



Central Northside Neighborhood Council

NEWS

The Central Northside Community Plan

The Central Northside Neighborhood Council (CNNC) — your recognized “community development corporation” — is developing a Master Plan for the Central Northside called the Central Northside Community Plan (CNC.P.) This will involve 21 community meetings broken up into groups of 7 over the next year.

The CNNC chose the local firm of Pfaffmann and Associates an Urban Design firm to help us carry out the Central Northside Community Plan. A steering committee was formed that is made up of community volunteers to help “steer” the Urban designers and the neighborhood through a process that would be inclusive and comprehensive.

The CNC.P steering committee and the Urban Designers identified 6 issues facing our community. Each topic will have 3 community meetings which we are calling Working Group Meetings because we will be working with the community to solve problems around each of the following topics:

*Education and Youth/Arts and Culture
Public Safety and Transportation
Architecture and Urban Design
Residential Development
Economy and Market/Jobs and Retail
Garden Theater Block*

The first set of meetings will be focused on identifying the issues around the topic. The second set of meetings will be coming up with solutions around the topic. The third set of

meetings proposals and plans brought by the Urban designers will be evaluated and we will talk about how to implement the plan.

All meetings begin at 6:30 p.m. All the meetings except the Garden Block Meeting will be held on Wednesdays at the Allegheny Unitarian Universalist Church (AUUC) at the corner of West North Avenue and Resaca Place. The Garden Block Meeting will be on Monday March 16 at the Children’s Museum at 6:30p.m.

No registration is necessary. However RSVP appreciated.

RSVP at www.socializr.com/user/cnnc

FREE babysitting for Wednesday meetings. RSVP for the service by emailing info@cnnc.org

Board of Directors

- Bill Buettin..... President
- Greg Spicer..... Vice President
- John Augustine..... Treasurer
- David McMunn..... Secretary
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- Janet Moore
- Neil Parham
- Julie Peterson
- Nancy Shaeffer
- Randy Zotter
- Mr. William Murchison..... Emeritus

Central Northside Mentoring Opportunities

Central Northside Mentoring is looking for volunteer mentors. The commitment is: at least a six month term; meet Monday nights from 5:30-7:00pm at the YMCA; one or two free training sessions provided by the Mentoring Partnership of Southwest PA; occasional fieldtrips; desire to give a child

emotional encouragement and basic academic tutoring; being open-minded and learning from the child.

Please call Kimberly Walkenhorst at 412.400.5388 or email at kwalkenhorst@gmail.com to request more information or to schedule an

informal meeting to learn more.

This is an amazing opportunity to change a child’s life, and to have your life changed by a child!

President's Message

Welcome to the first edition of the newly formatted CNNC newsletter. The Communication Committee has spent a couple months working through ideas to improve the content, format and delivery. A special thanks is owed to David Holliday for spearheading this task. Any suggestions, questions or (dare I say) compliments are always welcome and appreciated.

As you can tell by the large amount of content in this newsletter dedicated to it, the public meeting and input portion of the community planning process is beginning in February. There are a total of 21 public meetings that will take place between now and Septem-

ber so everyone will have an opportunity to listen and ask questions. This is an extremely important component of the plan so please mark your calendar and plan to attend these meetings.

The next 3 CNNC General Membership meetings will be dedicated to revising the organization's by-laws. All of the active CNNC members will receive a copy of the proposed changes delivered to their homes. Additionally, copies will be available on our website (www.cnn-c-pgh.org) and at our next General Membership meeting on February 9th. The February 9th meeting will serve as a question and answers session for the by-law revisions. We intend to hold the first vote on the

proposed revisions in March and a final vote will occur in April. The goal is to be operating under the new by-laws prior to the Board election and annual meeting on May 11th.

Speaking of board elections, in accordance with the current by-laws, we have formed a Nominating Committee tasked with presenting candidates eligible to be elected to the CNNC Board of Directors. Anyone interested in serving on the Board should contact CNNC Secretary, David McMunn. He will forward your information to the Nominating Committee, who will answer any questions you may have and explain the process.

"Help your neighborhood organization by identifying qualified candidates and by voting in the May election!"

Nominating Committee Seeks Qualified Candidates for May Election

In May of each year, one half of the members on the 15-member CNNC Board of Directors are up for election. The CNNC Board and the Nominating Committee want to remind you that, in order to be eligible to vote, a member must be in "good standing" (current on their annual dues) and must have attended at least one meeting in the previous year.

