

Irvington Neighborhood Plan
Public Safety and Code Enforcement Committee
May 20, 2004

Committee Members: Elizabeth Najjar, Jennifer Ruby, and Sharon Tabard.

1. Approval of April Meeting Notes

2. Handouts- all handouts can be found at www.historicirvington.org

- April meeting notes.
- Irvington Neighborhood Survey. Surveys are to be submitted by June 7.
- Map showing Building Condition and Tenure.
- Building condition by land use information.

3. Committee Discussion

- Issues of major concern include prostitution, the two hotels, and Marsh complex.
- Vision Statement: Starting with a historic foundation, Irvington has grown into a vibrant, diverse and inclusive community, meshing home spun shops with industrial spaces and building neighborhoods a block at a time.
- It would be helpful to look at examples of other vision statements for other committees to make statements consistent.
- Townhall meeting/neighborhood workshop might be a good venue to educate the community about Mayor's Commission on Latino and Mayor's office of disability affair.
- Determine different mechanism and locations to get community information out. This may include e-mail list, website portal, community council email, calendar of events, etc.

The following discussion relates to a worksheet containing goals, objectives, projects and programs. This worksheet can be found on the website.

- **Code Enforcement Goal:** Bring all properties into compliance with existing codes.
 - **Code Enforcement Objective:** Reduce code violations and increase code enforcement.
 - **Code Enforcement Projects and Programs:**
 - Develop a lecture series or pamphlet incorporating health and hospital, code enforcement and animal control to better inform and educate the community about effective responses to various situations including deteriorating houses.
 - Emphasize the importance of citizens reporting poor housing conditions within their neighborhood.
 - Explore what various neighborhood associations and organizations can do to foster code improvements.
 - Work with neighbors, City code enforcement staff, and township administrator to address deferred maintenance concerns.

- **Community Collaboration Goal:** Encourage the community to work together promoting the image of Irvington.
 - **Community Outreach Objective:** Encourage participation in the community.
 - **Community Outreach Projects and Programs:**
 - Develop a communications plan that includes the following: speaker events, pamphlets, contact lists, email address lists, a portal website, magnets, etc. Determine topics to be included in the communications plan. Topics may include the following:
 - Code enforcement issues and contact information including health and hospital, City code enforcement officials, and animal control.
 - List of neighborhood association and organizations, their roles in the community.
 - Initiate cultural outreach and include all of the diverse community in Irvington. This may include cultural awareness initiatives, Spanish lessons, or various organizations programming cultural activities.
 - Expand cross-cultural educational opportunities, events, and activities.
 - Create diversity workshops to improve diversity awareness in Irvington neighborhoods.
 - Determine a process to contact and invite organizations that typically do not participate in community and neighborhood activities.
 - **Organization Communication Objective:** Improve communication among various Irvington and local organizations.
 - **Organization Communication Projects and Programs:**
 - Create an umbrella organization for Irvington. Determine if the Irvington Leadership Circle is appropriate for this role.
 - Publicize activities going on throughout Irvington.
 - Ensure the council represents all of Irvington, even outside of the historic area.
 - Create a website and email list involving all residents, businesses, and organizations throughout Irvington. Use this venue as a means to advertise community activities and events.
- **Crime Prevention Goals:** Reduce crime throughout Irvington.
 - **Crime Prevention Objective:** Emphasize the importance of safety in neighborhoods and schools encouraging individuals to report crime. Address the perception of high crime within Irvington neighborhoods.
 - **Crime Prevention Projects and Programs:**
 - Develop CrimeWatch blocks throughout the community with the assistance of IPD and the Department of Public Safety. Promote the CrimeWatch concept at townhall meetings and other public events.
 - Create a community impact panel for incidents for first time offenders related to crime and code enforcement. The community impact panel meets with the offender telling them how the crime impacts the neighborhood.

4. Next Meeting

The Irvington Neighborhood Plan Public Safety and Code Enforcement Committee will meet again in June. The meeting will be at 5:30 in the Library at Irvington United Methodist Church on June 17. Between now and June 17, committee members are asked to continue looking over the goals, objectives, projects and programs worksheet which will be sent with these meeting notes.

Notes taken by Nicole Mueller, Department of Metropolitan Development, City of Indianapolis