

# North Avondale Neighborhood Association

## General Meeting June 13, 2006.

### **Call to Order**

Meeting called to order by 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President Sulayman Bajo at 7:40 p.m. at the North Avondale Recreation Center.

### **City Services Report**

Julie Fatora, Program Coordinator, North Avondale Community Center discussed the new and exciting summer programs. They are currently offering day-care summer school. The new programs will be held from 11:00a.m. - 3:00p.m. There will be open games from 11-1p.m. and there will be open gym from 1p.m.-3p.m. They are also offering a challenging tennis program (National Leagues) the classes will be held Monday – Friday, 9a.m. - 1p.m. The classes will be taught by tennis pro John Singletary. The classes will run through late July and into early August.

The North Avondale Recreation Center is taking sign-ups for the “**Reds Rookie Success League**”. This Baseball program will be held at Schmidt Baseball Field on Tuesday and Thursdays. It is for ages 8-12. The program starts June 27-August 3<sup>rd</sup>. On Monday’s there will be a more competitive league for ages 9-13 year olds. This program starts July10 – August 14<sup>th</sup>. The “**Reds Rookie Success League**” encourages and teaches ethics, moral and values to young youths.

Open Gym will be on Monday and Wednesday from 6:30p.m. – 8:30p.m. Senior Dancing will be on Monday and Wednesday from 10:30a.m. - Noon.

Jeff Shelby will teach Aerobic classes from 4-5:30p.m./6-7:30p.m., Tuesday and Thursday nights. There is also a Saturday aerobics class from Noon- 2p.m. The Yoga classes are on Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:30a.m. – 11:15a.m. **For more information and updated schedules, please contact the North Avondale Recreation Center at (513) 961-1584. Ask for Julie, or Latonia.**

### **Police Report**

On behalf of District 4 Police Department, there was no officer present at the meeting. NANA has many questions for the Police, which will be addressed at the Resource Meeting at 6:30p.m.on June 28<sup>th</sup> at District 4 Police Station.

Charlene Morse, NANA Administrator & Editor of NANA News, discussed that this shows that the neighborhood officer change isn’t working very well. After a call to the police station it was discovered that the reason officers are not present tonight is because there was a home occupation with a possible homicide in Clifton, the officers were unable to attend the meeting.

### **Volunteers of America**

Many questions and concerns were raised by board members and residents to learn more information on the MRDD housing development, which is to be built on Reading Road. The V.O.A. does require a state license for this facility. They have not received a building permit from the City of Cincinnati, as of yet. The

main concern for residents and board members is that the V.O.A. will not have staffing 24 hours a day. They would only provide 1, full-time position, 8 hours a day, 7 days a week. If the MRDD board feels it is necessary for 24 hour supervision, it would be provided to a resident within that home. Many concerned North Avondale residents asked to meet the staff and residents of the MRDD house. Anthony Beasley stated that meeting the residents was not an option because of the confidentiality of the state home.

- **Motion** – made by Sulayman Bajo to vote on the MRDD Housing Project.
  - **Discussion:**
    - Anthony Beasley, Volunteers of America asks for the board and residents to support this project and make a vote.
    - Deborah Elkins-Brown, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President speaks out against this project. She does not support this program without 24 hour staffing provided within this home. Deborah clearly states that she expects to see a direct plan to asses this program. Deborah also expressed concern for wanting a complete criminal background check The VOA was not able to guarantee or comply with any of her requests.
  - **Motion-** to table this until the next meeting
    - Amend this motion to see the actual written plans from the VOA and MRDD.
  - Eva Robertson seconded by Deborah Elkins-Brown.
  - **Votes-** 12 agreed/ 4 abstained.

## Zoning

- Update on Appeal of Special Exemption

Charlene discusses the terms of the zoning appeal. The appeal won for a circular driveway at 971 Lenox Place.

## Update on Reading Road Properties

- The Reading garage is going to be a new shoe store instead of a hip-hop store.
- Mr. and Mrs. Novak discuss the empty property at the corner of Avondale Avenue and Reading Road. The grass remains too high. This has been a constant issue and needs to be resolved. Bob Novak, NANA Master Planner, asks for action to be taken. The question is raised by many if they will be fined again. The bottom line is residents of North Avondale and the NANA Board wants the grass to be cut on a regular basis.

## Web-Site Name

- Charlene Morse states that the new Nana President's wife designed our Neighborhood web-site. There was more discussion of the Web-Sites domain name. Many residents proposed new ideas for a domain name but

seemed to agree on N.AvonDaleCincy.com. Jack Wolking, President of the Belvedere suggested Northavondaleus.com

- Charlene stated that the new cell phone business “Cricket” has taken the domain name Northavondale.org.

## **Old Business**

- Old Business was discussed.

## **New Business**

- Ursula Hassel, NANA Beautification, states that Benkin Florist donated plants and flowers to the neighborhood. The Garden Committee planted them on Dana Avenue in the triangle and also at Marion/Dakota Avenue.
- Eva Roberson, President/CEO of Eva’s Closet Success Inc. Eva is an active resident of North Avondale. She has a business in East Walnut Hills, which helps men and women successfully dress in the business world. She is an image consultant that helps lower income families/individuals dress well in their jobs. She is requesting donations of gently used clothes for men and woman of all shapes and sizes. For more information, contact Eva Roberson 1301 E. McMillan Avenue Cincinnati, Ohio 45206. (513) 259-9610 or (513) 751-2446.
- Jack Wolking, President of The Belvedere and a representative from Comey and Shepard Realtors expressed interest in moving forward on making the change in the M.L.S. for North Avondale. This topic was briefly discussed and the NANA board will discuss and make a plan for action on this matter at the July Executive meeting.

**Motion made by Sulayman Bajo, seconded by DeborahElkins-Brown to adjourn. The General Board meeting adjourned at 9:15p.m.**

**Michelle Baxter  
Recording Secretary**