According to the by-laws, any CNNC member may stand for election to the Board and those whose seats are up for election may stand for re-election. Nominations can be made from the floor beginning at the March General Meeting. However, the Nominating Committee typically keeps names and bios and helps to organize the election so that it can run as smoothly as possible. The nominating committee does not select any candidates or

slate of candidates on their own. So, if you are interested in running or know someone that you would like to nominate, you may contact the Nominating Committee via the website or info@cnn-c-pgh.org.

Also, although the CNNC Board of Directors makes no endorsements of particular candidates, we think it is important that the person elected adds to the board in terms of unique skills sets, life experiences or social/cultural identity. The current board varies somewhat by sex/gender, income level, age, sexual orientation, martial status, national origin, religious identification or practice, educational attainment, political affiliation, home ownership and other factors representative of the diversity in our neighborhood. Even so, we recognize a lack of representation on

the board by females and persons of African descent. Given the current demographics of our neighborhood, the under-representation of African-Americans on the board in particular concerns us greatly and we strongly encourage members to identify, nominate and help elect qualified neighbors who might help us fill this position in a way that benefits the board and the whole neighborhood.

Help your neighborhood organization by identifying qualified candidates and by voting in the May elections!



Planning and Evaluating Our Neighborhood

At the October meeting, the CNNC membership approved the creation of a Planning and Evaluation committee, (P&E.) The P&E committee's charter is helping the CNNC Board and membership make informed decisions by: conducting a community needs and priorities assessment (CNAPA); facilitating the development of a strategic plan to guide and integrate the CNNC's diverse activities; and evaluating progress towards accomplishing the tasks that the organization sets out for itself. In this and the next two newsletters, we will provide a brief description of each of these three functions.

The goal of the CNAPA is to develop a coherent picture of our organization and our community. It expands on the community needs assessment

conducted by the CNNC in 2007 in two ways. First, it includes the collection and analysis of key data about the Central Northside—demographic and economic information—to help us better understand the basic facts about our neighborhood. Second, like the prior assessment, the CNAPA will include a survey of members' concerns and priorities, but one conducted in accordance with recognized statistical norms and procedures. This will allow us to form a picture of the perceived needs and concerns of our neighbors. When complete, the CNAPA as a whole should provide us with a rich and detailed picture of the Central Northside community: how we live, what we're worried about, and where we want to see our neighborhood go.

The intent is to update this assessment on a regular basis. We also plan on making the information collected in the process widely available to the membership and the community as a whole.

If you have questions about the CNAPA or the P&E committee, or wish to help with any phase of the committee's work, please contact David Shlapak either via e-mail (dashlapak@me.com) or by dropping a note off at the CNNC office.



“The CNAPA should provide a rich and detailed picture of the Central Northside community.”

Become a CNNC Member NOW

Many thanks to all our current members for joining or renewing your CNNC Membership.

We would encourage all residents of the Central Northside to join our membership today. In order to vote on important issues made at the General Membership meetings, including the upcoming Amendments to the CNNC Bylaws, or to vote in the upcoming Board Members Elections in May, you must be current with your membership dues and you must have attended a General membership meeting at least once since June 2008.

To join simply complete the application form on page 7 and mail with membership dues to Central Northside

Neighborhood Council at:

CNNC
1310 Arch Street
Pittsburgh PA 15212

ATTENTION ALL PERFORMANCE TALENT ~ Our neighborhood is brimming with talented people. Let's show it off. Hot Rock, Cool Jazz, Tickle the Funny Bone, Rhythmic Dance...you name it, we got it. Let the Membership Committee know who you are, what your talent is, and how we can contact you. We want to showcase Central Northside talent in upcoming events such as a fund raising concert, the summer street party, or the Thanksgiving Dinner.

Maybe you know talent that you want to recommend. You can call Claudia Keyes with information 412.231.4410 or email keyes15212@yahoo.com.

The next Membership Committee meeting is Monday, February 2nd 7:00 pm at 1310 Arch Street .

Agenda items include:

- Membership Drive
- Events planning such as the Summer Street Party, Fundraising Concert, etc.
- Welcome packets for new residents

“The process for amending the by-laws will be discussed in great detail at the February 9th meeting.”

