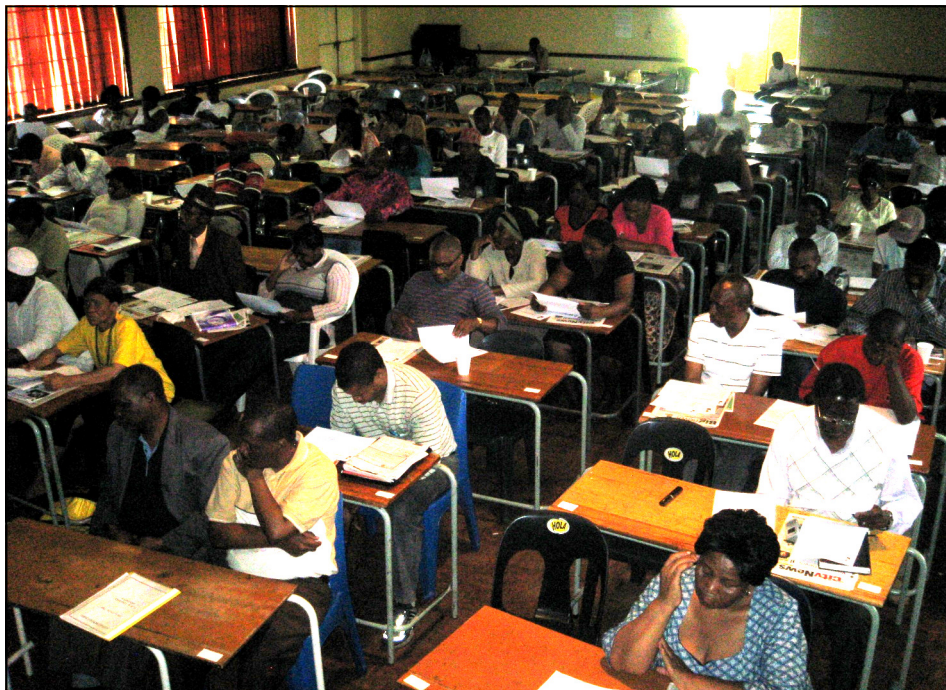




Yeovue news

your news your views

free to all 19 november - 25 november 2009 volume 2 no 46



Delegates to the YSF AGM read their documents and listen intently during the proceedings

ysf agm 2009

On Saturday 14 November, the Yeoville Stakeholders Forum (YSF) held its 4th Annual General Meeting. BONGANI NYOKA took notes.

On 26 November 2005, an historic meeting took place in Yeoville Bellevue. This was the day of the first AGM of the Yeoville Stakeholders Liaison Forum (YSLF).

At that meeting, in a key-note address to the assembly, ward councillor Nomaswazi Mohlala said: "Please get involved. Don't leave all the problems to the councillor."

At the same meeting, interim chair of the YSLF noted that 'there is no vision for the Yeoville Bellevue area. This is a task for the YSLF – to develop a vision for the area for submission to the Local Integrated Development Plan (LIDP) process. That is the power of organisation – we need to be able to say we represent five thousand people when we put forward such a vision.'

Since then, the YSF (as it is now known) has worked to prepare the ground for the development of such a vision.

The AGM of 2009 was therefore an opportunity to reflect on what progress had been made in this regard.

The meeting was opened by the outgoing chair, George Lebone, who welcomed everyone and shared his hopes that it would be a productive and interesting meeting. He then introduced special guests and the presiding officers for the election of the new executive.

Pastor Humphrey Mogashoa of the Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle, Hussein Musa Baza-Awe of the Yeoville Muslim Community and community member Johannes Dube each gave a short inspirational input to get the meeting off to a good start.

Following this the chair noted with sadness that, since the last AGM, two founding members - Mam' Thembeke Mwale and Lunga Cenge - has passed away and asked for a moment of silence to remember them and their contributions to the community.

The meeting then got underway, with reports from the chair, the secretary and treasurer (summarised elsewhere in this issue) and a presentation by Dr Clair Benit

-Gbaffou of a possible research project to be undertaken by students working with community members in 2010.

Once the reports had been commented on by the meeting, the outgoing chair handed the meeting over to the presiding officers responsible for running the election for a new executive.

The presiding officers - councillor Nomaswazi Mohlala and the Johannesburg Development Agency's Seipati More, assisted by the YBCDT's Maurice Smithers - conducted the election quickly and efficiently. They then requested the re-elected chairperson, George Lebone, to address the assembly, take announcements and close the meeting.

The chairperson thanked everyone for showing confidence in him by re-electing him as chair and congratulated his fellow executive members on their appointment, warning them that there was a great deal of work to be done and that they should be prepared.

