

ODWNA Meeting
Wednesday, January 16th 7:00pm
Winchell Elementary School

Nicholas Baxter, Building Manager of the Disciples of Christ Church and the First Baptist Church of Kalamazoo and Community Outreach Liaison for the Kalamazoo Nonprofit Advocacy Coalition

Nathan Dannison, Executive Pastor of First Congregational Church and Board President of the Kalamazoo Nonprofit Advocacy Coalition

- Here on behalf of the Christian Church Disciples of Christ and the Kalamazoo Nonprofit Advocacy Coalition

Goals of this presentation:

- 1.) **Update on Kalamazoo Nonprofit Advocacy Coalition**
- 2.) **Update on DOC Building Use**
- 3.) **Community garden overview.**
- 4.) **ODWNA Input on land use**

1.) What is the Kalamazoo Nonprofit Advocacy Coalition?

The Kalamazoo Nonprofit Advocacy Coalition is a 501(c)(3) working to repurpose and revitalize historic buildings by creating cooperative use, nonprofit centered spaces. We bring together organizations who foster self worth, self respect, self determination and self expression and increase their capacity building capability by offering opportunities for interorganizational skill sharing and a central location for their facilities which otherwise would be too expensive.

2.) Disciples of Christ Building Users

Tai Chi Society, ABC Tutoring, Little Gourmet Kitchen, Jonathan Wijnberg Artistry, Laurie Andrasi Artistry, Rollie Morse Meditation Group, Society of Sacred Singers, Julie Kaufman Qigong, C.O.R.E., Pheonix Church and Disicples of Christ Church

3.) Community Garden Overview

Trying to grow more than grass, educating about what farming is, developing the idea of a common space, realize the potential of land as a commons, trying to develop relationship between use of building and land, building community from that, making this a part of commons and a part of the neighborhood, a safe place brings people together, resource sharing, sustainable cropping.

- **Strengths:** Neighborhood volunteers/ people being aware of intentions to grow food, daydreaming list from neighborhood, tested soil, so much flat ground, tillable, kitchen (cooking classes/drying/canning/pressure cooking) teach about preserving foods, educational capabilities with adjacent schools (woods lake/winchell), places to put water catchment systems on building,
- **Weaknesses:** will need fences, rezoning, increased traffic, not proximate to impoverished communities, only one water tap on building

4.) ODWNA Input on land use

Questionnaire On Back

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What does growing food and community look like?

What do you see as strengths and weaknesses of the DOC land?

Would you volunteer time to aid the development of a garden? (Circle One) Yes/No

If so, how many hours per week could you spare? _____

How many hours per day could you spare? _____

When are the best times for you? (Circle One) Morning/ Midday/ Afternoon/ Evening

If you were to grow on the DOC land, how much space would you need? _____

What types of vegetables would you like to grow or see grown on this land?

What other uses could you see for this land?

Do you mind if we contact you to speak further about this project?

Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Please feel free to reach out with further questions and suggestions:

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