

September 2015 NESCO meeting minutes. 9/22/15

	Present:
Bosart Brown: No Representative	
Brookside:	Tommy Reddicks
Cottage Home: No Representative	
Emerson Heights:	Rebecca Seifert
Englewood: Brent Aldrich	
Grace Tuxedo: No Representative	
Holy Cross:	Kelly Wensing
Little Flower: Sarah Tague	Dan Goldblatt
NoBo:	Aaron Stites
Otterbein: No Representative	
Rivoli Park:	Patt Paff
Spades Park:	Marsha Burkhardt
Springdale:	Shirley Musgrove
St. Clair Place:	Stephen Ball
TEAR/United: No Representative	
Willard Park:	Satchuel Cole
Windsor Park:	
Woodruff Place: No Representative	
At Large:	Chris Staab
At Large:	
At Large: Ruth Shaw	
At Large:	

NESCO President Rebecca Seifert called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.

Attendance and neighborhood updates:

Springdale: getting KIB grant for trail connecting trees

NoBo: Housing committee group met with NEAR and city mosaic for redevelopment. Habitat also meeting with NoBo neighbors for rehabbing homes

LF:

Holy Cross: Neighborhood celebration coming up for networking/social gathering. Oct 10th – fall cleanup Oct 24th 2nd fall cleanup. Home-a-rama at Holy Cross Oct 15-18th and 22nd-25th. Mary Miss sculpture for Butler/Streamlines. Holy Cross now starts at Davidson and goes east

Willard Park: Getting ready for community garden work, fencing and pocket park work. Benches almost done.

St. Claire: Had picnic, was very nice.

Rivoli Park: Oct 10th cleanup. Recently had pocket parks but sold them, no insurance money to cover it. Trying to sell house.

Chris: Rivoli Park part II. They are going to do 911 call sit in.

Spades Park: Nothing going on except Pogues Run trail. Tore up all over the place

Brookside: TURN wrapped up, very successful, will build in future. Almost complete with Brookside/Paramount greenhouse. Soon will be (ADA?) accessible. Nov 1 for completion. Community will plan and kids will manage the plants.

Emerson Heights: Art show at Oasis. The demo near Oasis will be playground for church. Oct 3rd, cleanup. Hoping to do joint meeting with EH/LF/GrTx/BoBro

Board business

Approval of minutes

Tommy moved, minutes passed.

Treasurer report

Kelly: Waiting on storage unit \$\$ and waiting for Pie Day check, et al. Englewood check is in. According to financial statement we have \$22,294 total in all accounts.

501 c3 update

Kelly: no update. Waiting to hear from Matt

Banking update

Rebecca: Looking for another bank because of issues with CU. Still looking at National Bank as they are local and have presence on near eastside. Indiana Members also being looked at. BMO might be an option as well, as per Kelly. Executive Committee might come up with requirements for NESCO's next bank. Looking at what kind of sponsorship too.

Committee reports

NESCO's role in the 21st century

QLP

Rebecca: 1.6.1; 1.6.2 Rental housing issues – NESCO 'toolkit' Tommy: 'toolkit'

Kelly: making sure libraries are there, strengthening neighborhoods and communities; toolkit. We want neighbors to have the tools they need. We need to give power to communities so they know how/where/who.

Pat: People need to have the tools to help themselves. They want NESCO for help, but they need the wherewithal to take care of themselves.

Rebecca: The old NESCO handbook might be part of the toolkit we give to neighborhoods. Let's ppl know what neighborhoods are and when they meet. Rental info. We can expand that toolkit and give it an online presence. If we did thorough job, it can be tweaked every few years.

Steven: CoraLyn is working on something like this.

Kelly: Youth engagement did something similar.

Rebecca: Toolkit is a good way to welcome neighbors. Possibility that NESCO could look at this.

Shirley: NESCO congress could be used.

Rebecca: Near Eastside Summits could involve NESCO more. More NESCO reps should attend Chris' meetings. Oct 5th, be there! Can't enforce things, but can support things. Lots of things should be taken off the QLP. Should focus on what we do.

