



**SoWe Lead Board Meeting
Agenda**

August 23th, 2021 5:30 PM
Zoom

- 1. Call to Order**

- 2. Approval of June 28th Meeting Minutes**

- 3. Committee Updates**
 - a. Community Safety**
 - b. Economic Opportunity**
 - c. Housing**
 - d. Neighborhood Connections** – Advoz Listening Circle
 - e. Parks and Public Realm** - Friends of Culliton and More

- 4. SoWe Community Survey**

- 5. September Meeting**

- 6. Board Leadership and Membership**

- 7. Police Recruitment**

Next Meeting: September 27th, 5:30 pm, meet at St. Joseph Parking Lot



**SoWe Lead Board Meeting
Minutes**

June 28th, 2021 5:30 PM
Zoom

Bianca Cordova, Dick Hecker, Martha Montes, Jeff Tischer, Christina Ortega, Gene Duncan, Carole Kirchner, Marie Linares King, Shelby and Jordan Wormley, Luis Ortega, Ole Hongvanthong, Vicente Ramos

Guests/Staff: Jim Shultz, Alex Otthofer, Christina DiCola, Dean Evans

1. Call to Order

Gene Duncan called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

2. Approval of the May 24, 2021 Minutes

Carole Kirchner made a motion to approve the minutes. Peter Barber seconded the motion. The motion passed.

3. Committee Reports

• Community Safety – Safety Cameras

Dick Hecker reported that the Safety Cameras have been installed at Culliton Park. Three new cameras will be funded through SoWe funding. Dick Hecker reported out on a conversation he had with York PD to discuss a free home camera program.

• Economic Opportunity – Manor St and King St Mulching and Volunteerism

Ole Hongvanthong stated that committee members along with SoWe Clean Crew and Bicycle Ambassadors mulched the tree wells of W. King and Manor St. The activity was a great way to engage neighbors. Mr. Hongvanthong encouraged board members to volunteer and organize similar events.

The board discussed a condemned building at the corner of New Dorwart and Manor St. The condemnation was a result of a fire. SoWe staff connected owner to housing relocation services for tenants displaced by the emergency. Alex Otthofer requested contact information of owner to reach business owner to offer resources.

• Housing



Luis Ortega reported that Tenfold received \$150,000 in funding to support the Housing Location Services program through PHFA PHARE program. Mr. Ortega reported that the committee discussed House to Home Program guidelines to ensure the program creates affordable home buyer opportunities.

- Parks and Public Realm

Jake Thorsen updated the group on the Pocket Park and Juneteenth Event

Jordan and Shelby Wormely updated the board on the Artful Intersection project. The committee was successful in advocating to create parking – there will be a net 1 gain for the neighborhood. Engagement survey for community feedback resulted in 130 responses – 60% were from cabbage hill neighborhood. Three engagement session – 100 plus total individuals attend event

4. Directors Report

- a. SoWe Community Survey

SoWe Community Survey set to launch in mid-august and run through the end of November. SoWe needs to get 300 survey respondents. SoWe will be partnering with Millersville University to conduct door knocking to obtain responses.

- b. Funding Proposals/announcements

Jake Thorsen stated that Tenfold has applied to the Department of Community and Economic Development for funding to support housing rehabilitation in SoWe. Tenfold also received funding from PHFA's PHARE program to support Housing Location Services in SoWe.

5. Other Items

Dean Evans introduced himself as a resident and member of the Traffic Commission. The board discussed several traffic areas of concern.

6. Adjournment

Martha Montes Made a motion to adjourn and Dick Hecker seconded motion. The board adjourned at 6:30pm



SoWe Community Safety Committee

July 13th, 2021

1:30 PM

Zoom Video Conference Meeting

Minutes:

1. 400 Block of W. Vine Community Meeting

Committee reported out on a meeting that was held for the 400 W. Vine block in response to a drive-by shooting. Mr. Decker stated that the meeting was intended to bring the block together and build connections to another incident does not happen.

