

## Themes:

(from flip charts with the same number)

1:

Keep: conflict resolution, meeting facilitation. Stop: Assuming people already have the basic skills and making things complicated. Change: Share neighborhood success stories with each other. More talking and communicating, more basics. More talking between neighbors.

2:

One on one meetings, how to basically get to know your neighbors, inclusivity, asset mapping – how to get people to use their strengths in their community/ what people are good at

3:

Relationship building, people want to connect. Emphasis on FUN – need to make the meetings more fun and informal. More on how to get to know each other. Community. Support from the City. Sharing stories. Define ‘neighborhood.’

## Flip Charts:

### 1. What should we *keep doing*?

- Conflict and polarization lectures
- Being highly accessible (2 checks)
- Fostering community Neighborhood connections, grants, NNO; being patient with this process.
- Keep on motivating us to do what we all want
- More Martin!!! (2 checks)
- The study handouts in advance of the mtgs were helpful (1 check)
- Keep doing!
- Keep advertising this, having a meeting where staff nearly out number neighbors tells me that some marketing or better communication might be needed (2 checks)
- Present on group skills – deliberation, facilitation, group stages of development
- “Workshop” learning (1 check)
- Providing good snacks

### 1. What should we *change*?

- Share neighborhood success stories, initiatives that tie to the City (3 checks)
- Clarify objective of NC (5 checks)
- More discussion between neighbors (what is working, what are the challenges) (6 checks)

- Perhaps alternate these meeting times to include a Saturday? The first one on a Sat at the Aztlan center was well attended on a Saturday
- We should start with more basics. Getting the people to meetings is far more important than getting people to be able to converse... especially if no one attends meetings. To converse (2 checks)
- More cross neighborhood liaison conversations –facilitated and open space (2 checks)
- Less pedagogy (3 checks)
- Homework could be ok/ it might stimulate and make the most of our gatherings (1 check)

### **1. What should we *stop doing*?**

- This is tough to answer since I feel satisfied with the program.
- Ditto.
- Maybe lengthen the meeting time
- Don't make too complicated and overly political
- More conversations between people
- I agree that the meetings were overly focused on dealing with disagreements and polarized opinions. Focus more on how we can be connecting neighbors (check) – A suggested “How to begin” would be helpful. We had zero idea of where to even start. Our first attempt at a potluck for the 1000 residents in our neighborhood created incredible turmoil as we couldn't settle upon a place to meet in winter what would accommodate an entirely unknown # of participants. If we had this on better ways to begin (and where to hold these kind of group meetings) that would have helped
- Less education/more facilitated conversations (check)

### **2. What do you still need from us?**

- Across neighborhood conversations –what worked/didn't work that you tried
- HELP!
- Motivation strategies for working with aging populations (4 checks)
- More conflict management strategies – more City Works content(4 checks)
- I would like to continue to get relevant materials (via email) that will keep me up to date with NC continuing ed. (1 check)
- Update on the “engagement HQ” app and how we might use it
- Bridge building between city neighborhoods as well as different populations (renters, owners, seniors, landlords, youth) (2 checks)
- Help knowing how to begin a discussion on a difficult topic. You don't just say “you tore down your cute little house and replaced it with a behemoth that blocks out all our sun” so how do you begin these topics w/o creating enemies. We need to be talking about these things. We can't just be silently grinding our teeth at night (2 checks)

