

Neighborhood Improvement Group Minutes – 05-30-23

Using the City's rental properties map, Charles discussed how the distribution of rental properties is very uneven across the city and questioned whether the results of the proposed Neighborhood Association survey would show enough commonality from which an "association" could form. (Since I logged onto zoom 20 minutes late, Charles and others should correct this note as needed).

Maria responded that the survey posed a wide variety of questions, and the intent of the survey is to explore concerns that residents have regarding their immediate community. It is expected that responses will zero in on differing issues, depending on the neighborhoods.

Maria volunteered to explore various methods we might use to share the survey with Oneonta residents; Hannah may also have some info on whether the City can distribute the survey; **using the Hometown Oneonta/Freedmen's Journal was suggested as a way to publicize/distribute the survey.** It was decided that the workgroup members will vote on the survey at our next meeting. The survey (attached) should be reviewed by the workgroup members in preparation for the vote.

Several members had read a story about how Schenectady and other cities are addressing the remediation of distressed properties. The Schenectady example pairs potential buyers who want to occupy and improve properties with realtors, banks, and grant dollars. The original story is attached.

Charles volunteered to contact the key players in Schenectady to learn how we can replicate the same methodology in Oneonta. The goal is to submit a proposal to the Mayor/Housing Commission.

Our next meeting, 6pm **June 20th**, will be held at Marty's home – 4 Hazel St.