

Nassau Community Connections, Inc.

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday June 8th, 2021, 7:00 PM

Grace United Methodist Church House/Future Community Center

Our grassroots organization builds community, inspires hope, and networks for equity by raising awareness and connecting essential resources

Attendees:

Joseph Gil, Communications Officer; John Imhoff, Secretary; Shaykha Sheila DS Foraker, AQRT Sufi Order; Diana Murphy, Nassau Resource Center; Pastor Dion Marquit, Grace United Methodist Church; Dana Salazar, Esq.; Jean Waggoner, Nassau resident.

MEETING MINUTES

Opening Reflection led by Pastor Dion Marquit.

Opening Announcements

- Heidi Buono from Rensselaer County Community Caregivers was unable to attend this evening's meeting due to a medical emergency. She will send some informational pamphlets and may be joining us at a later date.
- Michael Needham and Lori Clark were also unable to join this evening's meeting.

Village Wide Yard Sale

- We have many items for the Sale this Saturday.
 - Items have been tagged with prices
 - Have fliers made up to highlight the new community center
 - Will offer hot dogs to visitors during the sale
 - Lori Clark is looking for volunteers throughout the day for set up at about 7:30 AM, between 8AM and 12PM, and from 12PM to 4PM with breakdown around 3:30.

Chicken Barbecue

- We've settled on a date of August 1 – this date met the needs of many of our members and the schedule of the Chandler Young Veterans Association.
- The intent is to sell 350 dinners.
- Chaplin Needham will be getting the tickets printed soon and we will need all hands to sell as many tickets as they can.
- Joseph Gil indicated that he has reached out to Ginsberg's management who has assured us that the chicken order for our event will be handled by his best people.
- Diane Murphy requested that we purchase coleslaw containers this year rather than rely on those that were donated last year. There was an issue with the lids not fitting properly and we want to avoid that trouble this time. Diane will find an example of what we would be looking for so that we can get the appropriate type.

Community Center Work Party

- Want to organize a work party to prepare the Community Center for opening at the end of August.
- Basically we need to vacuum and paint the ceiling, remove the expanding room divider, seal up an external door and prep for some of the other work that can be done later in the summer.
- Suggestions were raised for the weekends of June 19th or 26th
- Those present decided on Sunday June 27 starting at noon.

Communications Officer Report

- Joseph Gill indicated that he was working on the flyer for the chicken barbecue and now that he had the finalize date we can move forward with that we definitely want to push the opening of the community center on that flyer.
- The website's community calendar is up and functional.
 - There was a lively discussion about the types of things that we wanted to have included on the calendar.
 - Agreement that the events should be community-focused rather than commercial or special interest.
 - If people have events they would like to see put on the calendar, please reach out to Joe and he can add them.
- Joseph also indicated that the website is finished, and the glitches are fixed. Google Google Suite is fully functional and we're in the process of trying to build an email list for distribution of NCC events and information.
 - Want to make sure there is a sign up sheet at the community yard sale on Saturday so we can get people's names, phone numbers and email addresses.
- Jean Waggoner asked if we might be able to set up the website so that people could purchase chicken barbecue tickets through our donate button.
 - Dana Salazar suggested that while it was probably possible to do this, we would need to look into the idea a bit as the accounting may be tricky
 - Might be tricky to account for the differences between funds raised as donations to NCC (as a non-profit organization) and funding raised through purchase of BBQ tickets sold as a fundraiser.

Meeting ended with a closing reflection led by Shykha Sheila Foraker.

Next meeting - Tuesday July 13, 2021 – Location to be determined.