Chris: 1.2.2 Why is this something NESCO is part of? We're given the lead to change something we have no control of. 1.2.3 – Mini-flip program does not need to be on there.

Tommy: Of 72 pages NESCO is part of, 6 are things we are/have done. Boner Center needed to put a leader in some default referendums. This group does not need to have that many items. It is better to narrow down the focus.

Kelly: Lots of these items should go to individual neighborhoods/groups.

Rebecca: We can clear up some more items. Redevelopment is good for the neighborhoods.

Specific number: 1.6.1: Toolkit;

Marsha: We need to have abandoned homes near trails cleaned up.

Rebecca: There are really cool, old homes in NESCO neighborhoods.

Governance issues

Rebecca: NESCO has had IRS issues from the get-go. If we don't file the right forms, we'll lose our 501 c3 status. Restructuring our board. It is important to have neighborhood input, but it is important that we have a strong governing body. If we don't have strong body, NESCO could fade away. We have to have accountability. We have to file 990. You have to do it, and you have to have people who are accountable and understand the rules and regulations. We need to look at governance issues, it is hugely important as an organization. It could look like a governing board with an attorney, ideally within NESCO. You'd have a CPA. You could have neighborhood reps and the neighborhood board could meet separately. You'd have executive officers of NESCO. Their role would be to make sure we comply with everything. We're not large enough to have an audit, but we might want a review of our books. You have to make sure you have your insurance and legal issues in place. We don't want to get sued or end up in same predicament we're in now. There are groups who can help us for free. We can look at an agency assessment. We're 45 years old, we're still viable and needed but different than we were 45 years ago. What that looks like, I have no idea, but I want the board's permission to have someone look at that going forward and a strategic plan going forward. We're not ready for NESCO congress at end of year, but if we rolled out plan in February at Congress, that will give us time but it will give us work to do. In our bylaws, we might want to look at classes of members. What happens when those 3 year terms

are up? Do we want to look at that? Do we want to look at a legacy board? They can still attend meetings perhaps, but can't vote. Because you still want ppl who are engaged. I don't know what this is going to look like, but if we don't look at our governance issues, NESCO could go away. What do we want to do in the year ahead?

Shirley: What group?

Rebecca: United Way has a service. They have a lot of resources and the price is free! With your permission, I'd like the exec committee to meet with her and begin to look. We might have board meetings. I don't want to take a lot of your time, but I think it is well worth your time to plan ahead for our future. We want to bring more and varied people to the table. How can we support each other on near eastside? We're all in it together. Discussion?

Tommy: Sounds exciting

Steven: We need a Hispanic presence.

Rebecca: We are diverse part of town, but look at this table.

Satchuel: A lot of people sit on multiple boards and multiple things. It not issue that people don't want to be involved but don't feel welcome to be involved. I would not have even known NESCO wanted people on their boards if not for my sister. I live in a rental, you guys are all talking about me and it is not the most welcoming feeling.

Rebecca: I hear you.

Pat: A lot of Spanish people are intimidated by coming to meetings.

Steven: Father Chris representing St Philip Neri would be helpful.

Shirley: It is not a very welcoming committee

Satchel: There are conversations that happens that I don't know what people are talking about, it is a lot to understand. I didn't even know Willard Park had a board. You don't know that boards even exist.

Rebecca: Your experiences are invaluable. I would have never thought about that. Since there is a large rental community, how can we be more welcoming? We need to help each other with this.

Satchuel: I work with low income people every day and have this communication with renters who will never talk with Erin Reel, my boss. My car was broken into Sat, but I didn't call police because they have better things to do. Why do I take up their time to deal with a stolen radio? When I lived next to a drug dealer I don't want police on my front porch. It's not a safe situation. You have to understand the intricacies of the hood. I live at 221 Parkview.

Shirley: When we introduced ourselves and talked about the neighborhood it was good.

Steven: Same people doing everything.

Rebecca: We need to do a better job at outreach.

Satchuel: Steven was welcoming at lanterns and that's why we stayed around. He brought pretzels and that was good.

Rebecca: Next meeting will focus on QLP.

Kelly: Move to seek out Exec Services from United Way

Dan: second

Unanimous in favor.

Adjourned.