

**Greensboro Neighborhood Congress (GNC)**  
**Meeting Notes**  
**Thursday, April 12, 2012**

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**GNC Co-Chairperson Susan Taaffe** convened the April GNC meeting at the Community Foundation of Greater Greensboro beginning with our traditional introduction of all participants and presentations by guest speakers.

**Guest speakers:**

**Darryl Kosciak, Executive Director of Partners Ending Homelessness (PEH)** coordinates the efforts of 12 organizations working to end homelessness in Guilford County. A contemporary “Continuum of Care” model includes implementing best practices, then measuring and documenting increased efficiencies in services and placements across all of the organizations, so that each organization’s mission is used to its best advantage.

On any given day there are approximately 1,000 homeless persons in Guilford County. Wednesday, January 25, 2012 was the most recent “Annual Point in Time Count” of local homeless persons during a 24-hour period. This year’s count of persons experiencing chronic homelessness has decreased. Most have some shelter. Recent trends include a 28% increase in homeless veterans, a 49% increase in homeless who are substance abusers or mentally ill, and a 60% decrease in chronic (over 1 year plus a debilitating condition) homelessness in Guilford County.

PEH’s Guilford County plan to end chronic homelessness was initiated in 1996 and focused on rapid housing which pays for up to two months’ rent followed by case management. In 2012, homeless persons are encouraged to visit Greensboro’s new **Interactive Resource Center (IRC)** on Washington Street, a multi-service day center for the homeless where help is provided to obtain an ID, driver’s license, food, laundry, clothing, showers, and on-going help with housing and employment opportunities.

Neighborhoods and individuals can help by identifying locals who appear to be homeless, providing snack bags and toiletry items, building relationships and sharing information about the IRC. PEH seeks volunteer Board members and service provision partners. Future opportunities include working with the judicial system so those facing foreclosure are referred to the PEH and IRC prior to loss of their homes.

**Committee Reports:**

**Membership - Peter Kauber** indicated the GNC has 48 member Associations, associated with 90 neighborhoods and ~22,000 dwelling units. He reminds all GNC participants to **sign in when attending GNC meetings**. That record of attendance determines your GNC voting privileges. To update your neighborhood’s representatives or to encourage GNC meeting attendance please contact Peter at 336-852-8791 or e-mail [pkauber@triad.rr.com](mailto:pkauber@triad.rr.com).

**Treasurer –** No report.

**Issues & Bylaws –Michael Pendergraft** continues to research options to reinstate aggressive proactive rental housing inspections since Greensboro’s Rental Unit Certificate of Occupancy (RUCO) ordinance was overruled at the state level. Send questions/suggestions to Mike at [mrp\\_mlp@bellsouth.net](mailto:mrp_mlp@bellsouth.net). Marsh Prause indicated City Council is considering changes to our City Noise Ordinance. A motion passed asking GNC Co-chairpersons to encourage City Council not to raise allowed noise levels in neighborhoods beyond the Central Business District. The Issues & Bylaws (I&B) Committee led by Marsh Prause continues to discuss how the City could provide incentives for businesses to occupy underutilized or empty commercial property before rezoning residential property for commercial use, to reduce commercial infiltration into residential neighborhoods. Laura Jackson asked the I&B Committee to investigate the Unified Development Ordinance (UDO) to restrict opening new nightclubs near residential areas.

## Announcements –

- Nettie Coad, an original GNC member and neighborhood leader from the Ole' Asheboro Neighborhood passed away this month. GNC Co-chairpersons will share with her family our condolences and our appreciation for her persistent and passionate efforts for improved housing and appropriate land use in Greensboro neighborhoods.
- Sunday, April 22, 2012, Greensboro's new Keely Park opens.
- Sunday May 6, 2012, a new section of the Downtown Greenway opens near the College Hill Neighborhood. Visit <http://www.downtowngreenway.org/> or contact Dabney Sanders at (336) 387-8353.
- Sunday, May 13, 2:00 p.m. is a Mother's Day walking tour of Greenhill Cemetery, hosted by Friends of Green Hill Cemetery. \$5/person tour donations support this organization.
- To add a link to your neighborhood's website from the GNC website, contact Ann Stringfield at [InfoCrofters@triad.rr.com](mailto:InfoCrofters@triad.rr.com).
- Update your neighborhood's contact information to Donna Newton at [bdnewt@yahoo.com](mailto:bdnewt@yahoo.com).
- Forums to discuss a proposed Greensboro Performing Arts Center (GPAC) are planned for April and May. For details contact <http://gpac2012.com/> or [projectmanager@gpac2012.com](mailto:projectmanager@gpac2012.com).
  - Saturday, April 21, 12 to 1:30 p.m. (Haywood Duke Room, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 607 N. Greene St.)
  - Saturday, April 21, 3:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. (Haywood Duke Room, Holy Trinity Episcopal Church, 607 N. Greene St.)
  - **Districts 1 & 2** (Represented by Diane Bellamy Small and Jim Kee)  
Thursday, May 3, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Webb Hall, **N.C. A&T State University**)
  - **District 3** (Represented by Zack Matheny)  
Tuesday, April 24, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Fellowship Hall, Cathedral of His Glory, **4501 Lake Jeanette Road**)
  - **District 4** (Represented by Nancy Hoffman)  
Thursday, April 26, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Parish Hall, St. Andrews Episcopal Church, **2105 W. Market St**)
  - **District 5** (Represented by Trudy Wade)  
Monday, April 30, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. (Hemphill Branch Library, **2301 W. Vandalia Road**)
  - Thursday, May 24, 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 a.m. (The Regency Room, 203 S. Elm St.)
  - Thursday, May 24, noon to 1:30 p.m. (The Regency Room, 203 S. Elm St.)
  - Thursday, May 24, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. (The Regency Room, 203 S. Elm St.)

**Our next GNC meeting is Saturday, May 12, 9:00-11:00 a.m.** in the Nussbaum Room of the Central Public Library.

Respectfully submitted by Ann Stringfield of the Fisher Park Neighborhood, April 17, 2012