

NUSA NEWS

A Publication of Neighborhoods, USA

Fall/Winter 2009



Little Rock City Manager Bruce Moore and Mayor Mark Stodola display the NUSA flag, presented by NUSA president Elton Gatewood at opening of the October board meeting in Little Rock.

Little Rock Conference Plans In Progress for 2010

As Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) Board members discovered during their October visit to Little Rock, AR for the fall board meeting, planning is well underway for the NUSA conference to be held there in May 2010. With 10 local planning sub-committees comprising "Team NUSA" as well as national partnerships created with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), Housing and Urban Development (HUD), National Park Services, Americorps and the Clinton Presidential Center, preparations are ahead of schedule at this point, says Team NUSA coordinator Joan Adcock.

"NUSA attendees are going to have a wider choice in workshops this year, thanks to the recent federal partnerships forged with HUD and FEMA," says Adcock, "and I think they're going to be pleased with the hospitable Neighborhood Pride Tours we've planned as well."

A total of 60 workshops and 20 tours are confirmed at this point, Adcock reports, with several options for networking in other venues.

"One thing we're really excited about is the new concept of "Table Talk," Adcock says with a smile. "This is an idea we're initiating for informal visits around tables to be set up in the exhibit area. If you have questions that weren't covered



Team NUSA member Linda McConnell introduces "Table Talk," a new networking feature for the NUSA 2010 conference

in one of your workshops, or if you had to miss a workshop because of scheduling conflicts, this is where you can go to get one-on-one answers."

Table-Top discussion cards will be available from the on-site Table-Top Coordinator. Details will be provided on the NUSA website, in the next NUSA Newsletter and registration and program booklets.

Another area of special emphasis for NUSA 2010 is its Youth Track. Through the partnership with AmeriCorps' City Year, team leaders will conduct workshops, tours and entertainment designed especially for youth ages 16-19. City Year is a non-profit organization that unites young people of all backgrounds and gives them the skills and opportunities to become tutors, mentors and role models who can make a difference in the lives of children and transform schools and neighborhoods. Little Rock is one of 19 City Year locations across the United States.

More information about the conference, including hotel reservation options, can be found on page seven with updates on the NUSA website (www.NUSA.org) and in the conference registration book, scheduled for mailing in January.

NUSA Representatives Visit First International Affiliate

At the Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) 34th Annual Conference on Neighborhood Concerns held in Spokane, WA, the Japan Association for Community Policy (JACP) was recognized as NUSA's first international affiliate. As a result, NUSA's President Elton Gatewood and Public Affairs Chair Richard Whipple were invited to participate in a Joint Exchange and Symposium on Japan-U.S. Relationship. These symposiums, held July 29-August 4 and entitled "Civic Society, Roots of Global Governance," were sponsored by the Japan Foundation Center for Global Partnership.

As guests of the Foundation, Gatewood and Whipple were invited to observe and share information and ideas on local governance and citizen involvement in the governmental process in Kashiwa, Nagareyama and the Chiba. On July 31 and August 1, meetings were held with elected officials to discuss citizen participation structures and with residents and citizen volunteers to tour programs and services in which they are involved. They also met with faculty and students in an Edogawa University classroom to discuss and tour a private-public partnership project.

On August 1, a workshop was held with a keynote speech on "Empowerment" delivered by Gatewood, followed by a presentation from Whipple on "Networking."

On August 2 and 3, Gatewood and Whipple traveled to Hachinohe City and Hashikami City. They met with representatives from the Hachinohe City Mayor's Office and 17 representatives from other cities to discuss strategies for establishing processes to empower citizens and enhance civic engagement in the decision-making process.

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

By Elton Gatewood

Dear NUSA Members:

It has been a pleasure serving as President of Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) for the past year. I am again honored to be elected to continue to serve as President of the organization for the coming year, and look forward to working with the membership and Board of Directors.

This is an exciting time for NUSA, and I am encouraged to have the opportunity to share and fulfill the vision of the organization and its members.

As the nation continues to face unprecedented challenges, citizens remain optimistic about the promise of better days ahead. They have risen to the occasion by assisting each other and providing for the needs of their neighbors, neighborhoods, and communities. This banding together was demonstrated at the Spokane conference in May 2009. Economic conditions prevented many individuals from attending, but the quality of workshops, information and activities made this conference an overwhelming success.

Little Rock, Arkansas, host city for the May 2010 conference, has vowed to follow the success of Spokane by continuing to offer quality workshops and information, providing unlimited opportunities to learn, share and network with others, as well as a promise of memorable southern hospitality. Little Rock has launched the new Federal Partnership Program that includes representatives from HUD, FEMA, City Year, National Park Services, and Clinton Presidential Center.

Please mark your calendar for May 26-29, 2010. Be part of this exciting event of building stronger communities.

I look forward to working with you, value your continuous support and encourage and welcome your ideas.

Respectfully yours,

NUSA Board Meets in Little Rock

The NUSA Board of Directors met October 22-24 at the Peabody Hotel in Little Rock, AR to install new board members, elect executive officers for 2009-2010, hear committee reports and conference reports, tour the 2010 conference facilities and to elect a host conference city for 2012. Administrative Assistant Karen Harber was ill and unable to travel. Robert Gibbons was asked to perform her duties for this meeting.

On Thursday, October 23, President Elton Gatewood called the meeting to order and outgoing Board Development Chair Estelle McCadden introduced the two newly elected board members, Jason Bergerson of Anchorage, AK and Bob Clement of Roanoke VA.