2. Fireworks

Committee discussed firework issues with Chief Bey.

3. Bicycle Ambassador Report

Ambassadors continue to spend most of their time at Culliton Park. Ambassadors are seeing positive changes there. Committee agreed to continue place ambassadors at the park for another month.

4. Police Data Reporting

Dr. Glazier reported out on Police data from the neighborhood.

5. National Night Out

National Night Out will be held August 3rd 5-7pm. All are welcome.



SoWe Community Safety Committee

August 10th, 2021

1:30 PM

Zoom Video Conference Meeting

Minutes:

Attendees: Dave Aichele, Dr. Wes Farmer, Dr. Mary Glazier, Dick Hecker, Walt Legenstein, Martha Montes, Jake Thorsen, Sgt. Sumrall

1. National Night Out Report Out

Committee discussed National Night Out. Police were out on bikes as part of their intentional outreach. Long term relationships cultivated, and new relationships were formed with SoWe as well as first responders. Over 100 people attended the event.

2. Community Survey and Participant Survey

Jake Thorsen updated the group on the SoWe Community survey. Committee discussed the continuation of SoWe after the Wells Fargo Regional Foundation grant is completed.

3. Porch Light Marketing Targeted

SoWe has done intentional outreach for porch lights on key blocks. Post cards were sent to 400-600 block of Lafayette St properties and the 200 block of W. Vine Properties.

4. Bicycle Ambassador Report

David Aichele reported that an Outreach Worker hired last Monday. Outreach Worker is tasked with connecting the unhoused population with housing. She will cover the same footprint as the Ambassadors which includes SoWe.

5. Police Data Reporting

Two categories higher than last year - overdoses and shots fired. Other numbers are consistent or lower than the previous years. Shots fired is at 35 in 2021 as compared to 28 total in 2019



Increased numbers could be an indicator of a more engaged community reporting incidents more than they did in previous years.

Economic Opportunity Committee

August 4, 2021 9:00 AM

Zoom Meeting

Minutes:

Attendees:

Gene Aleci, Christina DiCola, Ole Hongvanthong, Jake Thorsen, Jeremy Young,

1. Façade Improvement Program update

80,000 in funding was budgeted for the Façade Improvement program. Lancaster City Alliance received 35 applications and 20 projects were awarded – 10 owner occupants and 10 investor/landlords. Projects will start as early as this summer.

Jeremy Young presented on past project successes and heightened future projects.

Jeremy Young agreed to check the progress of the demolition of the property on the 700 block of Manor st.

2. SoWe Community Survey Launch

Jake Thorsen outlined the SoWe Community Survey timeline and process. Survey will be open to the public from August to November. Postcards will be sent out to randomly selected homes.

3. Candy Store Open!

Candy Store at 602 St. Joseph is open! Committee members were invited to visit the store to welcome them to the neighborhood. SoWe staff will be visiting the store to make introductions to the initiative.



Committee recommended creating a case study about this project and SoWe's involvement in bringing it from a condemned store front to a new business and affordable housing.

Housing Committee

July 15, 2021

8:30 AM

ZOOM

Minutes:

Attendees:

Attendees: Michael Brenneman, Emma Hamme, Dick Hecker, Rebecca Geiser, Luis Ortega, Jake Thorsen, Allyson Wells

1. Façade Improvement Program Update

\$80,000 in funding was budgeted for the Façade Improvement program. Lancaster City Alliance received 35 applications and 20 projects were awarded – 10 owner occupants and 10 investor/landlords. Projects will start as early as this summer.

2. SoWe Housing Project Updates

a. 559 Manor St

Luis Ortega updated the committee on 559 Manor Street development

b. 221 W. Vine St

221 W. Vine is a House to Home project. The house should be ready for sale soon.

c. 500 and 600 block of Lafayette St. – block focus area

Jake Thorsen stated that SoWe is intentionally marketing programs to the 500 and 600 block of Lafayette. These blocks have high rates of crime, code violations, and other quality of life indicators.

