



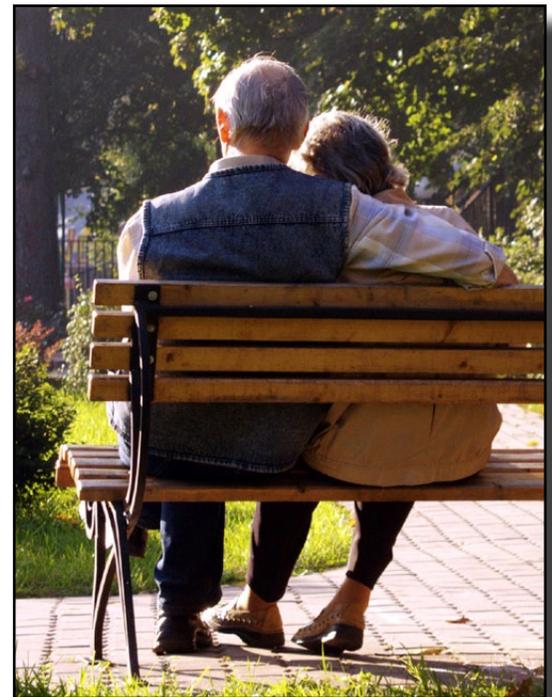
A Newsletter from the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development

Neighborhood Planning for Aging

by Lauren Lowery

The City of Chattanooga Selected for U.S. EPA Assistance on Neighborhood Planning for Aging

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has announced that the City of Chattanooga is among 43 communities in 27 states that will receive technical assistance to pursue sustainable growth that encourages local economic development while safeguarding health and the environment. EPA staff and national experts will conduct one to two-day workshops that focus on the Neighborhood Planning for Healthy Aging tool. The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development (DNSCD), Choose Chattanooga, and Southeast Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability (SEDEV) requested assistance to explore the role of supportive neighborhood design in creating great places for aging residents.



This tool helps communities understand the inter-related nature of the built environment related to creating neighborhoods where residents can comfortably age in place. This is accomplished by considering housing, accessibility, transportation, and safety and security.

"We are excited to be partnering with 'Choose Chattanooga' and 'Southeast Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability' on this project"

Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator

Communities receiving this assistance will explore these concepts through a GIS analysis of location conditions and a community assessment. Using this input, the EPA team will develop a series of strategies and next steps that each community can consider to improve local conditions to support aging. *continued on page 2*

"Building Better Neighborhoods... Block By Block"

COMMON GROUND



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Neighborhood Planning for Aging *continued from page 1*

“This technical assistance is an opportunity for Chattanooga to evaluate our current neighborhoods and take assessment of what is needed in our neighborhoods to have residents successfully age in place,” said the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development’s Administrator, Beverly P. Johnson.

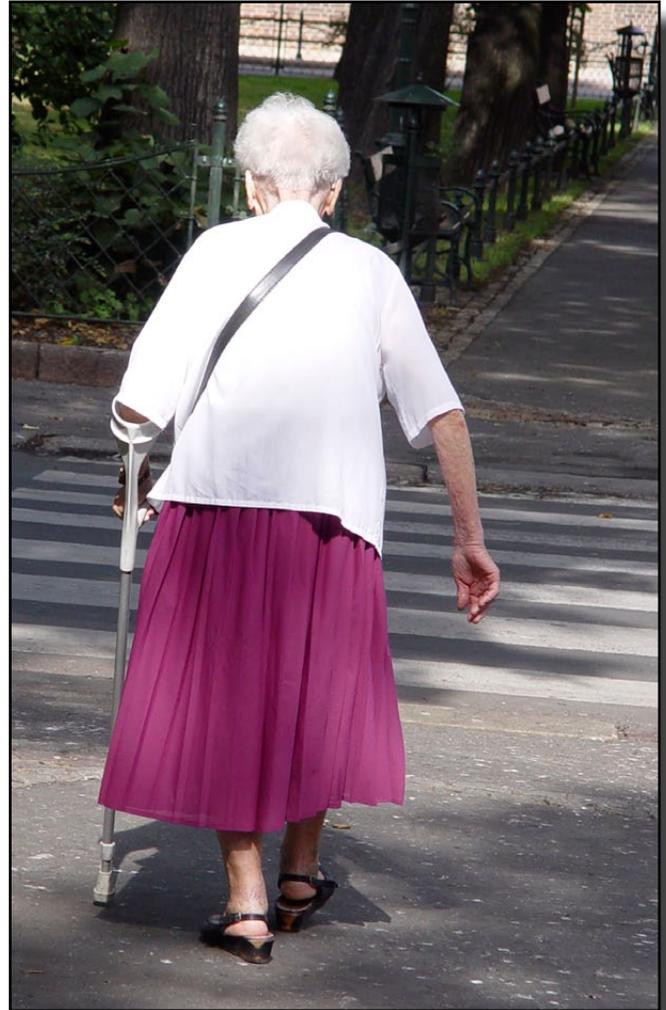
During the workshop with EPA-funded, private-sector experts, participants will explore the selected tool, as well as other ways to make progress toward community goals for environmentally responsible, economically healthy development.

