



Fayetteville Council of Neighborhoods

Together We Will Make A Difference

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FAYETTEVILLE COUNCIL OF NEIGHBORHOODS

Thursday, March 19, 2009 6 PM

Michael Thomas brought the meeting to order.
Minutes* from the Feb. 19, 2009 meeting were approved

Those in attendance introduced themselves by name and neighborhood or affiliation as follows:

Michael Thomas, Sunset Woods POA; Don Conner, Root School; Susan Jenkins, Elm/Erstan/Baker; LaVerne Cogan, West 62; Stan Lancaster, Jefferson-Walker; Bob Caulk, Mt. Sequoyah South; Walt Eilers, Waterman Woods; Nancy Allen, Woodland; Lewis Teague, Cedarwood II; Julie Durrough, Dickson St.; Julie McQuade, City Neighborhood Coordinator; as well as Skip Deceant from the Morning News.

Don Marr, City Chief of Staff, spoke to the group about the upcoming Fayetteville Economic Summit to be held Mar. 31-Apr. 4, 2009. This two-day event is being held to gather citizen input concerning the direction Fayetteville will take in the years to come. This input will be brought to the Regional meeting, to be held at a later date, by the City's Steering Committee. Marr emphasized the importance of citizen participation, especially requesting representatives from FCON to attend. Others involved will be the U of A, the Chamber of Commerce, and representatives from the business community, the school board and A&P, among others. The hope is to engage as many groups within the community as possible. Issues are how to attract businesses and employees, what amenities bring people to an area, what should be done to keep businesses already here thriving, what action should be taken, and at what time frame will be discussed. Some ideas have been formulated already, and these will be discussed with citizens in order to get an agreement on course of action. Information about the event is available at www.accessfayetteville.org. Brief question-and-answer followed.

John Coleman, Sustainability Coordinator, the scheduled speaker had to reschedule. Substitute speaker, Barbara Price Davis with You Can! also canceled.

Nancy Allen spoke to us about the FCON-sponsored Beauty Mark award, encouraging us to continue its presentation. This award is co-sponsored by the NW Arkansas Times.

There have been five awards given over the years so far. The Beauty Mark Award honors businesses that strive to enhance the beauty of business buildings and/or landscape. Nominations are accepted on-line at www.accessfayetteville.org, or at the Farmer's Market. The first of two awards this year will be presented in early summer.

Michael Thomas, FCON Chairman, requested those present to continue efforts to get Neighborhood associations to participate in our meetings. It was suggested that while phone and e-mail contact is good, face-to-face contact brings the best results.

Neighborhood updates followed. Neighborhoods are still dealing with the after effects of the ice storm. LaVerne Cogan expressed concern at being unable to get other Neighborhood Assoc. members to participate in the monthly meetings. Since communication is so good, from list-serves and phone calls, to seven separate showings of the meeting on TV, people feel they don't have to actually attend the meetings. As part of his update, Stan Lancaster spoke briefly about the City's potential land acquisition at 15th and Huntsville Rd. where a community garden would be established. Walt Eilers' update included a reminder about the Botanical Gardens of the Ozarks on March 21st, from 10 am to 1pm. This event is organized by "Replant NWA," in reaction to the tree devastation. Free trees will be given away. Lewis Teague, new to FCON, related his neighborhood's problems with robberies, and his efforts to engage his neighborhood concerning this issue. Found that door-to-door interaction with neighbors was a benefit in itself. Neighbors now alert each other when they'll be out of town.

Ideas for our April 16th meeting were: UA Housing Office, which we'll do closer to the new school year. Return of Don Marr for an Economic Summit update. Rescheduling of John Coleman, Sustainability Coordinator.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Jenkins, Secretary

* Minutes may be viewed on-line at
[www.accessfayetteville.org/government/neighborhood_resources/documents/
Council_of_Neighborhoods_Meeting_Minutes/FCON_March_19_2009_Minutes.pdf](http://www.accessfayetteville.org/government/neighborhood_resources/documents/Council_of_Neighborhoods_Meeting_Minutes/FCON_March_19_2009_Minutes.pdf)