



CENTRAL NORTHSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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November General Membership Meeting

Monday, November 10, 2008, 7 p.m.

Agenda

Regular Meeting

- 1. Introduce Tom Hardy, CNNC Project Consultant**
- 2. CNNC Food Drive – Aria Charles**
- 3. Meet our Community Plan and Federal North Design Team, Pfaffman + Associates**

Special Meeting

- 1. Ferris Apartments**
- 2. CNNC Staff**

CNNC General Membership Meeting

Location: Allegheny Traditional Academy, 810 Arch Street

Enter through double doors facing the park

CNNC Hires Tom Hardy as Project Consultant

We are pleased to announce Tom Hardy has agreed to join CNNC as a Project Consultant. Tom will serve in this position on an interim basis as we conduct a search for an Executive Director.

Tom has nearly 10 years of experience in community development, focused on real estate and neighborhood planning. Tom has completed a wide-range of real estate projects from market rate for-sale housing to affordable rental housing for persons with physical disabilities. He was also instrumental in a mixed-use project along east Carson Street. Most recently Tom served as Executive Director of Manchester Citizens Corporation (MCC). Prior to joining MCC, Tom worked at Southside Local Development Corporation (SSLDC) as the Assistant Director and before that as their Manager of Real Estate Development.

“Tom will be a tremendous asset for CNNC and will ensure our projects move forward during this period of transition,” CNNC President Bill Buettin stated. Tom will assist with the Federal Hill project, community planning process and newly formed joint venture for the redevelopment of the Garden Theater block. He will also be responsible for maintaining relationships and monitoring contract compliance with CNNC’s funders. Buettin added “our funders were elated when we told them Tom would be joining CNNC as a Project Consultant.”

Tom is preparing to receive his MBA from Carnegie Mellon University in December. He also holds a Master of Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Pittsburgh and a Bachelor of Arts in Public Policy Studies from Duke University. Additionally, Tom is certified by the American Institute of Certified Planners.

A resident of the Central Northside, Tom lives on Palo Alto with his wife, Hanna, and their two boys, Galen and Ezra. Tom serves on the boards of West Park Court Housing Development Corporation and the Pittsburgh Economic and Industrial Development Corporation.

President’s Message

There are many new faces and names around CNNC, which is very exciting! First, please join me in congratulating CNNC’s newest Board members, Julie Peterson and Neil Parham, who were elected in October. Julie and Neil have wasted no time becoming active members of the Board. I know I speak for the rest of my colleagues when I say we’re looking forward to working with you.

We’re also very excited to announce that Tom Hardy has joined CNNC as a Project Consultant. As the article in this newsletter makes clear, Tom is a great addition to our team.

Last, but certainly not least, I’m delighted to report CNNC is now **436** members strong! At the October meeting alone we signed up 80 new members, and, remarkably, our membership is up 41% since the annual meeting in May. We’re averaging 134 people in attendance per meeting during the current fiscal year, which is virtually unheard for community organizations and is a real testament to this community.

Our meetings aren’t just a great place to learn what’s happening in the community. They are also a great place to meet new neighbors and friends. So mark you calendars for the 2nd Monday of the month and bring a friend with you!



Member Spotlight – David Bugher



“There’s hope here now.” That’s how David Bugher, North Side resident and Executive Director of the Light of Life Rescue Mission sums up the organization’s revitalization in the six years since his return to Pittsburgh. Light of Life was deeply in debt and faced an uncertain future when its Board of Directors hired the Mercer County native in 2002. Drawing on his experience as a commercial banker and small businessman, David rebuilt Light of Life’s financial foundations and put the Mission on a sound footing.

While David is a familiar face on the North Side and Light of Life a familiar institution, he says that many in our community don’t fully understand the ministry’s mission. “Because of the line of guys they see out there,” he says, “many people assume that providing meals and shelter to homeless men is Light of Life’s main function. While the Mission does serve over 250 meals each day, many who eat there aren’t homeless; they are, David says, “hungry neighbors.”