“We are excited to be partnering with Choose Chattanooga and Southeast Tennessee Area Agency on Aging and Disability on this project,” said Johnson, “We hope to see positive and tangible results from this study.”

To date, EPA’s assistance through the Building Blocks program has reached 141 communities. EPA selected this year’s recipients from 121 applicants through a competitive process in consultation with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT). Together, the three agencies form the federal Partnership for Sustainable Communities, which coordinate investments in housing, transportation, and environmental protection to get better results for communities and use taxpayer money more efficiently.

In addition to Chattanooga, the selected communities for the Neighborhood Planning for Aging Tool are Inyo County, California; Pompano Beach, Florida; and Seneca Nation, New York.

For more information on the Building Blocks program or the Partnership for Sustainable Communities, visit www.epa.gov.



Beverly P. Johnson, Administrator

Administrator’s Letter

On Tuesday, March 5, we elect a new Mayor and City Council members for our great city. We look forward to working with the individuals who are elected to continue the City’s efforts to make Chattanooga the best place to live, work and play.

For those of us at City Hall, it is business as usual. Each department has its own objectives and momentum, and we will continue our direction as the newly elected officials become familiar with all the details of running government.

Speaking of leaders, two current councilpersons are graduates of our Neighborhood Leadership Institute. They became leaders in their neighborhoods and then became leaders in the city. Enrollment is now open for the next class (page 3). If you or anyone you know in your neighborhood is interested, please apply. Keep the leadership alive in your community.

Whether you are a leader or a follower, we appreciate all you do to make your neighborhoods a better place. Keep up the good work!

Neighborhood Leadership Institute Accepting Applicants

The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development is accepting applications for the Neighborhood Leadership Institute (NLI). The Neighborhood Leadership Institute is designed to strengthen leadership in the community by providing training to leaders and potential leaders of neighborhood associations and neighborhood-based groups.

The Neighborhood Leadership Institute boasts 107 graduates since the program's inception in 2007. Participants leave the program armed with strengthened skills and new partnerships. Classes will begin with an orientation in June and end with a graduation ceremony in October.

To meet the selection criteria in order to be eligible applicants must:

- Be a resident of the City of Chattanooga.
- Be committed to being a leader in their neighborhood and the overall community.
- Be an active member of a neighborhood association or neighborhood-based group, or in the process of starting a new group inside the city limits of Chattanooga. A neighborhood association or neighborhood-based group is defined as a voluntary group of residents and/or property owners who advocate for common concerns or organize activities within defined neighborhood boundaries.
- Submit one (1) personal recommendation and one (1) professional recommendation. A personal recommendation can be submitted by, but are not

Neighborhood LEADERSHIP Institute

limited to, church leaders, educators, and volunteer supervisors. A professional recommendation can be submitted by, but not limited to, current or former job supervisors, co-workers, members of professional organizations to which you belong.

- Be interviewed by an independent selection committee.
- Attend a minimum of 7 of 9 classes and complete required assignments.
- Complete and present a project to an independent selection committee in October.
- Submit a completed application and supporting documents to be a considered participant of NLI.

For a complete listing of NLI's eligibility requirements and the application, visit the Neighborhood Services and Community Development section of the City's website at www.chattanooga.gov.

The deadline to submit an application for NLI is Friday, April 19, 2013. There is no fee required to submit an application or participate in NLI. To request an application or learn more about NLI, contact Lauren Lowery at 425-3718 or lowery_l@chattanooga.gov.

Candidate Orientation

by Dottie Brewer, Editor

On February 8, all City departments presented an overview of their functions to the candidates for City Council. The all day event was held in City Council chambers.

Each department was allotted thirty minutes for their presentation. While many had trouble giving a synopsis of everything they do in that short amount of time, most were able to stick to the agenda. And, while some were pretty tedious to sit through (sorry, Finance, I'm not a numbers person) it was an educational experience to see what is involved with each department.

The Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development's presentation can be found on the department's web page at www.chattanooga.gov under Resources/Reports. Perhaps you will find it educational as well!



