



Midtown Health Equity Action Team

“Engaging the Community for Equity in Health”

Department of Health in Volusia County
 Facilitator: Suzanne Grubbs
 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
 March 26, 2015

The Protocol for Assessing Community Excellence in Environmental Health or PACE-EH is a tool designed to encourage local health officials and community members to work together to identify and address community environmental health issues. Residents of the community voice concerns and prioritize issues, while the Steering Committee assists in facilitating the process by organizing meetings, speakers, and identifying funding opportunities.

Attendance:

1. Johnnie Ponder (Midtown HEAT)	12. Ashlei White (B-CU)	
2. Eburn Grimes (FDOH Volusia)	13. Ashley Thomas (Daytona Times)	
3. Nadine Heusner (B-CU)	14. Diana Lee (B-CU)	
4. Sharon Warriner (Halifax Health)	15 Sarah Brunnig (FDOH Volusia)	
5. Suzanne Grubbs (FDOH Volusia)		
6. Charles J. Bryant (COB)		
7. Matilda Johnson (B-CU)		
8. Darrell Shell (Intuitive Networking)		
9. Shonda Nobles-Milton (VITAS)		
10. Weegie Kuendig (Save Our Neighborhoods)		
11. Synthia Williams (Midtown HEAT)		

Welcome and Introductions: (*Johnnie Ponder*)

Brief introductions were made by all attendees and meeting minutes from February were approved.

Round Table:

Johnnie Ponder- It's a large task to get the community involved because community believes nothing will change. Our interventions must directly impact our children and must also be sustainable.

April 18th we will be having a discussion centering on law enforcement and community relations. The discussion will be held at Daytona State College in Building 530 Room 118 from 9:00am to 1:00pm. This is a community collaboration involving Bethune-Cookman, the NAACP, local churches, the Police Department and various other organizations. Continental breakfast and lunch will be served.

Also, I think it's important for those who are available to start attending Comstat. I found out that jobs are becoming available, especially if you are a young person of color.

Charles Bryant- The police department has reported that there have been a lot of stolen vehicles. People are leaving their cars unlocked with their keys left in the ignition or on the seat. People need to be educated on the fact that leaving keys in your car, purses in plain view, or cell phones out unfortunately acts as an invitation for someone to steal your vehicle. Another part of that is when people steal cars often times it can result in police chases and innocent bystanders can become injured.

On Community Gardens:

Johnnie Ponder- We need input from community about a Community Garden. We also need to partner with the churches when starting a garden. We could have church sponsors that are linked to Community Gardens as a pilot project. We can also get fraternities and sororities involved.

Diana Lee- City Island Venders come from far away which creates a gas expense. Venders that come want to be guaranteed to sell a certain amount of produce after spending money on gas and packing and unloading their produce. Florida Hospital and Halifax parking lots are great locations because of the employees.

Charles Bryant- We must factor in the fact that there is competition. Farmers will take the best opportunity and go where they will make the most money.

Johnnie Ponder- It would be nice if we could get a farmers market in Midtown twice a week.

Diana Lee- Midtown HEAT can help get the word out about our Sickle Cell Screening held at the Odessa Chamblis Wellness Center. It's important for people to know their status and this group can help get the word out by distributing our flyers. Sickle Cell can also affect other cultures besides African American including Caribbean and Mediterranean.

Charles Bryant- The Trader Joe's Job Fair is coming up. This could be really influential in getting people back to work.

Weegie Kuendig- This is the Year of the Neighborhood!! We need to campaign for the beautification of neighborhoods where Daytona Beach residents actually live. Currently the only areas the city focusses their beautification efforts on are tourists centered. We need policy change. Also, most of the car break-ins are crimes of opportunity. We're creating criminals by not keeping our doors locked.

Sharon Warriner- I have contacted corporate headquarters for Halo to see if they can assist us in any way and am looking into contacting Chiquita with regard to any grant opportunities.

Pastor Long: Halifax is committed to Midtown and this group.

Sarah Brunnig- A lot of times the reason healthy food options don't sell is because people just don't know enough about the options to want to purchase them. This is why the education component is so important.

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

Meeting Comments:

- Meeting could be improved by a little tighter timing
- Meeting could be improved by nurturing focus
- I like that everyone participates
- I like that we are consistent with addressing community issues
- Great meeting
- Meeting could be improved by staying on topic and inviting Midtown residents and leaders