



Newtown CHAT Meeting Summary
January 22, 2013
North Sarasota Library
6pm

Present: Theresa Lochhaas, Barbara Powell-Harris, Joyce Raby, Jeanette Robinson, Virginia Stephens, Katie Leonard.

Updates/Around the Table

Barbara Powell-Harris gave an update about the Orange Avenue Community Garden. There are new volunteers and a wide variety of participants. There are garden-lots available: Those interested should contact either Barbara, or the Sarasota County Extension Office. Barbara, along with others, is looking into a possible farmers market on the City of Sarasota owned property across from Martin Luther King Jr. Park. This location is centrally located and provides access to five neighborhoods.

Joyce Raby informed the group that there is currently a mentoring and tutoring program at the Sarasota Housing Authority. Additionally, the Drug Free Youth (D-FY) program is in the process of becoming a 501c3. D-FY is working closely with local law enforcement, the YMCA and the City of Sarasota.

Group Discussion

2013 CHAT Meetings – The group decided it was best to conduct two larger-format meetings in 2013.

Healthy Food and Physical Activity

This includes breastfeeding, access to healthy, affordable food as well as opportunities for physical activity within the North Sarasota community.

Healthy Community

This topic includes environmental health, crime prevention, and community design.

Larger-format meetings will consist of a panel discussion and opportunities for networking.

The group plans to conduct a few Newtown CHAT meetings at various locations throughout the community in 2013. Mentioned (and tentative) sites include, but are not limited to, local churches, Newtown Estates Recreation Center, Robert L. Taylor Community Complex and the Housing Authority. The group will be contacting these sites, among others, before February's meeting.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, February 26, 2013

6-7pm

North Sarasota Public Library

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