By-Laws To Be Revised

At the January membership meeting there were many questions related to the timing and process of revising CNNC’s by-laws. In response, we are dedicating 60 minutes of the February 9th membership meeting to this topic. The format of this session will be questions and answers. The By-laws Committee will review the proposed changes section by section, stopping at the end of each to take questions from the audience.

The process for amending the by-laws will also be discussed in great detail. To comply with the current by-laws,

any amendment to the by-laws must be passed by the General membership in two separate meetings. The first meeting requires that any amendment must be approved by 75% of the attending members in good standing. The second meeting requires a simple majority of the attending members in good standing.

The vote to amend the by-laws will be conducted by paper ballot. The ballot will be set up in two sections. The top section is a “yes” or “no” vote for all of the proposed amendments. The bottom section will be set up to vote

on each article of the by-laws individually. If a member votes “no” in the top section, they may vote in favor of individual articles in the by-laws. If a member votes “yes” in the top section, nothing further is required.

Further explanation and detail will be presented at the February 9th membership meeting. Please plan to attend.



New Year Bring Changes in Communication Strategies and Practices

At their January meeting, the Communication Committee voted to move forward with a series of changes to the look for the CNNC newsletter and related publications, including an effort to rethink the organization’s visual representation and how it informs the community of important initiatives. David Holliday, a resident of Foster Square is using his experience in graphic design and layout to redesign the look of the newsletter. You can see many of those changes in the publication you are now reading. Holliday’s changes will be both creative and practical with some design changes aimed at readability while others will make it easier to distribute the publication by mail to those who do not receive it electronically.

Holliday has been working hard as well on an informational brochure to be mailed to every resident of the Central Northside that will detail the important upcoming community meetings for the neighborhood community plan. Holliday’s efforts are aimed at crafting all CNNC publications to have a coherent look and thus an identifiable “brand” for the organization and the neighborhood.

A related initiative involves rethinking the organization’s logo. The Committee wanted to find a logo that more broadly represents our slogan, “Rich in Diversity, Rich is Promise.” The Committee voted to issue a call to local artists to help find a visual representation of this statement—a representation that constituted a visually

pleasing symbol of our neighborhood’s strength and its promise. The full Board of Directors subsequently approved the logo initiative at its January meeting. Look for details of the call for artists in the near future.

Also, the Communication Committee has initiated gaining non-profit bulk mailing status in order to distribute publications to both CNNC members and the neighborhood at large in a timelier and more reliable manner.

If you are interested in working with the Communication Committee, please contact us through: info@cncn-pgh.org.

Rich in Diversity
Rich in Promise

Development Committee Working Hard to Move Projects Forward

Thanks to everyone for attending the January monthly meeting and participating in the discussion with the two developers that presented their plans for the Federal-North corridor. Both developments were met with enthusiasm from the community and we look forward to good things to come. The Development Committee and CNNC board will be working hard to ensure that both projects move forward and that community needs and desires are taken into account. Jim Aiello's team has met with a task force commissioned by the DevCom on a couple

occasions to review design and gather community input. On the other side of the street, we are working hard to ensure that Bill Barron opens up the Federal Street side of the Parkview Cafe with windows/glass doors.

Federal-Hill continues to move along and we have already gained new CNNC members who purchased a house in this great project!

Last, but not least, the DevCom continues to work on putting together a list of local contractors/laborers to distribute to developers and post on

our website. Once the list is complete, we hope that those looking to build major developments or merely fix up their house will consider using the multitude of talent we have right in our own back yard.



Federal North Garden Theater Block

Youth Committee Holds First Meeting

The Youth Committee had their first meeting on Thursday, 28th January, which was very well attended. It was decided the Committee's first task was to begin a database that would hold details on the different facilities for the Central Northside's Youth. This will include after school programs, summer camps and our existing facilities such as Jefferson Rec and the YMCA. The Committee felt that it

was important to have a base that we could access that would enable us to match youth needs with programs that are already available. It will also act as a point of reference for those programs that are running low on numbers, possibly meaning that programs could work together to maintain a better attendance.

We are asking you, our neighbors to

send us your input for the list, we have already found programs that we weren't aware of and I am sure there are many more out there. Nothing is too small and if you are an organization running such a program and you need any kind of assistance and you think the CNNC can help then PLEASE contact us at: youth@cnc-cgh.org or call 412.321.1012.

