



Our meeting is on Saturday,
 October 16, 2010, at 10:00 am
 in the Allentown Public Library
 basement conference room.

"Clip and put this on your fridge."

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

To Report:	Number to call:
Police-Fire-Ambulance	911
Police Non-Emergency	610-437-7751
Call to report graffiti	
Chief McLean	610-437-7777
Police-Vice Unit	610-437-7626
Gang Tip Line	610-439-5934
Crime Tip Line	610-439-5911
Zoning Office	610-437-7630
Code Enforcement/Housing	610-437-7695
Problem Properties	
Mayor Pawlowski	610-437-7546
Loud Music/Noise/People	610-437-7751
working on cars in street	
Graffiti – to request removal	610-437-8729
Tall grass & weeds	610-437-8729
Property not recycling, incorrect	
storage of trash or garbage	
out before 6 pm	610-437-8729
Special Operator (after 7)	610-437-7571
Housing/Rentals	610-437-7697
Roach, insects or mice	
Infestation also no heat or water	
Over grown shrubs	610-437-7589
Shopping Carts pick up	1-800-244-2278
Animal Control	610-437-7535
Animal abuse/neglect	610-797-1205
Garbage	610-437-8729
Allentown Parking Authority	610-437-3366
Sweep Officer	610-437-8729

TRICK OR TREAT is on Friday, October 29th from 6 pm to 8 pm. Put your porch light on if you are giving out candy. If you are driving on this night **PLEASE, PLEASE** be careful, it can be very hard to see the children if they are in dark costumes, and they have trouble seeing if they are wearing a face mask. Also, the kids run across street and out from between cars. So please be careful, we don't want a fun night to become a tragic night for a family.

CHEC-Mate Program

Report all suspicious activity *anonymously* by a CHEC-mate (Citizens Helping Eliminate Crime) Member. Come to our monthly meeting and ask for a card and/or get a few for your friends or neighbors.

Public Meeting Notice

What: The City of Allentown has scheduled a public meeting with representatives of the Pennsylvania Public Utility Commission (PUC) and UGI Corporation to discuss the placement of natural gas meters and regulators on properties within the city's historic districts.

Date: Monday, October 18, 2010 **Time:** 7:00 P.M.

Location: City Hall, Council Chambers (435 Hamilton St)

Details: PUC and UGI representatives will make presentations and lead the discussion. Pennsylvania Utility Commission representatives will focus on federal and state regulations regarding the safety issues and consequences concerning the proper positioning of natural gas meters and regulators on these properties in the city. Please attend the meeting.

RECYCLING YARD WASTE

Yard Waste – curbside yard waste pickup on your recycling night (Monday) ends the week of Thanksgiving. Grass in 30 gallon brown paper yard waste bags only, yard waste, branches, trimmings, etc in a separate can, 30 gallon brown paper yard waste bag or bundled. Yard waste stickers are available for cans. Yard waste drop-off sites are open April 1st through Thanksgiving.

Trash Limits – Two times Per Week

5 bays of trash (30 gallon bags, 40 pounds max)

OR

2 trash cans (70 pounds maximum weight per can)

NO TRASH IN BOXES. (Flatten & Tie Boxes for pickup or take to recycling center).

Newsletter delivery – HELPIII

We need more people to deliver the newsletter. You could help by delivering newsletters in your neighborhood or on a block near where you live. It only takes about ½ to 1 hour monthly. Can you invest that amount of time to our neighborhood? If you can help, please call Nick Butterfield at 610-770-1751 or email him at butterfn@aol.org. I know he would appreciate the help.

HALLOWEEN PARADE is on Sunday, October 31st it starts from the fairgrounds at 2 pm; goes up N 17th St to Hamilton St, then down Hamilton St to 7th St. center square.

RECYCLING YARD WASTE continued

ONLY on the 2nd collection night – Thursday

1 bulk item (furniture, mattress, carpeting, etc.) OR
40 pounds maximum of construction material bundled
(lumber, drywall, sheet rock, etc.)

Minutes of the September 20, 2010 meeting.

