

BIG Meeting June 15, 2009 - Bellevue Christian Church

- **Future BIG structural discussion- Kathy Coder**

Discuss BIG and future of BIG at next council meeting July 7
Economic Development Committee-Began February 2008
Reorganization of council December, strategic plan developed
Four committees were established-Marketing, Events, Residential, Business Development
Citizen-driven group, Pull away from council start non-profit, same 4 original committees
Add two, Helping Hands and Green
Business development replaced with Allegheny Together ([ACED](#))-Met with Jessica Mooney
Town Center Associates- Business District; Keep BIG group for other areas of interest
Joint Planning Commission should be a part of the process; Rich Furis- independent group work toward goals, redefine council role in BIG;
Put processes in place for sustainability

- **Helping Hands- Chuck Gohn, pastor Bellevue Christian Church**

Mobilize volunteerism - BIG Hands
Short-term - Centralized volunteer pool, Initiate community-wide projects;
Long-term - Centralized data base for Community resources; disaster recovery plan;
Brainstorming session- July 14, 7pm, Shepherd's Door; contact Chuck Gohn
Fellowship of Ministers –source; Habitat for Humanity connection

- **Officer Hammond/Bellevue Police- National Night Out**

August 4- Night to crack down on crime, citizens to rise up!www.nationalnightout.org/nno
Primary theme - activities advancing crime prevention, police and other emergency services
Issues: Home protection, protection walking around town, business safety, light-up night, turn the lights on for the night, lights should be on at night anyway to promote safety
Springboard for 2010 additional activities –block parties
Neighborhood watch programs and signs, register with the police department as official contact

- **Green- Mark Munoz**

Close-knit neighborhood, walking community, be green -competitive advantage for businesses, most eco-friendly green area in Pittsburgh; then the world.
Ideas, weekly recycling, place for cardboard and computers, eco-friendly material for construction, recycle; Integrated living, live worship, shop, play,
Keeping streets clean- peer pressure
Renters lackadaisical, everyone has been a renter, everything is owned by someone
Pittsburgh Partnership –example; Take ownership

- **Marketing/Branding Committee-**

Steve Eckert absent- BIG Meeting first, then committees meet; M Smith suggested vice versa

- **Residential Committee-Dana Vargo**

Clean-up committee, Next clean-up day-June 27; Intro packages-contact those who register their children for school; Focus on dilapidated properties, Newsletter, Pine township -quarterly newsletter, establish block community groups

- **Events Committee- Mark Helbling/Michele Smith**

Summer Solstice Spectacular- describe 4 days of events, make request for volunteers

- **Questions/Comments/Other Updates**

Bruce Berringer- Executive Director-YMCA, Advocating community involvement
North Hills Community Outreach-Serves all of Allegheny county crisis hardship poverty served 1300 families in the North Boroughs