Long Branch Partners Meeting

Date: June 21, 2022 @ 3:30 PM by zoom

Attendees

* Bruce Baker
* Naidia Douglas
* Jacob Newman
* Maureen Larenas (attended briefly)
* Febe Huezo
* Sara Mussie
* Agar Mbianda
* Hellen Lainez
* Vanesa Pinto
* Emily Luyo
* Claudine Schweber
* David Mullins
* Pazit Aviv

**Announcements**

Claudine – The Takoma Park Police is offering free Residential Security Survey. You can make an appointment and they will come in and have it installed, it takes about an hour to be installed. 301-270-1100

Sara – Early conversations about having a back to school drive and health fair. Please send an email for an invite.

Agar – White House and friends on September 22nd. Requesting ideas from the group regarding involving others with experience

Febe – Summer program – Storytime both indoor and outdoor. Storytime resumed. Further information will be provided.

Hellen – Spanish Literacy class will be available this summer. This is for Spanish speakers who want to learn to read and write. No membership from Casa is required. No programs for children currently available. There is a nutrition class available. Free class for couples available in conjunction with Maryland Uni, helping with communication, money management, stress, etc. It offers a $150 gift card for complete attendance. Please call: 18774321669

David – Rent relief aid, landlord/tenant help is available at the Long Branch library Wednesday June 29th from 6 – 8pm. Contact: dmullins@rentersalliance.org

Bruce – Long Branch County Executive Candidates Forum will be June 29 6:30 to 8:30 pm at the Long Branch Community Ceneter. All local political candidates were invited, and there have been three confirmations from all the major candidates. This was organized by a coalition of long brand partners including CHEER, etc.

**Concerns in Long Branch**

Vanesa – promoting community participation and advocating for certain issues. Wanted to confirm if the issues need advocated for during community walks with in tandem with current issues being faced. The issues remain the same. There are still issues, such as:

* Parking
* Pedestrian safety
* No changes since the last advocacy walk on September 20th
* Crime – Shootings (there is a need to return to more police patrol, as it was prior to the pandemic)
* Trash
* Housing – regarding rental increase, especially with the upcoming Purple Line

There will be a rehearsal with the volunteers, June 23rd. Mr. Geiger will be the moderator.

Some of the buildings in the community may be a better, because they have cameras to monitor them, parking spaces, etc. Hellen suggested that Vanesa get a representative from each building.

**Community Priorities (Suggestions)**

Sara – Affordable housing, people have been moving out, renting storage and moving in with friends because they cannot afford the cost of rent

David – Ask candidates position on rent stabilization. David is getting calls on as high 15% increases in rent.

Hellen – Security concerns. Police are constantly getting calls regarding security. How can we increase police patrolling, to decrease shootings, stabbings, etc. How can we designate police in Quebec especially, Thursday through Saturday? There is an acknowledgement of limited police staffing. **Suggestion** – Bring the looking news media to the meeting. **Suggestion** – Have a virtual option for persons who are unable to be there physically.

How is outreach going?

Vanesa –

* CHEER Food distribution
* Mr. Geiger is also helping with distribution
* CONEXO