

NORTH TULSA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE (NTEDI) PROGRESS REPORT

JANUARY - MARCH 2009

The grassroots initiative introduced by Mayor Kathy Taylor is moving forward thanks to the support of city leaders and NTEDI members. Dr. Turner-Addison, Director of the Human Rights Department, serves as liaison for NTEDI and continues to host monthly meetings along with the following subcommittee chairs (as seen below). Angela Ettaki Human Rights/ Economic Development Assistant is assisting the City of Tulsa with the technical aspects of the effort.

Economic Development Meeting 2/23/09

The Economic sub-committee met with eleven in attendance to gauge where they are at and how to move forward. They used the latest NTEDI report as a starting point. The Eliminate Barriers sub-committee was discussed and it was determined that it is no longer needed. The Retail and Funding Sub-Committees will remain active. An issue brought up that needs attention is the mentoring program for commercial development. It was decided that help needs to be solicited if that will continue to be goal of this committee. A new Mission Statement was introduced to the group for approval: "To facilitate economic development activities that assist in fostering and sustaining diversified economies, to engender a strong local economy, provide for a better quality of life in north Tulsa neighborhoods, decrease the number of individuals living below the poverty level through business development enhancement, education, community and corridor revitalization and asset building." A joint Retail and Funding sub-committee meeting was held on March 13, 2009.

Katie Plohocky and Rose Washington Rentie

Education Meeting 2/24/09

At the Education sub-committee meeting, mentoring options were discussed such as Mayor's Mentoring to the Max, Junior Achievement, and Tulsa Achieves. There were four in attendance. Dr. Massey shared that she will travel to D.C. to learn more about the Entrepreneurial Practicum. It was decided to look at Alternative Education requirements and Step Up Tulsa as possible models. She also informed that a good opportunity to showcase some of north Tulsa Economic Development Initiatives would be at Summer Fest that is slated for June. The next meeting is scheduled for March 27, 2009.

Dr. Sandra Massey serves as chair.

Marketing Meeting 3/3/09

The Marketing Sub-Committee met with six in attendance. Xposure gave an update regarding their current projects. They stated that they are in the process of doing research

and they are working on some marketing materials showing key groups in north Tulsa. It is anticipated that there will be mock-ups of these pieces by the next NTEDI meeting. The domain name mynorthtulsa.com was purchased. When the site is up and running, it will be used to highlight positive aspects of north Tulsa as well as issues that need to be discussed. They are trying to launch a community re-investment campaign partnered possibly with the urban league. It was determined that Xposure will handle media relations and press releases.

Roberta Clardy serves as chair.

Homeownership Meeting 2/25/09

Six attended the first meeting of this newly formed sub-committee. In this meeting they set some goals, with the priority being making sure there are rooftops around the new retail area. They stated that they hope to do another Showcase of Homes for north Tulsa in June, 2009. Two chairs were chosen, each for a term lasting six months. They discussed how foreclosure has a negative impact on the community and leaves a harsh footprint and also about the report done a couple of years on blighted homes and how the number will continue to increase as they have not torn down all the homes in the report yet. Two meetings have been held subsequently; one on March 3 and another on March 18.

Carmen Pettie and Terry McGee serve as co-chairs.

Workforce Development Meeting

No report to date.

Darcey Melendez serves as chair.