And there are, in a cramped but spotless basement dormitory, 34 beds for men in need of a safe place to sleep. But the organization’s focus is on providing longer-term assistance to both men and women, who are seeking to turn their lives around often while struggling with mental illness, chemical dependencies, and, among many of the women, abuse.

David says that Light of Life’s “whole focus is to go ‘deeper, not wider.’ Our aim is not to make homelessness easier to bear, but to end it, one person at a time.” The Mission’s long-term and transitional programs, which today enroll 50 men and 30 women (plus their 55 children), provide not just for the participants daily needs, but also education and employment training, along with longer-term counseling and assistance. Graduates of these programs “experience real transformation,” David says. “They find real hope and become productive citizens and taxpayers.”

David invites all Northside neighbors to Light of Life’s Open House from 1-4 p.m. on Sunday November 30th. Come see for yourself what David and his staff are doing inside that familiar building on North Avenue, a former brothel that since 1952 has been serving a much different purpose. And, don’t worry; the Steelers game at New England doesn’t start until 4:15 that day.

Planning and Evaluation Committee

At the October meeting, the membership of the CNNC approved the creation of a Planning and Evaluation committee, which is co-chaired by Bill Buettin and David Shlapak.

The P&E committee, as its name suggests, has two functions. It will coordinate and facilitate the creation of the CNNC’s strategic plan, working with the membership and the Board of Directors to develop and prioritize projects and initiatives that are aligned with the organization’s near- and long-term goals.

In its evaluation role, the P&E committee will perform two primary tasks. First, it will conduct periodic community needs and priorities assessments, integrating surveys of residents’ perceptions with analysis of relevant economic and demographic data. Second, it will work with the teams and working groups carrying out various projects to help them track their progress.

Anyone interested in being part of the committee should contact Dave at dashlapak@me.com or at (412) 231-4544.

Jefferson Recreation Center – Champions!



Special thanks to team photographer Martin Harp.

Congratulations to the Jefferson Recreation Center and their 9-11 age flag football team. They won the 2008 Citiparks flag football championship with a record of 8 wins and 1 loss. The team was lead by Head Coach Weston White and Assistant Coach Pamela Knight. Team members are: Gene Livingston, Jordan Arnett, Jerico Berlin, Dwayne Kellogg, Chaise Knight, Terrence Adams, Dabar Yarbrough, Shaunay Edmonds, Andrew Knight, Dushawn Griffey, and Raymond Howell. “They worked very hard this year to become champs,” said Weston White “and I want to say that I’m proud of them. I would [also] like to thank the parents for their support.”

Pfaffman + Associates Selected for Federal North Master Planning

Following the vote at October’s General Membership meeting, CNNC has entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Urban Redevelopment Authority of Pittsburgh (URA) and Northside Leadership Conference (NSLC) for the Federal North block redevelopment. Additionally, CNNC and NSLC finalize their joint venture, called Northside Tomorrow, LLC, to execute the memorandum of understanding.

Northside Tomorrow’s first task was to select an architecture firm to prepare a master plan for the block and a structural assessment of the individual buildings. CNNC Development Committee members, along with Bill Buettin, Tom Hardy, Mark Fatla and URA staff, interviewed three qualified firms for the contract.

The group unanimously chose Pfaffman + Associates for the job. Having Pfaffman’s team in charge of the community master plan and this assignment should ensure a consistency and integration of these two important projects. Rob Pfaffman and his team will be at our November membership meeting to lay out a time line for both projects and answer any questions you may have regarding the process.

CNNC Newsletter – Your Newsletter

The CNNC newsletter would like to hear from you. If you have an event to promote, an interesting story to tell, or a neighbor who deserves special mention please let us know.

Feel free to contact us any time by email: info@cnnc-pgh.org, or by phone: Julie Peterson at 412-321-1012.

CNNC Thanksgiving Dinner

On Friday, November 14th, the CNNC will host its' annual Thanksgiving dinner. The entire community is invited to share food, meet new neighbors, and just enjoy the festivities. The Metropolitan Baptist Church (22 Sampsonia Way) has graciously opened their doors for this event, which starts at 6:00 p.m. and finishes around 8:00 p.m.

