**5-11-17 Community Meeting**

**Eastside Grassroots Coalition**

**JFK Center – 6:30 – 8:00pm**

Set up – Large map of Eastside Grassroots Coalition was put on display for residents to see and to be referred back to throughout the meeting.

* Residents were given paper that included the Guiding Principles and Vision Statement

**6:35-6:55** Welcome & What we have done to date- Sr. Michelle and Gary (Talking Points Attached)

* Gary welcomed the various speakers including Sam Miller from the Sierra Club and two employees of the Erie School District.
* Gary also talked about the energy that is being created from the grassroots effort specifically focusing on youth engagement.
* Sr. Michele presented the talking points that were written prior to the meeting:
	+ Thank you for coming! We are excited to keep moving this community improvement process forward and your presence is what makes it possible.
	+ Excited to announce we received 12,000 from the Erie Community Foundation for this project, a portion will go to help pay for community mailings and food for our gathering, we will also be able to hire a consultant to help us apply for State physical improvement dollars and hire youth this summer to help map out the neighborhood
	+ Since our last meeting we held 2 Community Clean ups
	+ April 8 – Clean up around UECDC and on Woodlawn with Gannon students and community volunteers
	+ April 20 – Global Youth Service Day clean up along Buffalo Rd; youth and community members
	+ At our last meeting we worked on identifying what we want our neighborhood to look like and what values will guide the work that we do. The committee took your work consolidated it and we need your feedback to move forward.

**6:55-7:15 –** Review Guiding Principles and Vision (Emily)

* Various community members spoke and gave their opinions during this section:
	+ A suggestion supported by the attendees was to include a statement under “Business and Jobs” section to include “supporting existing business and fostering new businesses”
	+ Also wanted to use the term patronage to local businesses
	+ Another suggestion was to include specifically “residents” under the “Safety” section
	+ For the vision statement, there was a suggestion to add “community-based organizations” as part of the statement.
	+ A resident also wanted the saying “This is where we live not where we stay” to be included somewhere

**7:15-7:30 –** Identifying where we live (need flip charts to record names)

* Suggested names (with number of votes):
	+ Eastside Big 3: Buffalo, Bird, Bayfront (1 vote)
	+ North-South Buffalo Rd. District (4)
	+ The East End Neighborhood (2)
	+ Roger Young 20 (1)
	+ East End Big 3, or EEB3 (9)

**7:30-7:35 –** Vote on Community Name (need stickers for voting)

* East End Big 3, or EEB3, was voted as the most popular with 9 votes in favor

**7:35 –** Speaker from the School Board

* 2 members from the school board talked to discuss how the elementary, middle, and high school realignments would affect the students in the neighborhood.
* They discussed what the thinking behind the changes was.
* Also discussed how residents could still give their input on things such as staggered start times for the different schools, ways of transporting youth to schools, etc.
	+ More research can be done at the Erie School District’s website.

**7:50 -** Next steps: (Paul Announces)

May 20 – Clean up at Roger Young Park

June 13 – Community meeting from 6:30-8pm

August 1 – National Night Out Against Crime at the JFK Center

* Gary also made the point to announce the Erie County Council’s meeting on Monday May 15 at East High School. He is planning on taking a bus of students down there and asked residents to also attend the meeting.