

Flint Neighborhoods United Meeting
Saturday May 2nd, 2020 9:30-11:30am
Conducted virtually via Zoom
Co-facilitators: Carma Lewis, Theresa Roach, Chris Frye

Updates from Neighbors

Kathleen Gazall-Downtown

- Communicating via text, checking-in on each other, probably just like everyone else we're anxious for this pandemic to be over; we're hanging in and being respectful and following the rules!

Trooper Kramer-Michigan State Police

- Working from home doing background and recruiting
- Youth academy probably not going to occur
- Fully staffed at work; more so to be visible and present if need be
- Q: could you weigh in on security cameras in Kearsley Park?
 - A: that would be at the City level; as far as getting cameras installed and monitoring footage; don't have a lot of knowledge about that
- Email: KramerS1@Michigan.gov
- Phone: 810-358-8605.

Kate Cole-Traffic Taming Task Force

- Excited to tell everyone that Traffic Taming Task Force meeting is this Monday at 4PM on zoom; please join text Kate your email address:
- 810-515-3470
- Volunteers are very important to us
- "High risk" is anything over 35 miles an hour; if you are struck at this speed or higher, chances for recovery are very low

Teddy Robertson-Mott Park

- Mott Park experience; curfew has made Mott Park quieter and more peaceful at night
- Curfew has reduced the amount of speeding, if not changed the behavior
- More and more people are out walking
- Facebook group has been lively, "we help one another, we make masks"

Sylvia Brown-Progressive Turnout Project

- Progressive Turnout Project (PTP) has a single mission of getting voters to the polls
- Designs tests and executes special voter turnout programs
- Launching 6-7 offices around state of Michigan
- Leadership at Flint field office: district operations director and district field officer
- Progressive turnout project has a single mission of getting voters to the polls
- Recruiting for our field reps, who will be the face of our org on the ground speaking with voters at the door and securing their commitment to vote in the upcoming elections
- Application process is online: upload resume, complete first phase interview through hiring portal recording video responses on your time; onboarding 1-2nd week of June
- A job opportunity with electoral advocacy organization Progressive Turnout Project, visit turnoutpac.org/jobs
- Sylvia.brown@turnoutpac.org, 870-826-8774;
- Max.thornburgh@turnoutpac.org, 313-467-4886

Kay Schwartz-Flint Public Library

- When March 23 hit and we were asked to stay home, we already had only half the staff in each day, madly packing to move into our temporary quarters in Courtland Center...then everything paused

- 80% packed to go and about 30% moved; had movers in that were able to move some of our extra children's books to the basement of the charter school on campus so we have overflow shelves down there
- Shelves in GM warehouse in Grand Blanc for overflow books
- All of our staff are being paid because of the millage revenue received from the citizens of Flint
- We have also sold the bonds that citizens approved last November, in early February before this all happened
- 1.77% interest rate is saving money for the people of Flint as we pay it back over the next 12 years; big grant from C.S. Mott, Ruth Mott, and Community Foundation of greater Flint
- Digital library is open 24/7; go to fpl.info and go to the browse and download section
- Q can you renew on the phone?
 - A: yes, you can call and leave a message or email us at: askus@fpl.info

Vivian Williams-100K ideas

- Constructed some virtual office hours 9-3:30 pm for 30 minute slots
- 100K ideas is offering an extension of summer fellowship; opened it up to 12 spots for college students and adding new aspects

Joe Schipani-Flint Public Art Project

- We have COVID diaries up on our website, video documentary of the shutdown during COVID, so if you'd like to do a 2 minute video of what you're doing, you can upload it to the site: flintpublicartproject.com
- <https://flintpublicartproject.com/get-involved/the-covid-diaries/>
- We are pausing on the murals right now until it's safe to do so

Nancy Edwards, Keep Genesee County Beautiful

- Staff have been laid off since March; putting plans in place to get work started in parks and neighborhoods
- Affiliate of Keep America Beautiful; recommended that people not pick up trash and litter
- Instituted curbside pickup of supplies, trash bags, etc.
- Plastic and steel seem to be sites on which the virus can last for many days; many places have closed playgrounds; we can't close parks because there's no way to monitor that
- Email: nedwards@gcparks.org,
- Phone: 810-209-6011

Julie Lopez-Crimestoppers

- Crimestoppers is working from home; quite busy; have been passing along tips
- We've been working with Hamilton Health Network, we have a billboard at West Pierson and Clio Roads
- Geofencing at Pasadena and Clio, 2 mile radius west, if anyone is on an app is associated, they'll get a prompt

Kady Yelloww, Placemaking

- Yesterday Mayor announced reopening task force; appointed folks from community to organize reorganizing of downtown Flint
- For events: how do control size of gatherings; permit applicants will have to demonstrate how they are going to ensure social distancing and keep everyone safe
- Booking musicians in and around downtown for little sets once things reopen
- 10K beautification grant for art and poetry in the alleys downtown...map will be released when the music schedule is finalized

Joyce Ellis McNeal- Neithercut Neighborhood Group

- A lot of misinformation about voting, what's a good outlet for getting good information?
- Is Atherton being turned into a 3-lane road?
- A: they've been replacing gas lines and a water main along Atherton; it will turn into a 3-lane road

Lynn Williams-Community Foundation of Greater Flint

- Neighborhood small grants Mini Grants application deadline has been extended until May 20th
- NSGP@cfgf.org
- Trying to encourage people to do projects that follow social distancing rules

Jane Richardson-King Avenue Plus

- Garden kits and seeds will be available on June 6th - changed date!
- Afternoon drive-throughs with a time slot! Vegetable kit orders closed.
- King Avenue PLUS flower and herb orders accepted through May 16th.
- Call or email for that order form at jrmjrichardson@sbcglobal.net or 810 348-5332.

