this Commission's focus should be for 2011.
- Two main areas of focus. 1) Economic Development-work to create a visual impact by way of renovating retail structures, creating green space and establishing an identity for the area. 2) Communication-more correspondence and collaboration among groups in this area. Reach out to all residents in the area and convey that expectations have been raised. Build on the resources that are currently in the area, such as the library.
- Resident comments include
 - 1) Identify a location that any can visit to obtain info about the activities and programs in the area. Create a central hub, i.e., library or rec. ctr.
 - 2) Insure this area's identity is independent from the surrounding area.
 - 3) Utilize applications like 4-square and Yahoo groups, Dispatch on-line, etc. Those that use these forms of information are vital to bringing in new blood to the area. Need an anchor to attract other business to the area.
 - 4) Find out time frame needed to implement plans and begin work. Often, funds can be obtained but deadlines must be met.
 - 5) Central Community House is working to create a blog for Near East Neighborhoods.
 - 6) Contact businesses and let them know the residents desire to bring about change. Inform them that expectations have been raised for any business or individual operating or residing in the area.
 - 7) Listen to the desires and concerns of local businesses.



- 8) Communication and beautification go hand in hand. When those in the area are involved, it creates a sense of pride, which can be a catalyst for change.
- 9) Create a business corporation that can offer support for businesses on a small scale such as updates or repairs to the facilities. Hold the City Officials and Agencies accountable.
- 10) Near South Side (East Side) is on the map with the Chick Harley gardens, new area plan and NDC. Look for grants for other programs to help address the needs of all in the area.
- 11) All this info needs to be conveyed to the residents. AC needs to ensure that all Civics are on board.
 - There will be a vigil at 607 Champion, Jan. 22, 2011 at 4pm. Purpose is to shift the focus from the negative things that happen in the area to making it known that this murder and all of the circumstances leading up to it is not acceptable to those in the area and there is an expectation at every level within the city that steps are taken to address those circumstances.

Reviewed By: _____ Date: _____

Approved By: _____ Date: _____

