

## SWNA Membership Meeting Minutes 1-28-2013

### January Membership Outreach – 2013 Dues are Payable

Elections will be at our next membership meeting in March. If anyone is interested in serving on the board let Debbie or Robert know.

Everyone introduced themselves by giving their names and the streets they live on.

Program – Sherith Colverson – PlanET Outreach Coordinator – What are the Visions/Challenges – Prezi Presentation. She gave some history about the beginning of the program which started in 2010. A grant was applied for and they won a sizeable amount. 30 entities were assembled which were called the Consortium Partners. The numbers kept growing to now there are around 40. You can sign on and what that means is that you have direct access to maps, info etc. PlanET KickOff was in Oct 2011. It covers 5 counties. Anderson, Union, Blount, Loudon, and Knox are the 5 counties. It had a basic question: Based on strengths and weaknesses what do we want for the future? She went over some of the statistics. She discussed how they are structured and there are 5 main focuses, Healthy communities, Economy and workforce, Transportation and infrastructure, environment, housing and neighborhoods. With transportation and housing it is NOT affordable to live in this region. UT did studies to see what the Region values and they came up the following: Mountains and Natural Beauty, People and sense of community, quiet of small towns, family, and a high quality of life. What have we learned? We want an Increase in jobs and to attract more businesses, Improve transportation system to reduce congestion, Improve quality of education, reduce illegal drugs, and bring in more retail stores and restaurants. She talked about some of the things that other groups are interested in doing to improve the area. If we continue with business as usual, we will have tons of developed land and a lot less farmland. 4 different Scenarios for the future: dispersed growth, Highway- Oriented Growth Scenario, Growth of established Cities and Towns, Growth of established cities and Towns and New Centers Scenario. They are working with the UT Architecture students on designs. She showed some examples of putting mixed use of housing and businesses in the same area where people can walk to the stores near them rather than having to drive. She plans to have a meeting in a box for the 3<sup>rd</sup> phase and they will begin soon. She hopes that we will be involved. If we would like to give our input on line, the web page is [www.planeasttn.org](http://www.planeasttn.org).

There was a suggestion to have transportation for South Knoxville to Seymour and to Sevierville. Once there is a plan, what is the next step – the PlanET is hoping that other organizations will take it on. There might be grant money to be available. It will be important for us to work together locally and think about our neighboring counties as well because that is where many people live who work in Knoxville. There will be no public meetings but there will be neighborhood meetings because they received better input that way. You can still go on line and put your input in even if you don't make it to a meeting in a box. The meetings will be Feb 18<sup>th</sup> through the last week in March. Someone asked the question: What is the meeting in the box? It is the meeting to get regional input with a workshop.

Police Report – Officer Roark – Slow couple of months. There were burglaries before Christmas, but they are down now. He suggested that if you have any items in your house with a serial number, write it down and keep it in a safe place. That way it can be tracked easily if it is stolen. He says that it is very quiet right now. He gave other tips about being a good witness, get good descriptions, etc because the police cannot always get there quickly. He talked about the department getting new vehicles. He said that there are a few unmarked cars out that they are using as trials. There has also been more money

approved for better weapons for police officers. People seem to be driving slower in the neighborhood which is nice. He said that if we need to reach him, feel free to email him. [DRoark@cityofknoxville.org](mailto:DRoark@cityofknoxville.org)

State of the First District – Nick Pavlis – Things have been going well and there have been awards given to the city. There is a blue bird grant, one for 5 million and 4 for 1million dollars. We are finalists in this urban food corridor. We are in the top ten. We are one of the three cities that are out of the recession and we are the 2nd happiest city to work in according to a poll. The city budget process will be starting in Feb. (15<sup>th</sup>). He talked a little about the Old Baptist site, there have been 3 offers and not one has stuck just yet. Henley Bridge – perhaps by the end of the next two weeks, we will know more about the bridge. It might be a bit longer and a bit more expensive. He gave an update about UWATD. They went to the Round Up and it went well. It was brought up to have a group insurance for small businesses to help with the cost. We talked about the Urban Wilderness Rewards card [www.UWAandTD.org](http://www.UWAandTD.org)

Secretary's Report – Approved by consent

Treasurer's Report – ***(Janice/Rosie I will need a copy of this, I did not get the numbers.)***– We talked about the silent auction and that it was very helpful. We will have another one in March.

WHoSW – We made it into an article in the Tennessee Conservationist and Sara Baskins' yard made the pictures. Kathy gave the presentation to the Dow Board last week. They were all very supportive and they got the check from Dow. We are now waiting for the ground breaking and there is no date yet. We still need to get more homes certified as well as common areas. There was a question: Is there another meeting date? After some discussion about a date, Kathy said that she will email out to get people involved for another meeting.

Welcome Packets Reminder – Brandy and Brandon need a welcome packet. Kathy and Joanna agreed to get one from Kat and take it to them. Danny said that he gave two packets out and they were receptive and nice. We really need to grow our membership. Danny offered to do a flyer and share it with us to give to our neighbors.

SKNBC – Janice gave a rundown of what the group is about. Debbie gave a brief update about Baptist hospital ideas. She mentioned that there would be 3 public meetings in the next year, one about the realignment of Fort Dickerson, one would be for Suttree Landing Park's plan, and the third would be about the Baker Creek Apartments near Island Home. She mentioned the Hardscape Map Possibility – The group voted unanimously that it was a good idea.

Announcements – Wilma and Bill Hobbs – Wilma has had cancer problems. If you know them, send a card.

The Round Up's owner, Sam Tobia requests help because his business has fallen off. He is looking at giving a discount during a week and we would get a cut of the profit for bringing in the extra business. There was a suggestion to also visit Fruzzies. There was a reminder to shop locally.

Janice announced that UWATD made T-shirts with the quote: "If we can put a man on the moon we can make Chapman Hwy safer!" Vice Mayor Nick Pavlis said this at the town meeting. The T-shirts are on sale. There was a suggestion to get Bumper Stickers with that slogan too.

Marcia gave a plea to find a home for an 8 year old Shih –tzu. The dog appears healthy but needs to go to the vet, she has never been. If you know of anyone, please contact Marcia.

We adjourned at 8:45.