Gary Hicks-Republic Services

- Safety of Flint residents and all who we serve is the priority
- Restart of bringing services back is going to be a slow ramp up, compost out there from last year; we have a lot to clean up
- Making sure that drivers have PPE was most important; we've upped our sterilization and sanitation efforts
- Staggered start times for pick up, some drivers are starting earlier, some are starting later
- Thank you for your patience through all of this
- Recommends residents use gloves to take out trash; any safety measures are welcome!
- We ask that mattresses be bagged
- Q: There have been questions regarding plastic bags as folks are being asked to dispose grocery bags to mitigate exposure. Any guidance on that matter?
- Q: Are these suggestions/instructions compiled somewhere that we could forward to our neighborhood groups
- hicksg@republicservices.com
- Desk phone: (810) 768-2218
- Cell phone: (810) 691-2993

Jerome Threlkeld, Sloan Museum

- Trying to be great community partners throughout this crisis
- Trying to capture everyone's story
- With us being a resilient community, this is a time where we are interested in telling our story 20 years down the line, the good, the bad, and the ugly
- Sloan Museum's Greater Flint COVID-19 Community Scrapbook Project - <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdVX4HSgnaNSxOh7q4NJ1u0DF1WPbajn3tzkAftoXG4ww7Lmw/viewform>
- Jerome can be reached at (810) 237-3439 or (810) 845-5122
- Email: jthrelkeld@sloanlongway.org

Suzanne Cupal-Genesee County Health Department

- Data posted on Genesee County Health Department daily at 2PM
- www.gchd.us
- Numbers may not reflect the actual total cases in the county because of limited testing
- Health Dept's McCree south location is close; our Burton location is open by appointment and many of our staff are working remotely
- In-person appointments for WIC, family planning, immunizations, and STI testing/treatment
- Testing at Hamilton Health, 9-4pm, there is a screening process
- Monday May 4th will be the last day Hurley is offering testing at that location
 - Why is this testing ending?
 - Shortage of PPE and other laboratory supplies so they have gone through the test kits provided by the state

- Slow incidence of cases in Genesee County, which is a good thing; Hurley trying to bring their staff back onto hospital campus
- Rite Aid is offering testing
- Michigan Health Specialists has two locations offering testing in Burton and Flint
- scupal@gchd.us

Michael Lawlor, City of Flint-Planning & Development

- Updates from the planning division
- Continuing to do outreach and meetings virtually
- Choice neighborhoods project, had an atherton east residents meeting on zoom; another virtual neighborhood block party on May 20th
- Continuing on with Neighborhood Planning meetings, Civic Park meeting today at 2PM, at Imagine Flint Facebook page
- Tuesday, East side coalition planning meeting at 5:30PM on Imagine Flint Facebook Page
- **Q:** is the Land Bank allowing people to bid on houses right now?
- **A (Lucille):** Because the office is closed, Land Bank not doing any feature homes; but please keep track of Facebook page and website because we're posting there
- If anyone had interest in a lot or commercial structure or house, you can submit your application and once we re-open we'll review applications
- City Hall remains open to essential workers

Reynetta Speed-Genesee County Landbank

- Update on Clean and Green program; trying to get people out into the community by the end of the month
- Mowing crews starting up May 18th,

Grace-Metro Development

- Helping small business continue paying their employees
- Working virtually, doing classes

Gary Jones- State of Michigan, Governor's Office

- Where we are in terms of numbers, yesterday's numbers: total confirmed cases 42356 and total deaths 3866
- Governor recently signed an executive order regarding construction and real estate and other work performed outdoors as part of Michigan Safe Start program;
- Approval from FEMA to provide shelter to homeless individuals
- Michigan has also received nearly 390M in federal education funding
- Michiganders can text RESTORE to 741741 (crisis hotlines for mental health support)
 - <https://www.michigan.gov/coronavirus/0,9753,7-406-98158-527860--,00.html>
- Extension of executive order limiting places of public accommodation
- Future to Frontlines tuition-free pathway to college for essential workers
- Equitable access to healthcare resources during the pandemic; requires healthcare facilities to develop nondiscrimination protocols
- \$130M investment in childcare to ensure it's more affordable and accessible
- Governor also imposed safety measures to protect consumers, to reduce exposure to clients and employees
- Important distinction: Stay at Home, Stay Safe extended until May 15 and State of Emergency and Disaster Declaration, which allows us to be able to do a lot of things to protect people, access resources, etc. has been extended until May 28
- Email: Jonesg9@michigan.gov
- Cell: 517-282-3193