A quorum of 19 board members were present to elect the following board officers, who immediately took office:

President - Elton Gatewood

Vice-president - Tige Watts

Secretary - Robert Gibbons

Assistant Secretary - Renea Nash

Treasurer - John Hargroves

Assistant Treasurer - Judy Martinson

Sergeant-at-Arms - Tony Olden.

President Gatewood appointed new committee assignments for the coming year. Rod Minarik distributed the wrap-up report from the 2009 Spokane Conference. Jason Bergerson gave an update on planning for the 2011 conference.

Detailed reports on the 2010 conference were presented by "Team NUSA," Little Rock's Planning Committee. Team NUSA coordinator Joan Adcock introduced representatives from the five new national partners: FEMA, HUD, National Parks, City Year and Clinton Presidential Center. After lunch, the meeting reconvened to hear NUSA committee reports.

Friday morning, the Board of Directors heard presentations from five cities bidding to become the host city for NUSA 2012. Cities competing were Louisville, KY; Rochester, MN; Pasadena, CA; Eugene, OR; and Indianapolis, IN. After calculating evaluation points, the Program Development Committee recommended that Louisville, KY be the 2010 host city and the Board voted it so.

President Gatewood then invited all interested board members to join the Executive Committee in meeting with

the national partners. In the afternoon, the board toured the convention facilities and other points of interest in the city.

Saturday, unfinished and new business were conducted by the board as follows: adoption of the 2010 budget presented by the Steering, Budget and Finance Committee; NUSA Treasurer asked to develop a process to use for requesting proposals (RFPs); overview report of meeting with national partners; registration fee for the Little Rock conference set at \$180; Executive Committee to complete the paperwork for NUSA to become a Citizen Corps affiliate of FEMA.

The next NUSA Board meeting is scheduled for February 2010, location as yet unnamed.

2009-2010 NUSA COMMITTEES

Board Development

Chair Mike Gibson
Bob Clement, Terri Strong

Awards Program

Chair Robert Gibbons
Arma Hart, John Hargroves

Bylaws and Rules

Chair Judy Martinson
Charles Armstrong, Rod Minarek

Program Development

Chair Richard Whipple
Andre Bernard, Jason Bergerson
Renea Nash

Membership Services

Chair Margaret Madden
Tony Olden, Erma Markham

Public Affairs

Chair Angela Rush
Tige Watts, Gerri Robinson

Resource Development

Chair Harry Giddens
Fred Ralston, Bridget Schwartz

Financial Report

Balance on Hand (5/15/09)	\$29,834.62
Income (5/15/09 - 10/15/09)	\$26,282.78
Less Expenses (5/15/09 - 10/15/09)	\$22,809.19
Balance on Hand (10/15/09)	\$33,314.21

Running for the NUSA Board

Now is the time to consider becoming a NUSA Board Member. If you are ready to make a difference by helping build stronger neighborhoods and communities, then you are the type of person we are looking for. It is important that you become acquainted with the following requirements to be considered:

- Must be a member of Neighborhoods, USA (NUSA) for at least one year.
- Must have attended a NUSA conference within the past three years.
- Must submit a (2" x 3" or a 3" x 5") color photo with nomination form postmarked by February 15, 2010 (see address below).
- Must attend the 2010 opening breakfast.
- Must attend the 2010 NUSA business meeting held on Saturday morning.
- Must attend the 2010 closing luncheon on Saturday.
- All 2010 prospective candidates must attend one of the Running for the NUSA Board workshops during the annual NUSA Conference unless they attended it in Baton Rouge, LA, Hampton, VA or Spokane, WA. Future prospective candidates should also attend one of the Running for the NUSA Board workshops.
- Must be able to attend the 2010-2013 NUSA board meetings, as follows:

October Mandatory for all new and re-elected board members
March Preferred that all board members attend
May Mandatory for all board members

There will be nine (9) board members vacancies for the three (3) year term of 2010-2013. All candidates' photos and qualifications for the nine positions will be published in the Spring issue of NUSA Newsletter.

Elections will be held 7:30 am - 5:00 pm on Friday at the May conference.

Requests for the official application form and and/or questions regarding the 2010 elections should be addressed to:
Mike Gibson, Board Development Committee Chair, 1027 South Queen Street, York, PA 17403
Email: mgdolphin@yahoo.com

Deadline to submit an application is February 15, 2010.

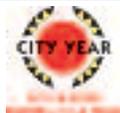
SAVE THE DATE: May 26-29, 2010

Neighborhoods, USA Conference

NUSA Comes to Little Rock, Arkansas with Brand New Federal Partners



U.S. Department
of Housing
& Urban
Development



FEMA



- **60 WORKSHOPS**
Beginner. Intermediate.
Advanced.

- **25 NEIGHBORHOOD TOURS**
Diversity for All

- **SPECIAL YOUTH TRACK**
Workshops & Tours for
Ages 16-19

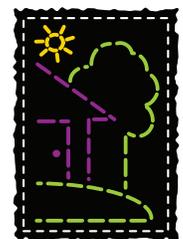
**CONTACT US
NOW**

for your registration
packet to be mailed
in January 2010

501-918-5204

NUSA@littlerock.org

**CALL THE
LITTLE ROCK
NUSA OFFICE
FOR MORE INFO
501-918-5204**



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