### **2. Continuing Education Ideas:**

- City Services Fair (8 checks)
- Talking about hard-to-talk-about topics (7 checks)
- Social Justice/Gentrification (7 checks)
- Deeper dives into core curriculum ( 5 checks)
- Presentations from the City depts.. (9 checks)
- City initiatives (CAP, CP, etc) (9 checks)
- Connect new people with alumni of NC (6 checks)
- Development Review (7 checks)
- City BFO and how to get involved (12 checks)
- What skills would you be able to share with NC?
  - Organizational change management/ project management
  - Transition streets reducing carbon footprint (1 check)
  - Talk about building community through a neighborhood threat and then move into actual community engagement beyond that threat
  - Some facilitation skill/ adult ed
  - Organizing fun activities (1 check)
  - Collaborative decision making
  - Something's happened in our neighborhood. The code allows it. So how do we get the code changed (or at least get City Council to consider it)? Many people have no idea how that all works (1 check)
- **Your ideas:**
  - Emergency planning and disaster relief (2 checks)
  - The dark side of NIMBY
  - And the positive side of Nimby "it shouldn't be happening in my neighborhood ... or anywhere"
  - Building upon assets – human capital

## 2. Core Curriculum Ideas:

- Basics of neighboring/relationship building (8 checks)
- How to connect with more of your neighborhood (9 checks)
- How to connect with other neighborhoods (8 checks)
- How to have successful conversations with someone you disagree with (7 checks) \*One comment: Covered this one a lot, could have done a little less
- How to start a conversation with someone different than you/dealing with bias (8 checks)
- Knowing your neighbors' strengths/skills (asset mapping) (8 checks)
- Managing conflict (8 checks)
- Grants/Neighborhood Services Resources (7 checks)
- Assigned Homework (neighbor mapping) (6 checks)
- **Your ideas:**
  - How to get neighbors to be at all interested in a neighborhood group. How to help neighbors understand that we are not trying to control their lives by forming an HOA.

How to get the word out to people who don't use NextDoor without taking hours and hours to get flyers out (plus costs associated) (1 check)

- How to determine leadership/organization of a neighborhood group (1 check) (in other words this was NC 2.0, we need 1.0) (1 check)
- How to build inclusivity. Activities that broaden the group and empower people to act (3 checks)
- Leadership v. "connectorship" and the various needed capacities to develop a neighborhood (1 check)
- Scenario planning- back mapping from goals (1 check)
- How to become a mentor for more participants

### **3. What motivated you to join this program?**

- The realization that I need to know my neighbors.
- Ditto.
- Sought opportunity to network with other community members at the street level!
- Help to prepare neighborhood for changes that will hit us from the CAP (2 checks)
- Always been involved in community activities and organizing in Atlanta and believe local action is where one can see results/ have an impact on change (1 check)
- A desire to share experience of living in a neighborhood that created a 501c3 association to cultivate community, have fun, and, when necessary, delve into the city politics and developments to stop unwanted highways or other undesirable developments pushed by City Hall.
- My neighborhood had been under threat of development and I had started to initiate neighborhood meetings and this NC program seemed like a logical next step
- I was asked by a neighbor. We saw it as a way to discuss the significant changes our neighborhood is going through and how we could be better neighbors to each other. So far we've achieved the exact opposite.
- Love of neighborhood and love of the city (1 check)
- Wanted to do an in-home residential project

### **3. What would motivate others to join this program?**

- Accomplish one objective that all neighbors can observe whether they participate or not! (2 checks)
- Small incentives – food, gift cards, other
- Seeing how neighboring might save civilization: ask neighbors what they need/want
- Good reviews (2 checks)
- Personalized pilot participant testimonials (1 check)
- Seeing how becoming involved will strengthen our neighborhood
- \$ for the neighborhood
- Meet and get to know neighbors, work on a project together

- We can't even motivate people to attend a neighborhood meeting ...
- Something festive as a 'second' kick off/continuation (3 checks)

### **3. Which "How To" tools would you like to learn about?**

- Structured living room conversations -6
- Meeting in a box -7
- Good Neighbor Checklist -5
- Book Club -0
- Relationship Building Ideas -10
- Other:
  - Meetings with local politicians (3 checks)
  - Meetings with department rep
  - Best practice library (1 check)
  - How to alert people to the fact that we even exist as a group without them bringing out the pitchforks
  - Clear communication on the benefits of neighborhood engagement (1 check)
  - Access to "Neighborhood" email list (if they exist) (1 check)