Landlord Registration Ordinance Proposed

A proposed Landlord Registration ordinance, as sponsored by Council President Tim Scott, District 1, goes to vote Monday, May 9th at the 7:00 p.m. meeting. Please check for updates, as the vote may be continued to a future meeting. The public may speak in favor or against this ordinance at this meeting.

The incentive to create a Landlord Registration is to provide clear, updated, and direct access to property owners. Lack of access to current property owners disrupts the city’s chances to work with owners of properties which are a nuisance, or may have code violations. Currently efforts to work with property owners are hampered by false addresses, LLCs linked to third parties, or even owners who are deceased, but remain the title holder of the property. Landlord Registration is a method of ensuring that the City has up to date contact information about who takes the responsibility of managing and maintaining a property. The registration would effect any owner of a rental property.

The proposed annual landlord registration would involve registering with the Department of Code Enforcement with a registration fee of $5.00 per owner, regardless of the number of properties the owner holds. Failure to register would result in a $500 fine. Providing any false, material misrepresentation or false statement on the registration form is subject to a civil penalty of $2,500.

The City of South Bend’s government website maintains a “Ten Tips Every Landlord Should Know” program in the interest of furthering collaboration between landlords and tenants. The City believes that the proposed registration program will enhance such opportunities throughout South Bend.

Please come and voice your opinion regarding the Landlord Registration Ordinance. The NNN would also like to know your opinion, and would be glad to share it at the meeting. Please contact us at 232-9182 or nnndirector@nearnorthwest.org

Leland Avenue Partnership Building

We are excited that our Leland Avenue partnership efforts are underway. This three house effort will include a NNN low-moderate income rehabilitation, a historic rehabilitation by Indiana Landmarks, and a newly constructed Habitat for Humanity home, all in a row in the 600 block of Leland Avenue.

This project came together bringing two houses off of the vacant and abandoned property list, and Indiana Landmarks’ interest in removing a house due to be demolished off of the Blight Elimination program’s demolition list. Wanting to maximize the impact of the transformation, Habitat for Humanity was asked to partner, and readily agreed, as this type of project meets their mission for placing families within the context of community, and in neighborhoods that work in partnership with Habitat.

NNN-AT-A-GLANCE

NNN Solar & Sustainability Open House
Saturday, April 9th NNN Community Center
10:00 a.m.—12:00 p.m.

NNN 55+ and Up Club
Next meeting, Sunday, April 17th
2:00—4:00 p.m. Mary Grace room
Guest Speaker: Antiques Dealer

2016 NNN Adopt-a-Block Kickoff
Saturday, April 23rd
NNN Community Center
8:00 a.m.

2016 NNN Annual Meeting
Saturday, May 21st NNN Community Center
9:00—11:00 a.m.

The Local Cup
Pay-It-Forward NNN Coffee Shop
Open Every Saturday: 9:00 a.m.—1:00 p.m.
Open Every Sunday: 2:00—4:00 p.m.
1009 Portage Avenue

Yoga Classes (Free of charge)
Mondays, 4:00 p.m.—5:15 p.m.
Gentle/Restorative Yoga w/ Ann Clark
Wednesdays, 5:15 p.m.—6:30 p.m.
Developing Yoga Practice w/ Ann Clark

Beginning Pilates (Free of Charge)
With Beth Salman
Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.
Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Kids Music Class
With Mark Hoppemier
Fridays, 9:00 a.m. (on a semester calendar)
Mary Grace Room
Kids walking age to Kindergarten,
with parent participation.

Drawing & Painting
With David Allen
Fridays, 10 a.m.—12 p.m.
NNN Community Center
$10 per session

NNN Community Space Use
Ask us how to use our shared space, or find more information at:
http://www.nearnorthwest.org/neighborhood-projects/community-space-use/

QUESTIONS? Call us at 232-9182

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NNNeighborhood Notes

The Annual NNN Chili Supper was a great success. Over 30 neighbors cooked, volunteered, and cleaned to provide a great community supper at Holy Cross School gym for over 250 neighbors and guests. Thank you, and we are so glad for this traditional way of warming us all up!

2016 Adopt-a-Block is around the Corner, April 23rd. Please join your neighbors at 8:00 a.m. kick off, where we will have coffee and donuts, give some quick information, take a group photo, and then head out throughout the neighborhood to pick up litter! Last year we picked up more than a combined 5 tons of trash in the NNN! The Deparment of Code Enforcement is our strong partner in this effort, and will pick up all trash in bags at the Adopt-a-Block drop off locations. Please note that this is a litter effort only and cannot accommodate the pick up of large items. If you need large item pick up, please use your free monthly pick-up by calling 311.

