



## **SoWe Lead Board Meeting**

October 22, 2018 5:30 PM  
Price Elementary School  
615 Fairview Ave., Lancaster, PA 17603

### **Minutes**

**Board Members Present:** Susannah Bartlett, Jason Busz, Bianca Cordova, Christina DiCola, Gene Duncan, Dick Hecker, Ole Hongvanthong, Carole Kirchner, Marie King Linares, Stu Metzler, Martha Montes, Vicente Ramos, Nathan Roach, Karen Schloer, Audrey Skilton, Jeff Tischer, Abby Tucker.

**Board Members Excused:** Peter Barber, Rachel Eck, Vasthi Dominguez-Acosta, Willonda McCloud, Luis Ortega, Emerson Sampaio, Lt. Glenn Stoltzfus

#### **1. Call to Order**

Gene Duncan called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm and thanked Price Elementary for hosting this month's meeting.

#### **2. Public Comments**

Mr. Duncan invited public comments from the audience. There were no comments from the public.

#### **3. Approval of Minutes: September 24, 2018**

Jeff Tischer made a motion to approve the September 24<sup>th</sup> meeting minutes. Maria King Linares seconded the motion. Minutes were approved with corrections.

#### **4. South West Neighborhood Collaborative Report**

Jake Thorsen reported that the Collaborative meets once a month on an ongoing basis as most committees. At this point the Collaborative is organizing the data collection that has been gathered. The Parks committee did a Culliton Park observation study looking at the park over several days. Data will be collected and packaged to see how the park is being used over the life of the Wells Fargo grant. Also working on a displacement risk of residents' study. Susannah Bartlett is leading that effort. The Police Department is also helping gather crime statistics in SoWe. This information will be back dated to 2016 to the beginning of 2018 to see if there are trends, improvements, or dis-improvements in the SoWe Neighborhood. The Safety Committee will be leading this charge. LHOP and the City are working on a State grant, RACP for affordable housing in the area. The Land Bank has approved the use of their services as a holding entity to purchase these properties, and then get reimbursed through State funding. No formal approval for the grant as of now, but everything is in place to do so. Total is amount \$500,000 to



purchase, renovate and operate scattered site housing as affordable housing for the neighborhood.

## 5. Committee Discussion/Action Items

### ▪ **SoWe Community Forums-Communications**

Nate Roach passed the website discussion to Jeff Tischer. There is a beta version of the site which shows the design of the website without content. A presentation followed presenting the website. The web page will include a picture and short bio of each Board member. Please submit as soon as possible. No more of 1000 words.

### ▪ **Coffee with A Cop - Community Safety**

Dick Hecker informed the Board that the Parking Meeting is next Wednesday from 6 to 8 at St Josephs' Hall. All ideas are welcomed. Two field data collection surveys will be done by the parking consultants in the Southwest. Two to four in the afternoon and eight to ten in the evening. Porch lights are up to 15 so far. Pending list is getting shorter.

### ▪ **Lancaster ArtWalk - Economic Opportunity**

The Art Walk was Oct.6 and 7<sup>th</sup>. Ole Hongvanthong informed the board that there was a great turnout. About 50 people came out and about 30 people signed in. Jeff Tischer has photos of the SoWe mini gallery. The next Lancaster Art Walk is May 4 and 5, 2019, SoWe interested in participating again. Location to be determined.

Laundromat on the 600' block of St Joseph is under agreement. Jeremy Young informed the Board that no other information is available at this time for the public. Expected closing date is mid-November at which point the property owner will disclose the properties' use.

### ▪ **AmeriCorps Position - Education**

Bianca Cordova discussed the opportunity for Millersville to apply for an AmeriCorps Vista position which will work with the Boys and Girls Clubs/Price Elementary. This is a very preliminary process and at this point there is not a lot of information to discuss.

