



## TASK FORCE MEETING #1 MINUTES

Date: August 31, 2016

Location: Simpson Garden Park

### Present:

Matt Bostdorff, Jill Carr, September Killy-Knight, Tony Buff, Ron Newlove, Mark Remeis, Todd McGee, Jill Inkrott, Megan Newlove, Ben Waddington, Father Jason Kahle, Mark Ohashi, Pastor Rob Spicer, Pastor Dana Ward, Andy Alt, Dr. Tom Gibson, Steve Krakoff, Francis Scruci, Gary Hess, Bruce Jeffers, Tina Bradley, Joe Fawcett, Brian O'Connell, Heather Saylor, Adam Rosa, Tom Olson

### Absent:

Joel Kuhlman, Michelle Clossick, Bob Maurer, Sylvia Chandler, Susie Wagner, Lori Young, Greg Dickerson, Greg Beck

### Notes:

Task Force (TF) members introduced themselves.

Adam delivered a brief presentation on the plan and the role of TF.

TF discussed findings from Community Meeting #1, specifically in regards to **Assets, Issues, and Opportunities**.

1. Assets
  - Is East Side focus being muddied by talk of City-wide neighborhoods?
  - What is the Vision for the East Side? What is the goal of the Community Action Plan (CAP)?
  - The condition of homes in the project area has changed with the due to conversions from single-family occupancy to multi-tenant rentals.
  - There are rental management and development companies within Bowling Green that care about their properties.
2. Issues
  - Not all renters are students. Discussion of issues in the East Side requires this distinction be made.
  - One bad quality contributes to a broader negative perception of the neighborhood than what may be warranted. The problem isn't with specific individual homes.
  - Increasing vibrancy and addressing neighborhood design details (i.e. sidewalks, streets, lights, etc.) would improve perception of neighborhood quality.
  - Well-paved streets would improve perception of neighborhood quality.
  - It may be worth pinpointing problematic properties to isolate problems and reduce scope of challenges.

- Code enforcement is only able to enforce regulations that are on the books. There is a misperception of what code enforcement is able to do. This misunderstanding leads to residents thinking that code enforcement isn't as effective as it could be.
3. Opportunities
- There is a misunderstanding or a lack of information on the hurdles to implementing projects or strategies.
  - What are the costs to improvements? Where does the funding come from? This information needs to accompany all suggested projects.
  - It is best to match opportunities to specific issues.
  - Feasibility of implementation will entice investment.
  - Action project specificity will improve community buy-in.
  - There should be more focus on or attention paid to incentives to entice investment.
  - Regarding local vs. chain business establishments, the City is open to all businesses, so long as they follow zoning regulations.
  - The City needs to be flexible in order to attract and retain businesses and residents for economic development.

Meeting concluded.