

FNU Meeting  
May 1, 2021 9:30-11:30  
Facilitator: Lucille James

### **Mindful Moment with Theresa**

#### **FNU Traffic Taming Taskforce**

- Detroit News recently posted 10 most deadliest roads in Michigan, Flint made list with Dort Highway; FNU has shown Dort is dangerous in many ways; e.g. bus terminal
- Crim gave Traffic Taming Taskforce a new radar sign, solar-powered, don't have to go out and change batteries (which is dangerous!)
- Statistics: 4013 Dupont Road, tracking southbound traffic; only 18% of traffic is compliant with 35m/h speed; 21% is 'high risk'
- Close to Max Brandon Park
- These stats came when sign was in covert mode; when we turned the lights on so that vehicles could see their speed, it helped slow people down, raised compliance number to 27% and high risk number dropped significantly as well; thus, the sign is helped
- How do we get the data to the people who can make a difference?

#### **NEH**

- May 15th will be a city-wide clean-up
  - Laura with Neighborhood Engagement Hub, Americorps service member, CS Mott foundation gave funds to facilitate a city-wide clean-up, across all 9 wards first 1 of 2 is happening on May 15; in first stages of finalizing where that's going to be
  - Most Wards are interested in volunteers; while we have funds to provide supplies and a pool of volunteers to reach out to
  - Will have dumpsters in various locations across all 9 wards
  - Use that as an opportunity to clean blight across the city

#### **West Flint Community Watch**

- Report on blight work this month; have a small senior hardy group who did a "blight blast" in April 16, took out 38 bags of trash and yard waste, from the front of a Land Bank home on Corunna road; a neighbor stopped and threw money at us, and others honked their horns as they went by; was a big blight spot
- Back of Zimmerman school has become a major dumping site

#### **Eastside Franklin Park**

- Holding a 4th ward clean-up, 10-3, we'll be staged out of the Washington Elem. parking lot (Arlington, between Missouri & Ohio), 1409 Arlington
- Will have a couple of 40-yard dumpsters, snacks,
- Call Edna @ (810) 908-7654 for more information.

#### **Civic Park is also having a cleanup**

#### **Communities First will be doing a clean up as well**

- <https://www.facebook.com/events/498628951573772/>
- 11-2

#### **Ballenger Square Community Association**

- Clean up on May 15th from 10am til 3pm.
- We need volunteers as well: contact Doris Viverette, 936-3617 or Marijoyce Campbell, 239-0199.
- "Thank you so much and a prayer for your success with all of your efforts to make Flint a vibrant and beautiful city."

#### **Genesee Land conservation District, Haley Dukas**

- "Improving Neighborhoods by Mitigating Trees"

- Different trees, benefits, hazards, how to identify/differentiate
- Environmental (shade, windbreaks, runoff, oxygen, absorb CO2); economic (property value; timber)

### **Tire Drop Off**

- May is “Love Your City” Month
- Information for tire on page 3 of the Love Your City PDF.
- Environmental Rubber Recycling
- 6515 N. Dort Highway on May 8th
- 8107627744 for more information

### **Mayor Neeley**

- Public Safety Millage; encourage people to vote “yes”
- Tire BuyBack Program, 9am-1pm, Saturday May 8th at the Environmental Rubber Recycling, \$1/tire, up to \$25 tires,
- “Engage in our blight fight, we’re winning that battle, we need people to engage in that battle”
- Pennies from Heaven
- Working to 5 Pillars,
- infrastructure repair, homeowner rehab, replacing dollars in our buckets

### **Genesee County Land Bank**

- Clean and Green kicked off April 28th, 69 groups participating, this is largest amount of group participation ever!

### **Lt. Short**

- “Thorny bushes are a wonderful tool” regarding blight and crime; if you have people that want to congregate on your yard
- Neighborhood groups, if you want to add this to list of things
- In Flint, crime is still a big issue
- From 2019 to 2020, seized double the number of firearms off the street
  - More guns or more seizing?
    - Unclear whether these numbers are an indication of more guns on the street; or more of a push to seize; working to find out why there are apparently more guns

### **Presentation: University of Michigan-Flint, Office for Institutional Equity (Mia McNeil, J.D., Thomas Bell, Ph.D., Jan Furman, Ph.D.)**

- Urban Institute for Racial, Economic & Environmental Justice
- Mission to interrupt deficit narratives of Flint; want to tell a more complex and nuanced and accurate story
- Equity, in schools, healthcare delivery, social determinants of human wellbeing
- Principles of Operation
  - Research focused; community engaged, interdisciplinary
- Focus on Youth, birth through college
- Committed to ongoing community partnerships
- Disruptive practice to the process of reiterating and indoctrinating aspects of white supremacy in teaching, how to approach from a systems perspective
  - Disrupting white supremacy also involves giving schools rooms and space to make change and uproot some of these things
- [Urban-institute@umich.edu](mailto:Urban-institute@umich.edu)

### **Countywide Expungement Fair**

- May 19; Genesee County Jail
- Contact [adel.lewis@yahoo.com](mailto:adel.lewis@yahoo.com) for more info

### **Renee’ Harvey**

- The GCLBA season crews start May 3rd in Area 1 which is in the top NW corner of the city.
- We are still in need of more people to hire to complete the seasonal crews.
- Crews will be crossing from the West to the East along Pierson Rd North boundary for the month of May
- Resumes and interests can be sent to [dbickford@thelanbank.org](mailto:dbickford@thelanbank.org)


### **Kay Schwartz**

- Slowly reopening more and more!
- Crapo street book drop has been subsumed by parking lot renovations; everything's been torn up for new parking lot!

### **Voters Not Politicians** (Rick Sadler and Essence Wilson, Communities First)

- Working on redistricting efforts to make sure public has information and knowledge about process
- Voters not Politicians led to the end of gerrymandering
- Redistricting starts with the census; which is what gives information for process calls apportionment, and reapportionment
  - The final number increase, decrease, or leave unchanged the number of state reps elected to US House of Representatives
- Historically this process was done by the politicians; goal is to have this process driven by voters
- Results of 2020 Census determined that Michigan would lose a Congressional seat
- Gerrymandering is practice of drawing districts to favor one political party or racial group, skews elections, etc.
  - In 2018, Voters in Michigan amended the Michigan Constitution in the November 2018 general election to make citizens - not legislators or special interest - responsible for drawing district lines
- New Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission (ICRC)
  - Bipartisan and nonpartisan redistricting commission
  - 4 Democrats, 4 Republicans, 5 who do not affiliate with either major political party
  - Communities of interest
    - Individual who share common bonds, interests, if not political affiliations
- If you want more Voters Not Politicians information about presentations about redistricting and mapping, write Rick Sadler ([sadlerr@msu.edu](mailto:sadlerr@msu.edu)) or Beth Little ([marlitt5000@gmail.com](mailto:marlitt5000@gmail.com))
- Contact Voters Not Politicians: [support@votersnotpoliticians.com](mailto:support@votersnotpoliticians.com)
- [redistricting@communitiesfirstinc.org](mailto:redistricting@communitiesfirstinc.org)
- Please attend the Voters Not Politicians presentation on mapping this Monday evening at 7 PM at <https://www.mobilize.us/vnp/event/385933/>

### **Edible Flint's Garden Kit Distribution Day**

- 3216 ML King flowers, Herbs & vegetables
- Contact Connie Edwards for  810-7850062