**"Youth
Committee's first
task will be to
develop a
database with
details on the
different facilities
for youth"**

Central Northside Couple's House Wins Award for Creativity

Jana and Bruce Thompson, owners of a 162-year-old row house on Resaca Place in the Mexican War Streets Historic District were featured in a recent Pittsburgh Post Gazette article as winners of that paper's "Renovation Inspiration" contest. The Thompsons won for in the "large project" category for their extensive and creative renovations of the historic home built by Irish immigrant George Haley in 1847.

The Post Gazette article highlights many of the challenges faced by the couple in terms of the home's unique construction and the need to create a livable and comfortable space within the modest footprint of the original home (the home is a mere 14 feet wide.) In order to hold down costs and to fill the house with materials worthy of its long history and rather quirky design, the Thompson's did much of the work on their own and they also

looked for interesting antique materials and items to use whenever possible. In total, the small house and complete renovations ended up totaling a little under \$200,000 (the Post Gazette erroneously put it at a staggering \$300,000.)

For the complete write up on the Thompson's home, you can view the Post Gazette article online at www.post-gazette.com/pg/09024/944033-30.stm

Jana Thompson is an active member of the CNNC Bridges Committee doing community outreach work and is known by many in her role as the coordinator of the Olde Allegheny Community Gardens. Ms. Thompson was previously featured in the October CNNC Newsletter after the gardens won a "Community Greening Award" from the Philadelphia-based Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

February 2009 General Membership Meeting

DATEFebruary 9, 2009

TIME 7:00 pm

LOCATION..... Allegheny Traditional Academy

Meeting Agenda

- Henry Reese will provide an update on his proposed Monterey Street project
- Community Plan public meeting schedule review
- Question and answer session regarding the proposed By-law revisions and process

**“Attend the
February General
Membership
Meeting and be
active in the
By-laws revision”**

Upcoming Events

February 11 ~ CNCP Education and Youth Group Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at AUUC corner of West North Avenue and Resaca Place

February 18 ~ CNCP Public Safety and Transportation Group Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at AUUC

February 25 ~ CNCP Architecture and Urban Design Group Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at AUUC

March 4 ~ CNCP Residential Development Group Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at AUUC

March 11 ~ CNCP Economy and Market/ Jobs and Retail Group Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at AUUC

March 16 (Monday) ~ CNCP Garden Theater Block Group Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at Children’s Museum

March 25 ~ CNCP 1st Large Community Meeting ~ 6:30 pm at AUUC

FREE babysitting for Wednesday meetings.
Please RSVP for this service at info@cnn-cpgh.org

Light refreshments will be provided.





Rich in Diversity
Rich in Promise

Central Northside Neighborhood Council

1310 Arch Street
Pittsburgh PA 15212
[Phone] 412.231.7742 [Fax] 412.322.3886
[Email] info@cncnc-pgh.org

2009 CNCNC Membership Registration Form

Dues run from January 2009 to December 2009

(Please print legibly)

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE (home) _____ PHONE (other) _____

EMAIL _____

SIGNATURE _____ DATE _____

Do you want to receive the Newsletter via email? YES _____ NO _____

If you do not reside in the Central Northside please list properties you own in the Central Northside.

I am interested in participating in the following CNCNC committees:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| _____ By-laws Committee | _____ Litter/Beautification Committee |
| _____ Communication Committee | _____ Membership Committee |
| _____ Community Planning Initiative | _____ Planning and Evaluation Committee |
| _____ Development Committee | _____ Safety Committee |
| _____ Finance Committee | _____ Youth Committee |

Enclosed is _____ \$5 _____ \$3 (Seniors 60+) for my dues for 2009

If your organization/business would like to become a CNCNC member, dues are _____ \$25 Please name the delegate for your organization: _____

Enclosed is an additional tax-deductible donation of: _____ \$20 _____ \$40 _____ \$60 _____ \$80 _____ other

(Office Use Only)

Date _____

Amount Paid _____

Received by _____

Check No. _____ Cash _____

Mail to or drop off at the CNCNC office with your dues (Check or Cash.) Make check payable to CNCNC



Rich in Diversity. Rich in Promise.

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Pittsburgh PA 15212

Central Northside Neighborhood Council



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New Hazlett Theater
Major Sport Venues
Andy Warhol Museum
City of Asylum Pittsburgh
Allegheny Commons
Children's Museum
Kindred Hospital
Mattress Factory
Mexican War Streets
Allegheny Center

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