

## Oshkosh Healthy Neighborhoods Alliance Meeting Notes

February 12th, 2024 6:00-7:00 pm at Oshkosh Senior Center

Neighborhoods represented: Historic 6th Ward (Tim Ernst), Bent Woods (Steve and Mary VanderLoop), Green Acres (Adam Nelson), Quarry Park (Connie Drexler, Kirsten Langkau, Lori Buskirk), Stevens Park (Ron Hansche), River East (Gary Scott, Carmen Scott, Kathy Webb), Menominee South (Amy Aschenbrunner), Fox Chase (Kevin Stein and Andrea Vanderhoven), Millers Bay (Polly Kimball), Sacred Heart (Tim Macho, Jamie Constantine, JD Williams), Menominee North (Dee Walters), Sawyer Creek (Mary DiAngelo), and Lumber River (Bob Gluth)

City staff: Emma Dziengeleski and Brandon Nielsen

**OHN Staff:** Cora Strand and Tom Fojtik

## **Announcements (Cora Strand):**

Welcome bags were a huge success this past year with over 120 bags sent out. If you need bags please contact Emma and she will put them together! Her contact: <a href="mailto:emmaj@gohni.org">emmaj@gohni.org</a> We would like to pass this number as we move through this year. The new manager at our office building is a huge supporter of neighborhoods and would like to invite all neighborhoods to use the upstairs space at anypoint. This is a great resource and if you are interested in touring the space please reach out to Cora and she can set up a time to see the space. Her contact information is: <a href="mailto:cora@gohni.org">cora@gohni.org</a> All CB&E requests moving forward need to be sent to Emma, she is now incharge of all the neighborhood accounts. Please make sure to send those over to her from now on!

**City of Oshkosh:** Cora went over the procedures for city maillings. All mailing needs should go through Emma. We have lots of options for neighborhood mailings so please let us know how we can help get information out to your neighborhoods. Neighborhoods will have one free mailing per year and the other requests will be taken out of their CB&E accounts. To reiterate, for this year each neighborhood still has one free mailing, but if the neighborhood would like to do another, the cost to cover them will again be through CB&E dollars.

## **Spring Rally Discussion (Cora Strand):**

Cora shared the new date for the Spring Rally, April 6th. This is a Saturday and the event will be from 10-2:00pm, with lunch included. Cora went into detail about the event and shared the logistics of what we will be doing. We are grouping the day into three big sections with 3-4 small workshops during each main topic. We are asking associations to bring 4-5 individuals to this event. The registration will be sent out this Friday, the 16th. Please register the number of individuals who will be in attendance. This is going to be mentor focused and we are looking



forward to it. If you have any questions or ideas about this event or if you have any recommendations for the day please reach out to OHN staff!

## OHN Updates (Tom Foitik):

We are looking to revitalize neighborhood associations that have fallen behind on neighborhood meetings and community work. We asked the group to reach into their resources and provide individuals that may live in the following neighborhoods: Marina District and Woodland Park. Please let us know if you are familiar with these areas and have possible connections. Tom discussed the topic of neighborhood revitalization. We are looking for neighbors who may have connections in the Marina District and Woodland Park Neighborhoods. These are inactive associations and will be officially removed as associations by the end of the year if we can not find volunteers to help revitalize their areas. Please let us know if you have a connection with a resident in these locations. Tom shared an update about ARPA funds which we had been requested to apply through the city for our continued funding source.gave an update to the process of the application. We currently have enough money on hand to operate for about 16 months without any additional funds.

Carmen Scott mentioned the Day by Day warming shelter has a large inventory of food that individuals can use to help with their cooking donations for the shelter. This is a great way to get neighborhoods involved in some community service without spending a lot out of pocket. Shirley Barbender-Maddox also stated that the new Vel Phillips school had an open house with a table for each school in the Oshkosh district. These groups are looking for community involvement, and we think neighborhoods would be a great fit! Please reach out to your local school in your association and see if they would be willing to partner with neighborhood projects.

The meeting ended at 6:57 p.m. Fun was had by all.