Nick Butterfield opened the meeting with introductions.

UGI Gas line work and meter installation on 13th St: On September 10 Nick and 9 others, neighborhood residents and friends from adjoining neighborhoods met with Michael Love, VP Government Relations. We made it clear that we prefer for gas meters not be placed out front. We understand the Public Utility Commission has ordered new cut-offs and regulators to be placed outside as a safety measure.

Love said the PUC has given directives with out clarifying how this should be done. He will request further information from the PUC. After the meeting Love and Nick went to several of the houses affected on 13th St. Since then Nick has talked to the UGI site manager and the contractor, and that seems possible, provided the PUC agrees. The City is trying to set a meeting with UGI and PUC to set a precedent as streets are rebuilt.

Police: Captain Daryl Hendricks reported a new Captain for the LANA neighborhood will be appointed soon. Crime is down over all. Be proactive – do not leave things visible in your car – change in the console, GPS, etc. and lock the windows.

Housing complaints: Several houses appear to have been illegally converted to boarding houses: in the 00 block of S 10th, the 00 block S Madison, and on Fairview. Call the Mayor's Office on these– don't wait for a meeting. Nick will call BSS to refer the complaints.

Parking: Illegal parking by the Hickory Apartments at Hickory and Mercer St. Residents get blocked in their garages. Nick will request Parking Authority to patrol frequently.

Guest Speaker: Mayor Pawlowski: Next year will be Allentown's 250th anniversary and Lehigh County's 200 the anniversary.

The City is rebuilding fiscal base. Labor, pension and health care make 77 % of the budget. Of which 77 % is for Public Safety – Police, Fire, EMS. The City has fewer workers now than in the past 20 years, but labor, and health costs have risen from \$50 million to \$61 million in the past 5 years. Pension costs have risen from \$6.5 million in 2005 to \$15.5 million in 2011

We have had no tax increase in five years but have trimmed costs and reduced workforce size. The taxing system in Pennsylvania is archaic, putting stress on all cities. We must get reforms from the legislature. A tax reassessment will also help the City. 29% of all properties in Allentown are non-taxable – colleges, hospitals, churches

As far as real estate taxes, the City receives only 25%. The School District receives 61 % and county 15%. There are 70 new officers in Public Safety. We have added cameras, license plate trackers, made agreements with Allentown School District, Allentown Housing Authority and Allentown Parking Authority for bicycle and walking patrols. We are now part of a regional crime center and share information with the FBI, DEA and US Attorney. Police have closed nuisance bars, and decimated one of the gangs. Quality of Life Ordinances have been enacted, giving owners more power to remove tenants with drug charges, larger fines for noise and illegal and unfit unit violations.

Our parks have been reviewed renovated to make them more accessible to all residents.

We are concentrating resources on the 19th St District, as well as the 7th St Corridor, Hamilton Street with the Main Street Program and the Lehigh Riverfront.

Newsletter Editor and Note Recorder needed

Having a monthly newsletter has been a most valuable asset to our neighborhood. Far more people read it and use the telephone numbers to report problems or concerns than come to our meetings. For more than 10 years Debbie Nichols has gathered, edited and pieced together the newsletter. However she is finding that her family and back problems have made it necessary to cut down on her outside activities. Debbie will be stepping down from writing the newsletter this year. So we need someone to take over by January's newsletter. The newsletter has to be email to City Hall for printing 10-14 days before you need it for distribution.

I help Debbie by writing articles and making it all fit, but it takes more than me. Please give me a call or e-mail to volunteer, and Debbie and I will explain what is needed.

Nick Butterfield 610-770-1751 Butterfn@aol.com
Because of my continuing hearing loss, I am requesting the help of a note-taker at our monthly meetings. Notes don't have to be long but would inform on what the speakers said and other issues that came up and need to be followed up. Thanks, Nick

Our next meeting is on Saturday, Nov. 20, 10 a.m. at the Allentown Library in the basement conference room. This is the last meeting of the year. Our guest speakers will be Council Member Peter Schweyer and the new Director of the Library, Rene Haines.