



## Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods Alliance Meeting Notes

November 14th, 2022, 6:00-7:00 p.m. at Oshkosh Seniors Center

**Neighborhoods Represented:** Historic 6th Ward (Paulette Feld), Menominee South (Cynthia Thorpe), Millers Bay (Polly Kimball), Menominee North (Patti Waldecker), Historic 4th Ward (Misty Braun), Bent Woods (Mary Jo and Steve VanderLoop), Sawyer-Paine (Liz Michael), River East (Kathy Webb), and Historic Jackson (Shirley Brabender Mattox)

**City Representatives:** Anne Schafer and Brandon Nielsen

**Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods Staff:** Reni Lynch (Board Member), J.D. Williams (Board Member), Tom Fojtik, Lauren Carew, and Cora Strand

**Neighborhoods Not Represented:** Congress Feild, Ferry Crossing, Fox Chase, Lumber River, Marina District, Middle Village, Sacred Heart, Stevens Park, Midtown, and Green Acres

**Welcome and Announcements (Cora Strand, Neighborhood Coordinator):** To start off our meeting, Cora discussed upcoming announcements. First, the annual Food and Toy Drive is coming up. If you are interested in learning more about possible routes for participation, please contact Cora [cora@gohni.org](mailto:cora@gohni.org). Volunteer hours for the 4th quarter are due. Please use the fillable form on our website and email the form to Lauren [lauren@gohni.org](mailto:lauren@gohni.org). If you decide to print off the form, please take a picture/scan the form and email it to Lauren. This is important because we do not have an Alliance meeting in December. Instead of our meeting, we want to invite you to our holiday event! The event is on December 12th at 5:00 pm on the 7th floor of the OHN office, in the community space. We would love to see you all at our social and casual holiday event. Lastly, we want to announce and welcome our newest neighborhood association, Historic 6th Ward!

**Guest Speaker (Scott Fischer, Winnebago County Public Health):** Our guest speaker, Scott Fischer, came to inform us about identifying possible lead hazards and what to do next. Many older homes in Oshkosh have traces of hazardous lead that can impact you and your family. The majority of lead can be found on

windows, siding, and trim. Luckily, Scott Fischer passed out handouts on the Lead-Safe Homes Program. If you are eligible for this program, a risk assessment and lead removal will be granted to prevent childhood lead poisoning. In order to be eligible, a child under the age of 19 must live in your home and you must use Medicaid or Badgercare. If you are interested in learning more about this program, please contact [SFischer@winnebagoountywi.gov](mailto:SFischer@winnebagoountywi.gov) or visit the Winnebago County website for the application.

**City Updates (Anne Schafer, Branson Nielson):** Alexa Naudziunas is leaving the city of Oshkosh and we wish her well in her future endeavors. Please contact Brandon Nielsen, [BNielsen@ci.oshkosh.wi.us](mailto:BNielsen@ci.oshkosh.wi.us), for your city/neighborhood items.

**Neighborhood Projects and CB&E (Cora Strand):** Next, we want to know what the alliance members send their CB&E money on. Kathy Webb from River East NA shared that they bought signs to remind drivers to slow down because kids are present. River East also used their money on birdhouse painting, picnics, a craft project, and doggy signs with doggy bags attached. Cynthia Thrope from Menominee South NA shared that they use their CB&E on neighborhood gardens, benches, lawn signs for their annual meetings/events, renting a shelter, and their annual potluck. Polly Kimball from Millers Bay NA shared that they bought an awning, banner, tables for events, luminaries on Christmas Eve, prizes for their decorating contest, a band for their anniversary, website/email marketing, coffee and donuts for events, hot chocolate for skating event, popcorn for kite flying event, and a mailing. Middle Village NA was not present at the meeting, but one of their CB&E projects was shared. They employed a design company to create a neighborhood shirt. Lastly, Mary Jo from Bent Woods NA shared that they are using their CB&E money on a holiday decorating contest. We want to thank everyone who shared how they use their CB&E money!

**Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods (Tom Fojtik):** We are excited to share a new opportunity that can improve and strengthen your neighborhood's social connectedness. Pedal it Forward is a day when florists hand out free flower bouquets. Traditionally, the florists would hand out two bouquets, so you can have one and then can pass on the second bouquet to someone else. The Senior Center has done this in the past as an awareness campaign, but we encourage you to take advantage of Pedal it Forward in the spring. If flower bouquets are not something for you, then we suggest a neighborhood seed exchange! We also would like to update our alliance core team contact information. If you have any changes to make to your core team, please send us an updated contact list! Lastly, we have a holiday party that we would love to see you at! On December 12th, 4:30-5:30 pm, we will be having a casual and fun holiday get-together on the 7th floor community space in the Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods office. If you have any questions, please contact Tom [tom@gohni.org](mailto:tom@gohni.org).

**End of Meeting**