Are You “Spinning Your Wheels?”

by Debbie Johnson, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

In the past few weeks, I have been reminded of the need to remember the basics and analyze the obvious. Through the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development’s Neighborhood Partners Program, funding is provided for projects that enhance the community. For most of our recipients the goal is to increase their membership.

While working with several groups on projects intended to increase membership it occurred to me that when working with associations, first, we should encourage them to analyze the membership today in comparison to what it was yesterday.

Take time to review the association’s membership roster from the past year and compare it to the roster now. Is there an increase or decrease in attendance? Is there a drastic difference? You may find that in some cases recruitment of new members is a mere substitute to retaining current members.

After making this assessment you may find that it’s time to get back to the basics. Pull your best resources together - you and your association members. Begin an active campaign to talk to those missing members of yesterday and find out where they are. Let them know you need them back. Find out why they are no longer attending or participating in the association, document your findings and utilize it to improve the association and its services. Roll up your sleeves and renew your commitment to maintain a clear and strategic communication with all members to prevent a “stagnant” association.

Our everchanging environment dictates that effective organizational leadership includes evaluation at frequent intervals to see where the association is on the road map and check in with the membership to see where you need to go next. As long as you are working together, no one gets lost and you are always going forward and never backward.

Membership retention is one matter, and recruitment is another - or are they? Make sure that your association does not fall into the cycle of trading one for another - or as they say, “just spinning your wheels.”

Home Repair Resources

by Vanessa A. Jackson, Program Specialist

While speaking with the many citizens interested in applying for the Home Repair Application Assistance Workshops program, I realized many are unfamiliar with other organizations in our city that offer some form of home repair for qualifying residents. Here’s a brief capture of just a few that may be able to assist you or your neighbors with their housing repair needs.

Chattanooga Community Housing Development Organization (CCHDO) works to promote, support and serve as an advocate to increase housing opportunities for low to moderate income individuals and families. CCHDO partnered with the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development a few years ago in its administration of a Roofing Repair Program and the now CCHDO has sole administration of this program. Due to last year’s overwhelming response, a waiting list of qualified applicants, who were not served last year due to lack of funding, will be served first in the next funding cycle. CCHDO will receive applications starting late summer of 2013. For information regarding the program, call the CCHDO at 668-9804.

The Rental Rehab Program is administered by the Community Development division of the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development. The program provides a grant to landlords or rental property owners in exchange for the rental property staying affordable based on HUD guidelines for a five year period. Applications are accepted once a year from mid-March through the end of April. A variety of repairs are eligible under the program. Applications and information regarding the program will be available on the department’s website starting April 1, 2013. For more information contact Doug Smith, Community Development Specialist at 757-5127.

The Weatherization Assistance Program (WAP) enables low-income families to permanently reduce their energy bills by making their homes more energy efficient. Southeast Tennessee Human Resource Agency (SETHRA) now manages the program, with primary focus on floor, wall and ceiling replacement, weather stripping and evaluation of heat and air conditioning units. According to SETHRA staff, applications are not currently being accepted, but interested residents should contact SETHRA at 949-2191 extension 141.

Neighborly News from...

Menlo Park Neighborhood Association

by Karen D. Clay, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

Menlo Park Neighborhood Association is located in City Council district 9, between the Eastdale and Brainerd communities. The group may be small in number but big in heart and looks forward to increasing its ranks. The association is very proud of their participation in programs such as the Great American Cleanup, National Night Out and Neighborhood Partners Program.

In previous years, the association has been awarded funding through the Department of Neighborhood Services and Community Development's Neighborhood Partners Program to purchase community markers which were strategically placed within the association's boundaries. They were also awarded funding for house banners that are now displayed throughout the neighborhood, showcasing a sense of pride in the community. The house banners and the community markers exhibit Menlo's motto, "A Family Friendly Neighborhood."

Many of the residents strive to stay abreast on various issues and concerns. They attend the bi-monthly Neighborhood Roundtable meetings to hear various presenters and take information back to their local neighborhood meetings. The association continues to work with Karen Clay, Neighborhood Relations Specialist to brainstorm on ways to build their membership and have more community involvement.

Menlo Park Neighborhood Association meets the third Thursday of each month at 6:00 p.m. at St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church, 502 Menlo Street.



The Arbors Homeowner's Association

by Ty Armour, Neighborhood Relations Specialist

The Arbors Homeowner's Neighborhood is located just off Kirkman Road at Arbor Leaf Lane between Tyner Road and Bonny Oaks Drive. Built in 2008, there are approximately 75 new homes that sit on a beautiful piece of land. There is still room for more homes to be built in this pleasant neighborhood.