The NNN would like to introduce you to the NNN’s Neighborhood Networker, beginning on staff with us one day a week: Andre Gingerich Stoner. Andre Stoner and his wife, Cathy, have lived on Cushing St for almost twenty years. From the beginning, they made it their business to get to know their neighbors and build a sense of community. They have raised four children in our neighborhood; two of them are still at home. Andre was pastor of outreach at Kern Road Mennonite Church in South Bend until 2010. In that role he helped start a tutoring program with St. Paul Bethel Baptist and a voluntary service unit in our neighborhood. Together with Rev. Washington, he helped start the on-site prayer ministry in response to murders in our city. He currently works Monday through Thursday in Elkhart for Mennonite Church USA and one day a week in our neighborhood. He looks forward to being able to give more time over the course of the next year to help strengthen the remarkable community of neighbors that calls the NNN home.

New Yard Waste Rules: The City has instituted a new yard waste pickup method that requires that a property owner rent a Yard Waste 45 or 96-gallon container ($2/month) from the City. To get one of these bins, all you have to do is call the South Bend 311 call center. Yard waste pick up will be on the same day as your normal trash pick up. Residents who choose not to rent a city yard waste container in 2016 will be allowed one special pickup per month—which must be scheduled by calling 311. Monthly special pickups will be limited to one cubic yard, or roughly 200 gallons, of yard waste. For special pickups, leaves, grass, limbs and hedge clippings must be placed only in a paper bag. Plastic containers and bundled branches will no longer be accepted.

Poetry Slam and Dr. Karsonya Whitehead We would like to recognize and congratulate the Gospel Connection, The Local Cup, the Center for a Sustainable Future, and especially Ned Green and Brian Diggins for bringing the art of the spoken word into the NNN Community Center. Additionally, the chance to meet, and listen to the special guest speaker, Dr. Karsonya Whitehead, raised the level of the gathering to a great community happening. Thank you all for the gifts you share with the community!

55+ Club Begins! A group of three neighbors are hosting an open house style get together once a month for neighbors and friends who are 55+ (more or less—all are welcome). This group meets in the Mary Grace Room on Sunday afternoons during The Local Cup hours, from 2-4 p.m. The next meeting is Sunday, April 17th, and will feature a guest speaker who is an antiques dealer. If you would like more information, please email Barbara (Barbara.l.deveraux@gmail.com); Linda (lwolfe@cscsisters.org); or Nancy (njmounce@comcast.net).

Seeking a volunteer to be Editor of the Common Ground: News You Can Use—Neighbors, we recognize that all would benefit from having a more timely newsletter regarding neighborhood information and happenings. The NNN is seeking a volunteer who may be interested in helping to gather information and edit The Common Ground. We would aim for sending out a newsletter quarterly. If you are interested in being our editor or learning more, please contact Kathy Schurh at nnndirector@nearnorthwest.org

Vintage Green DIY Workshop Series

Indiana Landmarks presents Vintage Green – a series of hands-on workshops demonstrating best practices in sustainable renovation and restoration. Based at a historic Queen Anne home rescued from foreclosure in South Bend, Vintage Green will demonstrate that sustainability and historic preservation can work hand-in-hand.

Through next summer a range of half-day workshops covers all aspects of home renovation giving participants a chance to practice skills at the demonstration house located at 222 Chapin Street. The list of remaining workshops and dates:

- April 16: Kitchen and Bath
- May 7: Flooring and Woodwork
- May 21: Finishes
- June 4: Porches
- June 18: Landscaping

Get more information or register at www.indianalandmarks.org. Or contact Todd Zeiger, tzeiger@indianalandmarks.org or 574-232-4534.

Other Happenings Around the NNN & South Bend

Frank’s Place & South Bend Music Exchange Open Music Jam First Wednesday of the Month; 8-11 p.m. Frank’s Place; 327 W. Marion

Riverlights Music Festival May 5-7; Downtown South Bend http://riverlightsmusic.wix.com/riverlights

Information about the Smart Streets Project Construction starts in April http://ow.ly/l0b3NR

Indiana Primary Elections Tuesday, May 3rd Absentee or Early Voting takes place in the lobby of the County City Building, 227 W. Jefferson Blvd April 5, 2016: First day a voter may vote an absentee in person for the 2016 Primary Election April 25, 2016: Deadline for absentee by mail applica-

36. We hope to soon include the whole NNN.