



Strong Community. Strong Economy. Vibrant City.

Public Meeting Minutes

South Duke Street Community Meeting

Date: July 29, 2015

Time: 6:30 p.m.

Location: Crispus Attucks Community Center

Purpose: Inform neighborhood stakeholders about the City's Strategic Economic Development Plan, Hear from neighborhood about neighborhood strengths and opportunities and collaborate with neighbors to support and facilitate ideas for enhanced quality of life.

Presenters: Bob Shoemaker, President/CEO; Marshall Snively, Executive VP/COO, DID Executive Director and Shelby Nauman, Vice President

Prepared by: Lancaster City Alliance

This is the first public meeting since launching the 15-Year Strategic Economic Development Plan on June 11th 2015 to talk with residents about the Plan Strategies and to engage in dialogue about strengths, opportunities and vision for the Plan Commercial Hubs and neighborhoods with residents and stakeholders.

Marshall Snively welcomed attendees and asked for brief introductions (about 40 people attended).

Marshall thanked and introduced Cheryl Holland – Jones, Executive Director of Crispus Attucks Community Center.

Bob Shoemaker, Marshall Snively and Shelby Nauman gave a brief overview of the Plan focus area, community engagement, community insights and Plan vision, aspirations and outcomes related to Strategic Economic Development.

Shelby Nauman facilitated group dialogue to identify neighborhood strengths and opportunities:

- While not a strength, neighborhood gentrification is a concern and is already impacting the S. Duke neighborhoods. By example, people are selling homes and moving to Lancaster Green which has a long-term impact when long term residents are displaced. This plan needs to help people stay in their homes.
- There is a lot of good happening in Lancaster and in the Southeast and this plan should expand on that. We need to respect the current stakeholders while incorporating new development.
- “We are a community that knows how to survive”.
- The schools provide a great opportunity to communicate broadly with the community.
- The full scope of the plan is well integrated to support social equity.
- There are many caring residents willing to volunteer their time to work with children.
- There are many caring residents who really care about our youth, the example provided was a group of 30 informal leaders coming together to ensure recent civil unrest across the country did not get incited in Lancaster.
- Leverage local Millersville and HACC students; A street team could help communicate and engage residents.
- The City’s Walkability study recommends several projects that would positively increase mobility for this neighborhood.
- City-owned land on N. Duke Street being considered for local entrepreneurs space for business kiosks
- The youth in this neighborhood and community are doing great things
- This Plan is a framework and provides a lot of data. We need to work together to capitalize on this information.
- More affordable housing is needed
- Stakeholders need to be unified in advocating for affordable housing
- Federal dollars are scarce and many strings attached, must work collaboratively to leverage funds
- We need to remove negative stigma attached to this neighborhood, we are not all poor and suffering.
- There is a need for another plan to address some of the issues of poverty and social equity in the form of a Human Development Plan and the community needs to be fully involved in the process and implementation.
- A social media page for the neighborhood could be used to help promote future meetings, resources, and events – similar to Chestnut Hill page in Northwest

Next Steps

Inventory tangible efforts that are underway and occurring in and around the South Duke Neighborhood, LCA will seek assistance from neighbors and anchor groups and institutions.

Organize a meeting of the Commercial Hub Anchor Organizations and Institutions to communicate plan strategies and what opportunities are existing/planned. Enlist help communicating with neighbors and stakeholders about plan goals, strategies and updates.