The Arbors was developed by Barry Payne, who has developed homes around Chattanooga for 24 years. He was attracted to the property where the Arbors is located not only because of its proximity to Hamilton Place Mall, the interstate, and the prospect of Volkswagen being built at Enterprise Park, but also because the area is secluded and quiet.

Each year the Arbors Homeowner's Association hosts a barbecue festival for residents, families and friends to come out and a great time. The festival normally takes place on a beautiful piece of property known as the "neighborhood park" in the middle of the community. There is a beautiful pergola for the neighbors to sit in and a tree-lined path for people to stroll down beside a tree-lined creek.

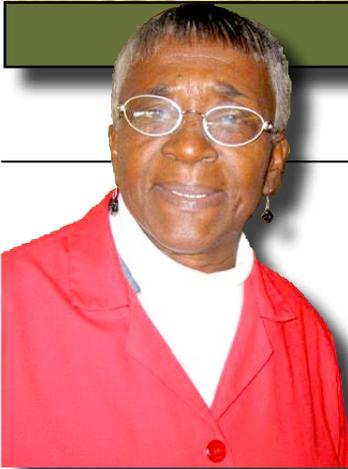
The Arbors Homeowner's Association was awarded funding through the 2012-2013 Neighborhood Tree Planting Program to beautify their neighborhood park walking path.

There is no set schedule for meetings. Homeowners are notified of association meetings by phone.



New trees planted along the walking path in the Arbors' neighborhood park

Neighborly News from...



Minnie Moore
Foster Grandparent

Foster Grandparents - Above and Beyond

Foster Grandparent Minnie Moore received the January Gold Class Card Award from Erlanger Hospital. She was recognized for her assistance to a woman who went to Erlanger Hospital and collapsed in the garage hallway. The woman was unable to find anyone to care for her children, so she had taken them with her to the hospital. Ms. Moore, who volunteers at the hospital twenty hours per week through the Foster Grandparent Program, volunteered to care for the children until the family could be notified of the situation. She remained with the children for hours.

"Her kindness and compassion were amazing," stated Lou Apland, the Assistant Nurse Manager in the Children's Emergency Department. "Minnie Moore is always willing to comfort our children. We appreciate all she does to help our patients' lives be a little less stressful."

Throughout the City of Chattanooga, Minnie Moore, and other Foster Grandparents like her are extending their compassion and lifetime of experience to children in need. For more information about the Foster Grandparent Program, please call 757-5509. The Department of Human Services office is located at 501 West 12th Street, Room 3, Chattanooga, TN 37402.

Fair Housing Workshops & Luncheon

The City of Chattanooga Office of Multicultural Affairs presents its 8th Annual Fair Housing Workshops & Luncheon Thursday, April 4, 2013 at the Chattanooga Choo Choo. Workshops are from 8:30 a.m. to 11:15 a.m. in the Finley Room. Topics will include:

- What to do when faced with retaliation from landlords or tenants
- Understanding Civil Rights as a homeowner, tenant, landlord or property manager
- Fair Housing Rights for People with Disabilities

Luncheon from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Imperial Ballroom with keynote speaker Carlos Osegueda, Southeast Regional Director U.S. Dept. of Housing and Urban Development, Atlanta, GA.

The workshops and luncheon are free, but **REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**. Seating is also limited. To register or make a reasonable accommodation request, call 423-643-6706 or email oma@chattanooga.gov. Deadline for registering is March 25.



Chattanooga Public Library

Toddler Time is a weekly action-packed learning event for children ages 18 months to 36 months and their accompanying adult. Toddlers and their care-givers learn new songs, rhymes and finger-plays, and share books. Registration is not required.

"Toddler Time promotes learning through play. Because care-givers are playing along with their children, they learn activities they can share at home. We often recommend books to check-out, based on an individual child's interest," explained Lee Hope, Youth Services Coordinator. "Toddler Time cultivates a love of reading, the basic building block for future learning and success in school."

Toddler Time is held at the following locations and times:

- Downtown Library - Saturdays, 11 a.m.
- Eastgate Library - Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m.
- Northgate Library - Wednesdays, 10 & 11 a.m.