3. Housing affordability discussion continued

i. Deed Restrictions



Committee continued their discussion on deed restrictions and their effects of an individual building wealth.

4. SoWe Community Survey

Jake Thorsen outlined the SoWe Community Survey Process that will be occurring from August to November.

Housing Committee

August 19, 2021

8:30 AM

ZOOM

Minutes:

Attendees: Michael Brenneman, Christina DiCola, Rebecca Geiser, Dick Hecker, Jaylan Martin, Mike Osango, Vicente Ramos, Jake Thorsen, Allyson Wells, Mark Weaver

1. City Updates

City of Lancaster has hired a new Supervisor of Code Inspection. The individual will be joining the next committee meeting. The City is also hiring a new code inspector, Rebecca Geiser shared posting with the committee.

2. SoWe Community Surveys

Jake Thorsen discuss two surveys for the SoWe initiative. First, the participant survey is targeted towards board and committee members and intended to help SoWe understand its effectiveness from the volunteers that guide the organization. Second, the Community Survey, is the community-wide survey which is intended to gauge neighborhood perceptions.

3. SoWe Housing Project Updates

Jake Thorsen discussed potential upcoming housing projects and SoWe's goal of targeting Lafayette St. to improve quality of life and housing conditions for residents.

4. Housing Location Updates



Christina DiCola provided an update on Housing Location Services. Christina stated that most her cases are critical need cases. Issues to placing residents in housing include, lack of section 8 rentals, unemployment benefits not an acceptable form of income, rental scams on the internet and more.

Neighborhood Connections Committee

August 16, 2021 6:00 AM

Zoom Meeting

Minutes:

Attendees;

Marie King-Linares, Isiah Perry, Stu Metzler, Christina Ortega, Loretta Pagan-Crespo, Emerson Sampaio, and Jake Thorsen

1. SoWe Community Survey

Jake Thorsen outlined the timeline and process for the SoWe Community Survey.

2. Advoz Healing Circle 8/19 at 5:30

The committee reflected on the murder that occurred in the SoWe neighborhood last week. SoWe and Advoz will host a Healing and Listening Circle for neighbors and individuals affected by the tragedy. The committee expressed their support and will help spread the word.

3. National Night Out Recap

The committee discussed what worked well and what can be improved on for National Night Out. Overall, committee praised the success of the event and thought the activities and vendors were great. Group suggested an organized activity where community kids could compete with police and first responders next year.

4. Other items from committee members

Isiah Perry invited the group to Bright Side's Fall Fest on October 16th. Mr. Perry also provided information on the Women's STEM Leadership Academy and the upcoming Men's Leadership Academy hosted by Bright Side. SoWe agree to share resources and help spread the word.



Parks and Public Realm Committee

August 18, 2021 6:00 AM

Zoom Meeting

Minutes:

Attendees: Heather Dighe, Rachel Eck-Campbell, Jake Thorsen

1. Culliton Park

Heather Dighe reported the Rec is working with Lancaster Police and Lancaster Safety Coalition to ensure kids are no longer jumping the fence of the wadding pool to swim after program hours.

Ms. Dighe stated that the Rec. is advocating for a Park Ranger position to support safety efforts at the park.

2. Friends of Culliton Park

Committee discussed revamping the Friends of Culliton Park Group. The City of Lancaster is planning to develop an 'Adopt It' program. Parks Committee would like to develop and support the Friends of Culliton Park Group to adopt the park. Committee next steps are to develop list of projects group can tackle, development potential membership list, and organize a kick off meeting.

3. Compost Initiative

Compost Initiative will be hosted at the former Rostolsky Site behind Culliton Park -317 E. Filbert st. Volunteer site clean up is scheduled for Sunday August 22nd at 4pm.