Admission is \$5 for adults, \$1 for children, and \$3 for senior citizens. The cost of admission will also count as your membership dues for the 2009 calendar year (membership forms will be on hand). Throughout the evening items, some donated by our community artists, will be raffled off. Anyone interested in attending should bring a side dish to share.

If you are interested in attending or have any questions please contact Claudia Keyes at 412-231-4410 or keyes15212@yahoo.com.

CNNC Food Drive for the Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank

Most Needed Food Drive Items Shopping List



Food Items:

- Cereal (high fiber, low sugar)
- Canned tuna or salmon (packed in water)
- Fruit or Vegetable Juice (100, any size)
- Canned Beans (kidney, black, navy)
- Canned Vegetables
- Peanut Butter (15 or 18 oz)
- Canned fruit
- Toilet, Facial Tissue
- Laundry Detergent
- Diapers (baby & adult)

* Non-perishable items only *

* PLEASE NO GLASS ITEMS *

For most food banks November is the time to stock up on donations. Grocery stores, churches, private businesses, and even government offices host food drives as a way to help out. This year the CNNC will be doing its part. Starting on November 3rd and running through November 22nd neighbors will be able to donate non-perishable items at multiple drop-off locations and events (list provided below).

Monetary (only checks – made out to GPCFB - please!) donations are also being accepted and will be part of a directed giving program to benefit Northside food pantries. Aria Charles, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank staff and resident of Allegheny West, will be at the CNNC general membership meeting to explain this program in more detail.

Drop Off Locations

- 414 and 607 Jacksonia, 1114 Reseca, and 1235 Palo Alto
- Beleza – 1501 Buena Vista
- Doug's Market – 1327 Arch Street
- YMCA – 600 West North Avenue
- CNNC Membership Meeting – Nov 10th, ATA
- CNNC Thanksgiving Dinner – Nov 14th, Metro Baptist Church, 22 Sampsonia Way
- WOWS – Nov 14th, 414 Jacksonia
- MWSS Membership Meeting – Nov 18th, AUUC, North Ave

Pittsburgh Cares/YMCA Call for Student Artists

Pittsburgh Cares, in cooperation with the Allegheny YMCA (located at 600 West North Avenue), is looking for art students. Participants will work on a series of murals throughout the YMCA. These murals will highlight the buildings historic emblems that were added to the walls and ceilings over the years. Pam Bruno, a muralist and childcare provider at the YMCA, developed this project over the past 18 months. With the help of companies such as Lowe's Home Improvement, PPG, Morton's Steakhouse, and the United Way (the parent organization of Pittsburgh Cares) everything from paint to paint brushes have been provided.

Beautification of such an important building in our neighborhood is not the only benefit of this program. Student volunteers will also earn community service hours for all their hard work. If you, or someone you know, might be interested in volunteering please contact Justin or Alexa at Pittsburgh Cares (412-471-2114), or Pam at the Allegheny YMCA (412-321-8895) or on her cell phone (412-513-8837).

Announcements

CNNC Thanksgiving dinner planning committee needs raffle items. Small jewelry, sculptures, prints, new toys, passes, tickets to events, etc...would be perfect. If you are interested in donating contact Claudia Keyes at 412-231-4410 or keyes15212@yahoo.com.

The YMCA has babysitting, 6:30pm - 9pm (the Y closes at 9pm), available for parents attending the November 10th CNNC Membership Meeting. Children 2 years old and over only. The cost is \$5 per child. If interested please contact juliepeterson1@hotmail.com, (412)321-1012, or Stella at spetraglia@ymcaofpittsburgh.org, (412)323-1922

P.R.O.M.I.S.E. Group is sponsoring a blues blowout featuring the Muddy Kreek Blues Band. The event will be held on November 22nd, 10p.m. at the Hard Rock Café in Station Square. Tickets are \$10.

The MWSS will be having board elections at their next general membership meeting (being held on November 18th).

Membership – Renewal Notice

As 2008 comes to a close we would like to remind everyone to renew their membership for 2009. Membership forms can be found on the last page of every newsletter, on our website (cnnc-pgh.org), and outside every CNNC general membership meeting. Dues are \$5 for adults, \$3 for seniors, and \$25 for a business. If you are attending the CNNC annual Thanksgiving dinner (see page 5 for details) membership dues are covered by the admission fee.