91 attendees Muffins with Moms and a total of 240 people signed in (children and adults). Looking to the future the Committee would like to engage the parents and find out what they would like to see the program become, who can volunteer without causing any undue pressure on them. For now, it is just information on the school's programs.



- **LHOP Home Buyers Course - Housing**

Abby Tucker reported that LHOP is hosting its first Home Buyers Course in SoWe on November 17<sup>th</sup>. The Board is encouraged to try and get as many participants as possible. Fifteen seats are exclusively reserved for SoWe residents. If there is enough interest, minimum 10, the program can be offered in Spanish. SoWe resident will get a discount on the \$25 registration fee.

- **Block Liaisons- Neighborhood Connections**

Jake Thorsen reported for Willonda McCloud, there has been many discussions about block captains and neighborhood watch. The adopted term will be Block Liaisons. The purpose will be to try and create a network of individuals on different blocks to establish a door-to-door outreach especially when promoting programs and creating a communications network among neighbors. Sample job description was disseminated. Strong suggestion to have the current resident Board members volunteer or recommend someone that will follow through. Motion made and approved unanimously to accept the job description.

- **Trick-or-Treat Halloween Event -Parks and Public Realm**

Jake Thorsen stated that the parks committee will hold a Trick-or-Treat Halloween Event 10/31 6pm-8pm at Culliton Park. The committee is looking for volunteers to pass out candies. One of the neighbors has volunteered to do Arts and Crafts with the children, as well. Candy donations are being strongly encouraged.

- **City Council Liaison**

Jeff Tischer briefed the board on City Council meetings from the past month. Cabbage Hill and SoWe's resident Sarah Sedano was honored by the Mayor as the Inaugural Neighbor of the Month. Bill #12 2018, Marijuana Bill, creating a summary offense for small amounts, less than one ounce. Offenses are for a five-year period. Use of force policy has been updated amended and implemented.

October was recognized as Disability Employment Awareness Month as well as recognizing it as LGBTQ+ History Month. The other discussion was the City's opposition to PA House Bill#2564 "Small Wireless Facilities Deployment Bill". This would allow communications company to put 5G networks boxes anywhere they like without permission or regards to City Ordinances. These boxes are about the size of a small refrigerator. The goal is to convenience the service providers at the expense of the City and its residents. Contact your Sate Legislator if you do not agree with this Bill



## **6. New Business**

### **▪ Board Training – October 27th**

Jake Thorsen informed the board that the SoWe Lead Board training will be held on October 27<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 12 at Brightside Opportunity Center. The training will not be taped.

### **▪ New SoWe Intern**

Millersville has provided SoWe with Ellie Hammes, the new intern. Working on Communications for SoWe.

## **7. Community Updates**

### **▪ Charlotte Katzenmoyer, City of Lancaster.**

Updates on the Manor-King lighting project. 129 lights will be installed like the ones Downtown. 110 street trees will also be installed. The project was awarded at the beginning of October for approximately \$2 million. The project will begin sometime at the end of December or the beginning of January and will take around 6 months to complete.

Culliton Park currently began the final design work. About \$1 million over the current budget as proposed include the pool renovation and the skate park. Hoping to begin construction in the Spring because of how the baseball park is used almost all year round. The skate park is currently planned in two phases. Starting with a smaller one then adding the final phase, if possible.

### **▪ Gunterberg Foundation Food Give Away**

November 14<sup>th</sup> at Culliton Park. Approximately 300 meals tickets will be given out through SoWe's partner organizations. From 3 pm to 5:30 pm. The meal will feed a family of 4.

## **8. November SoWe Meeting**

Reminder that the next meeting will be held on November 26, 2018 at Christ Lutheran Church, Strawberry and Manor.

## **9. Tire Collection**

Free old tire collection, Saturday November 10<sup>th</sup>, at 421 S. Broad St. Open to all residents of Lancaster County must bring proof of residency. Tires must be off rim, free of water and not excessively dirty.

Ole Hongvanthong made a motion to adjourn. Martha Montes seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.