

NearNorth UNITY PROGRAM

Near North Unity Program (NNUP)
Membership Meeting AGENDA
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm
February 26th, 2018

1. Welcome & Introductions - Randall welcomed the community to the meeting and asked everyone in attendance to take 5 minutes to greet their neighbor or introduce yourself to someone new.

a. Review Question and Answer Guidelines

- i. One question per person, one follow up question and then the meeting facilitator will move on to the next community member's question.
 - 1. Randall reviewed the Q&A guidelines.

2. The NHP Foundation

a. Mark Twain Renovation

- i. Kendra Stensven & Fred Mitchell, NHP Foundation (Presentation attached)
 - 1. Randall introduced and invited Kendra and Fred to the podium
 - a. NHP is a NYC based organization, mission is to preserve affordable housing.
 - b. NHP is receiving Historic tax credits, Enterprise tax benefit and acting in compliance with the HUD relocation Act.
 - c. Purchased Mark Twain in June of 2017, would like to be good neighbors, tenants not displaced, temporarily moved out and the priority is to have existing tenants move back once renovation is complete.
 - d. Utilities are included in rent.
 - e. Will be managed by Heartland, Adding CHA Sect.
Construction Linn Mathes

2. Q&A Session

- a. How many residents are at the Mark Twain?
 - i. 135, all have apartments to return
 - 1. Caveat - low income tax credits, 8 unrestricted units
 - 2. Leased to 60% AMI - income limit of approx \$34k/year
 - 3. Residents need to be in 'good standing' - current on rent.
- b. Does NHP Foundation on work with SRO's?

- i. No, Mark Twain is first, 1/3rd of NHP's 7,000 units are section 8 and 20% of their portfolio is regular to senior only housing.
- c. What does NHP stand for?
 - i. National Housing Partnerships
- d. What is an SRO?
 - i. Single Room Occupancy, more affordable and stable.
- e. The Section 8 is building based?
 - i. Correct, subsidy does not go with the renter
- f. What's the difference between hotel and motel?
 - i. There is zero connection, considering name change to The Mark Twain Residences.

3. Accion Chicago

- a. Supporting Entrepreneurs in the Near North
 - i. Eric Mazelis - Community Lender, Accion
 - 1. Randall introduced and called Eric to the podium.
 - a. Eric shared that Accion is a non profit small business lender that are able to lend where banks are sometimes constrained. They have been providing micro loans in Chicago for 25 years. Example businesses are food trucks, lawncare and restaurants (20%).
 - b. They are 30% self funded and utilize funding from banks via the community reinvestment act.
 - c. Business coaching is FREE

4. HighSight

- a. Scholarships, tutoring, mentoring and leadership development programs
 - i. Jesus Gomez, Program Coordinator
 - 1. Randall welcomed Jesus Gomez to the podium.
 - a. Jesus shared that HighSight has been in the community since 1992 and is an intensive program that provides support both financial and academic for students that have been accepted to a private/parochial high school.
 - b. Once admitted, HighSight works with financial aid received from High school to work 'on top' of that.
 - c. Includes commitment from family so that there is some 'skin in the game'.
 - d. Prior to freshman fall semester, they offer a summer intensive of 3 to 4 weeks of academic sessions.
 - e. Application deadline is March 30th.
 - f. Project College for Juniors - application deadline in April

g. Opportunities - looking for language tutors.

5. Announcements - Randall reviewed the announcements below and thanked everyone for attending.

- a. **Suggestion Box** at the check in table - please feel free to drop off suggestions for NNUP
- b. **NNUP will be 'On the Move'** beginning in March we'll be hosting the NNUP Monthly meetings at different locations throughout our community - stay tuned for more information and location announcements
- c. **March 4** - Art On Sedgwick, Drawn Together Event, Sunday at 4pm to 6pm, The Sono Chicago, 1428 N. Cleveland
- d. **March 8** - Seward Park Advisory Council Meeting, 375 W. Elm, 6pm
- e. **March 10** - NNUP Employment committee meeting, Saturday at 9:30am, Panera Bread, 400 W. Division St.
- f. **March 20** - Stanton Park Advisory Council Meeting, 618 W. Scott, 6pm
- g. **March 20** - NNUP Safety Committee Meeting, 10:30am, 1111 N. Wells St., Leslie Hall (back room)
- h. **March 22** - NNUP Youth & Families Meeting, 11am, 1111 N. Wells St., Room 301
- i. **March 26** - NNUP Monthly Meeting