Upcoming Events

November 10 – CNNC General Membership Meeting, 7pm, Allegheny Traditional Academy

November 14 – CNNC Thanksgiving Dinner, 6-8pm, Metropolitan Baptist Church

November 18 - MWSS General Membership Meeting, 7pm at AUU Church - West North Ave

November 22 – The LIVING Ministry's annual clothing drive

November 22 – P.R.O.M.I.S.E. Benefit, Muddy Kreek Blues Band, Hard Rock Café, Station Square

November 30 – Light of Life November Open House, 1-4pm, 10 East North Avenue

December 14 – MWSS annual holiday party, 6-10pm, 1237 Monterey Street

Community Master Plan Steering Group Formed

At the request of Pfaffman + Associates, CNNC has put together a diverse set of participants that will work as a Steering Group for the Community Master Plan.

Going forward the Steering Group, comprised of 12 members from the other CNNC committees and the community at large, will report on the progress of the Community Master Plan. Pfaffman has recommended we keep this group small. This will allow for an efficient working process between the Steering Group and the urban design team.

In addition to myself, the twelve members that make up the Steering group are Annette Green, Gwen Moorer, Lydia Wade, Randy Burns, Jen Tharp, Neil Parham, Dave McFarland, Fred Fortson, Randy Zotter, Irene Karavolos and Dave McMunn. This process is just starting but we look forward to updating the community and the membership on our progress.

Randi Marshak, Committee Chair

Special Meeting

Hopefully everyone received a postcard earlier this week notifying you of a special membership meeting. This meeting will occur immediately following the regularly scheduled membership meeting on Monday. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the Ferris Apartments project and CNNC's recent staff turnover. This special meeting has been requested by 5 or more members pursuant to Article IV, Section 3 of the CNNC bylaws.

Upon conclusion of the regularly scheduled meeting at 9pm we will adjourn. The special meeting will then be immediately called to order and will last until 9:30pm. Each person who wishes to speak will be given 3 minutes after being assigned the floor by the presiding officer. No member who has already had the floor is entitled to it again on the same issue so long as any member who has not spoken wishes to do so. As far as possible, the presiding officer will let the floor alternate between those favoring and those opposing the matter at hand.

It's important to note, the deadline to resubmit the Ferris project for low income housing tax credits this year passed on October 3rd. Also, for legal and privacy reasons, the CNNC Board will not discuss the particular circumstances surrounding the separation of employment with previous staff.

Communication Committee – Information Centers

The Communication Committee is working hard to develop a comprehensive Communication Plan that will help deliver information in a timely manner to members of the CNNC and members of the greater Central Northside Community. Preliminary ideas include the development of reliable neighborhood "information centers" that will include both electronic and paper-based information.

If you would like to help us better serve all members of our community at the same time that we develop fast and reliable electronic forms of communication, please consider attending committee meetings. The CNNC Communication Committee meets the first Thursday of every month. Locations vary and refreshments are served. If you are interested, please contact co-chairs Belinda Greenfield at greenfield_belinda@yahoo.com or Greg Spicer at gregoryspicer62@yahoo.com. We hope to see you there!

Membership Registration Form

Dues Run From January 2009 through December 2009

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (day): _____ Phone (eve): _____ Email: _____

YES! I want to be involved. Enclosed is _____\$5 _____\$3 (seniors) for my 2009 dues.

If your organization/business would like to be a member, dues are _____\$25. Include the name and contact information of delegate_____. Enclosed is an additional tax-deductible donation of:

\$20 _____ \$40 _____ \$60 _____ \$100 _____ Other _____

I am interested in participating in the following committees of CNNC:

_____ Youth

_____ Business District Development

_____ Membership

_____ Housing

_____ Public Safety

I have the following skills, talents or interests that I would like to put to use for our neighborhood:_____

**Send this form to the CNNC office with your dues (Check or Cash). Check payable to CNNC:
CNNC Membership
1310 Arch Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15212**