Announcements

Drivers Ed Schedule Summer 2013

SUMMER I

Public Library Downtown (1001 Broad St)
June 3-6; Monday through Thursday from 9:00 until 4:45 each day

SUMMER II

Public Library Downtown (1001 Broad St)
June 17-20; Monday through Thursday from 9:00 until 4:45 each day

SUMMER III

Hixson Community Center (5400 School Dr)
July 8-11; Monday through Thursday from 9:00 until 4:45 each day

SUMMER IV

Hixson Community Center (5400 School Dr)
July 22-25; Monday through Thursday from 9:00 until 4:45 each day

Application forms are available at www.chattanooga.gov
For more information, call the Drivers Ed Info Line, 423-643-7011
Don't delay – classes fill up VERY QUICKLY.

**Join us at the next
Neighborhood
Roundtable**

March 13 at 1:00 p.m.
Mayor's Conference Room City Hall
3rd Floor • 101 East 11th Street



**Free Home Repair
Applications are due
Thursday, March 14
by 4:00 p.m.**

For more information call 425-3700

**City of Chattanooga
Parks and Recreation**

Looking for a Job?

The State of TN Career Coach is coming to North Chattanooga Community Center, March 19 from Noon till 4pm. The Career Coach offers resume assistance, computer lab, interview skills and jobs. Free. For more information, call 757-5447

2013 Summer Kidz Kamp

Join the Chattanooga Parks and Recreation for 8 weeks of Summer Camp starting in June! Just \$240 for the entire summer! Swimming, outdoor activities, sports, arts and crafts and more! Scholarships are available. Call Kim at 643-6052

4th Annual Easter Egg Hunt

The City of Chattanooga invites you to their 4th annual Easter Egg Hunt featuring 25,000 eggs! March 28 at Warner Park from 5-7pm. This year will feature food, face painting, costume contest, music from Power 94, bounce house and more... including CANDY!
Ages 0-12



SPRING 2013

On April 6, River City Company and Chattanooga Neighborhood Enterprise, along with partner organizations, hope to host the largest clean-up day this city has ever seen. Our goal is to recruit 1,000 volunteers to dedicate 4 hours of their time to cleaning up downtown districts and neighborhoods.

The sky is the limit when it comes to the needs of our downtown, but some examples for volunteer work are: graffiti removal, trash pickup, pressure washing, beautification projects, neighborhood clean-up, vacant building clean-up, etc.

Our goal is to create the largest downtown clean-up possible! Please join us in making that happen! Visit www.causeway.org for more information and to volunteer your help.

March Calendar of Events

Sunday March 3

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Hemphill Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Shepherd Community Council

Monday March 4

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Spring Valley Charitable Corporation
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Northside/Cherokee Community Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Battery Heights Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Wheeler Avenue Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Hill City Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	East Lake Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Murray Hills Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Community Association of Historic St. Elmo

Tuesday March 5

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Shawnee Hills Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Forest Plaza Neighborhood Association

Wednesday March 6

10:00am – 11:00am	Board of Zoning Appeals
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Thursday March 7

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Alton Park Development Corporation
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Glenwood Neighborhood Watch
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Lookout Valley Neighborhood Association

Monday March 11

6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Jefferson Heights Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Fairfax-Bagwell Neighborhood Association

Tuesday March 12

5:00pm – 6:00pm	Foxwood Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Indian Hills Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Sector 2 CPIC Meeting
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Glass Farms Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Alton Park Piney Woods Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Biltmore Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Lake Hills Neighborhood Association

Wednesday March 13

11:00am – 12:00pm	East Lake Senior Citizens
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For more information on these events and all registered neighborhood association meeting dates go to Neighborhood Services at <http://www.chattanooga.gov> and check our Calendar of Events

Thursday March 14

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Churchville Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 8:00pm	North Hixson Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Clifton Hills Improvement Committee
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Belvoir Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Sector 3 CPIC Meeting
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Fort Wood Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Cedar Hill Improvement League
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Martin Luther King Neighborhood Association

Monday March 18

5:30pm – 6:30pm	Villages at Alton Park Neighborhood Watch
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Washington Hills Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	North Brainerd Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Avondale Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action

Tuesday March 19

6:00pm – 7:00pm	Orchard Knob Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Hickory Creek Townhome Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Cloverdale Neighborhood Association

Thursday March 21

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Dogwood Village Homeowner's Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Brainerd Park North Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Missionary Ridge Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Southside Chattanooga Oak Hills Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Menlo Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Olde Town Brainerd Neighborhood Association
6:30pm – 7:30pm	Highland Park Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Lake Chickamauga Association

Monday March 25

6:00pm – 8:00pm	Chattanooga Organized for Action
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Oak Grove Neighborhood Association

Thursday March 28

9:00am – 10:00am	Environmental Court
4:30pm – 5:30pm	South Broad Redevelopment Group
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Woodmore Manor Neighborhood Association
6:00pm – 7:00pm	Glenwood Neighborhood Association
7:00pm – 8:00pm	Ridgedale Community Association