



CLEARWATER NEIGHBORHOODS COALITION

Clearwater Neighborhoods Coalition Foundation – Meeting May 6th, 2024

Bill Jonson – President

Annette Pardue– Vice President

Chelsea Gird - Secretary

Rudy Michalek – Treasurer

David Lillesand – CNC Council

Bill called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. After going around the room and having each member introduce themselves, he introduced the first speaker.

Mike Minnino - Seat 3 of the City Council. Shared his campaign journey, emphasizing the immense effort it entails. He expressed gratitude towards Javanete and Jared for their honest and honorable race. Mike took a moment to commend the Clearwater staff for their tireless work for the city. He underscored that infrastructure is currently the Top priority, with projects like the new city hall and the Osceola parking lot among many others on the docket.

Bill thanked Council member Minnino and then introduced the next speaker.

Sarah Kessler is an environmental specialist for Clearwater. She spoke of her experiences working in various departments in Clearwater. She spoke of working together and partnering with communities to prevent drainage issues. She talked about the CSR rating system and how the city of Clearwater gets points from FEMA for our Emergency management system. AKA the Text alerts of severe weather that gets sent

out to everyone. We were a Class 6 in our flooding insurance rating, and through hard work and diligence, we are now a Class 5. They are looking for resident participation for a community advisory committee that meets for 2 hrs quarterly on a Friday.

Bill again thanked Sarah and introduced the next speaker.

Marcus Williamson - Public works director. Gives an update on the North Beach flood evaluation. In summary, water got over the seawall in North Beach, causing severe flooding. The current problem is that the water cannot flow back out. they had to check all the flood line systems. The big challenge is getting community engagement and ensuring they are conscious of what is going down the drain. They are also considering a sea wall ordinance. They have also put in 4 new pump stations to allow the water to flow back out. They plan to put in additional pumps as Clearwater approaches storm season; putting these on an auto-timed flush system and doing that in specific locations at certain times will allow them to control the flow. In the short and long term, we are looking at 100 to 75 million to handle North Beach entirely. In the meantime, they are doing what they can to alleviate the issues and flooding.

Bill thanked Marcus and called up our next Speaker.

Javante Scott - Clearwater neighborhoods Coordinator.

Below are Javante's talking points as well as dates and times of events happening around Clearwater

Meeting Registration - Zoom

Neighborhoods Day presentation to City Council. 5/16/24

Disaster Response for Community Leaders class

May 20th, 1 pm-4 pm. -

Community leaders have the opportunity to enhance their community's ability to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate against all forms of disasters. This course will help improve understanding of natural disasters, risk assessment in the context of disaster management, prevailing emergency management procedures and operations, and the different vulnerability factors within their local community. This course will also provide community leaders with an understanding of the necessary plans and tools for natural disaster planning. It will help them better understand and identify the personnel best equipped to address response and recovery requirements in the case of an actual disaster. Course Modules include

*Hazards and Vulnerabilities *Community Preparedness & Mitigation *Value of Partnerships.

AWR-310 Natural Disaster Awareness for Community Leaders (VIRTUAL COURSE OFFERING)

- Date/Times: May 20, 2024 (1:00 PM – 5:00 PM)
- CEUs: 0.3
- Registration (please register both on SERT TRAC and with the University of Hawaii):
 - <https://trac.floridadisaster.org/TRAC/EventDetailPublic.aspx?ID=7226&mode=ModeEdit&LookupName=eventsearchpublic>
 - <https://ndptc.hawaii.edu/training/delivery/3671/>

Memorial Day Remembrance May, 25

Pride Celebrations - 6/3 Flag Raising at MSB 9 am

Juneteenth Celebrations ...

- [6/13 Painting with Purpose \(NGW Rec 6 pm\)](#)
- [6/14 Lunch and Learn \(12-1:30\)](#)
- [6/15 Journey to Emancipation \(1-6\) P-County AAH Museum](#)
- [6/16 Gospel Experience \(2:30-5:30\) Matheos Hall 409 Old Coachman Rd](#)
- Add Hurricane Expo - Saturday, June 15th, at Joe Dimaggio Complex, with the time being from 9 am to noon

Neighborhoods Team will Welcome Monica as our Newest Neighborhoods Coordinator.

Bill thanked Javente and introduced the final speaker.

Jared Leon—President Spring Branch Neighborhood. Jared started the Spring Branch Neighborhood Association in 2018. They have worked diligently, organizing neighborhood cleanups and renovations and restoring historic pillars. They got a signal box wrapped in art, painted a drain in the neighborhood, and have plans to paint more. They distribute a monthly newsletter and participate in Neighborhood Day every year. In 2022, Clearwater awarded 700k in ARPA funds to restore and enhance State Street Park, including a street mural. The project is in process and should be completed by the end of next year.

Bill thanked all the speakers and participants. He adjourned the meeting at 8:37pm