

Lancaster Downtowners Board Meeting

September 23, 2009

Minutes

Present: Rod Houser, Mimi Shapiro, Bob Ibold, Del Seitz, Mary Lou Higgs, Nancy B. Rogers, Joni Soost, Emily Booker, Ken Nissley

Absent: Mimi Shapiro, Nancy B. Rogers

Meeting facilitated by Emily Booker

1. **Treasurer Report**—Cash balance is \$2,773.37
2. **October 12 Annual Meeting Planning Review**
 - a. Panel will definitely include Berry Friesen, David Grenadier, Representative from Lancaster General Hospital. Some confusion with PA AARP—Speaker who was lined up understood that she would be a keynote speaker rather than a panel participant. AARP rep still pending.
 - b. Ken Nissley will moderate—Each person will be held to 12 minutes. Q&A will follow.
 - c. Attendees will be given a card to note questions. Del will collect and organize cards into similar topics for Q&A.
 - d. Nature of presentations will be to review and educate on various aspects of health care reform without strong advocacy for any one approach. Mary Lou Higgs will respond to Jerry Policoff that we are not extending an invitation to him to speak on behalf of P4P.
 - e. Bob Muth, Bernie Rauser and Susan Leinberger have assisted in planning for the program and will assist with hospitality functions at the event.
 - f. Volunteers for food: Mary Lou—cookies; Joni—cookies, cups and napkins; Emily—cookies; Del—pretzels; cider and lemonade—?
 - g. Email publicity—Rod will prepare email after names of panel participants are finalized and forward the message to other persons for posting through their email lists: Christine (?) for Musser Park, Fred Pargeon for Five Point Neighborhood, Del for Lancaster Avenue, Mary Lou for Charlotte Street. Email announcement will include an rsvp and cost of \$5 for non-members, waived if new membership is made.
 - h. Bob Ibold will prepare press release for newspaper publicity
 - i. Rod will begin evening with welcome, review of interest survey, invitation to indicate other areas of interest, review of Beth's initiative of Just One Call and call for volunteers to make this happen. Time limit: ten minutes
 - j. Rod will introduce Ken who will facilitate program
 - k. At 8:30, Ken will introduce Emily who will recap invitation to membership, submitting ideas etc., and invite for refreshments. Emily will announce a November Downtowner event, another ethnic restaurant which Rod will set up.
 - l. Del and other reps from planning group will be present at registration table.
 - m. Cost for non members will be \$5 and indicated on email announcement.
3. **Village to Village Network Conference**—Emily Booker and Bob Ibold (*confirmed following meeting*) will attend the Village to Village conference in Washington, D.C. October 26. Rod will register them before September 25 deadline and register a third person, hopefully Jane Phillips. (Ken indicated possibility of filling in if a third person cannot be found.)
4. **F&M Re-Leaf Day**—Bonita Reed will coordinate the F&M student service offer to do fall yard work for members on November 7. Rod will announce this on mailing list as a member only benefit and direct people to Bonita for scheduling.
5. **Membership List**—Rod has updated membership list and will send pdf's to board members as well as an updated list of persons on mailing list who are not members. This member list will also be posted on website for member only access.
6. **Home Gatherings**—Home gatherings have been very successful. Most recently, twenty people gathered at Bob Muth's home. Joni agreed to set up and schedule future events. Emily will assist her.
7. **Membership History**—Ken asked if there could be some sort of graphical representation, prepared periodically to show ups and downs (hopefully ups) of membership numbers.
8. **Board**—We have a real need to recruit more board members who have time and energy to commit to the goals of the organization. Del indicated that his neighbor, Wayne Purcell, may be a possibility. As an attorney, Wayne's participation would be helpful to provide legal advice.

9. **Just One Call**—It would be a great boost to the organization if we could find three volunteers to oversee at least a version of the Just One Call initiative outlined by Beth. Rod will briefly summarize the initiative at the fall meeting and solicit possible leadership.
10. **Office Phone**—We do indicate a phone number on the brochure which is the alliance office phone designated for Downtowners. Rod will set up a schedule for board members to make weekly checks for messages.

Recorded by Rod Houser