As it enters its fifth year of existence, the YSF can look back with pride, having achieved a great deal with almost no resources. It is clear that the YSF is widely acknowledged as a legitimate and important community structure.

It is now the responsibility of the new executive to build on this by encouraging more organisations to join the Forum, thereby ensuring that the community of Yeoville Bellevue speaks with one loud voice as it works for a better future for all who live and work in the area.

thought for the week

"Do unto others as you would like them to do unto you"

Treat your street and your community with the same care as you treat your own kitchen or bedroom - you live here and your pride in your home should not start and end at your front door. So be proud of your street and your suburb. Keep it clean and try not to disturb your neighbours with hooting, loud music and litter.

Pamela Stafford, Yeoville Bellevue

You may email your "thought for the week" to yeovue.news@yeoville.org.za or SMS it to 082 3737705. You may use any language. Please include your telephone number as we may need to contact you

history of the yeoville stakeholders forum

The Yeoville Community Forum was established in 1995 to fight the fencing off of a section of the Yeoville Park. The community said it was not right for public space to be used to benefit only a section of the population of the area.

Having won that battle, the Forum - by now called the Yeoville Development Forum - decided to look at broader issues of development. However, by 1997, the Forum was inactive.

It was revived again as the Yeoville Community Development Forum in 1998. Some good work was done in the period 1998 - 1999, including a successful Heritage Day celebration, the building of steps into the old Yeoville Park, the provision of new park equipment in some of Yeoville's parks, and the production of a development plan for the area. The

Forum also initiated the establishment of a City Improvement District.

By the end of

1999, the Forum was not functioning, mainly because of sabotage by self-interested individuals in the area. Work began on restructuring the Forum to stop such sabotage in the future.

In 2002, Forum chair Maurice Smithers suggested to the Economic Development Unit (EDU) in the City of Johannesburg that the future of Yeoville Bellevue depended on sorting out the problems in Rockey Raleigh St. The EDU agreed and asked the Johannesburg Development Agency (JDA) to come up with a business plan for the development of the main street. The JDA then consulted with various individuals and organisations in the community on the matter. However, there was no overall structure they could talk to on an ongoing basis.

In 2004, in response to the JDA's call for a representative structure and with the help of community members and the ward councillor for the area, the Yeoville Stakeholders Liaison Forum (YSLF) was established. The YSLF (or YSF, as it is now known) has subsequently played an important role in influencing the spatial and socio-economic infrastructural development that the JDA has undertaken in Yeoville Bellevue.

However, from the outset the YSF made it clear that it would not only work with JDA, but with any development process that could impact on the future of Yeoville Bellevue. The main reason for this was to make sure that the community has a meaningful say in whatever development takes place in the area.

chairperson's report

Outgoing chair, George Lebone, on the work of the YSF over the past year. A summary of his points follows.

The challenges facing the forum were great, but much progress has been made in encouraging organisations to join the YSF and participate in working for the development and upliftment of the community. Other points were that:

- the economic recession has affected everyone, people in Yeoville Bellevue as well, especially the less-advantaged;
- there was good support for YSF activities such as the clean-up on Environment Day and the charity drive on the 67 Minutes for Mandela Day - he noted the support of small businesses, traders and taxi drivers who donated money and food on the day;
- the YSF has been working to address the problems caused by liquor - he thanked those who signed the petition;
- he acknowledged those who represented Yeoville Bellevue in the City 2 City Marathon and the Nedbank Soweto Marathon;
- sadly, there are people who want to shut **yeovue news** down for narrow political reasons - it is up to all in the YSF to work to fight this challenge to the community's own newspaper;
- also on a negative note, there are some who want to prevent Maurice Smithers of the YBCDI from continuing to work on development in Yeoville Bellevue - but, they are not offering an alternative to the good work he is doing.

The chair urged the incoming committee to continue with the good work that had been done by the YSF and its member organisations over the previous year.

On behalf of the YSF, he congratulated members Marc Gbaffou and Joseph Setloboko and their respective partners on the arrival of their new babies.

Finally, he extended the best wishes of the YSF to all matriculants writing exams this year and other learners writing their end of year exams.

In closing, he urged everyone to enjoy his or her holiday season and not to drink and drive.



YSF team collects money and food on Mandela Day



Workers put up the fence around the sportsfield - YSF managed to get JDA to fund the project

secretary's report

A summary of the main points follows. The report was prepared by outgoing secretary, Patience Ndlovu.

In the year under review, the YSF gained a number of new members, including ZAPU, Bellevue Baptist Church, COPE and the Yeoville Market Micro-Retailers Committee. Other points included:

- ordinary member of the public attended many of the YSF meetings, and this was very welcome;
- most noteworthy is the success of **yeovue news** - while the idea of a paper came from the YSF, it is thanks to the Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Initiative (YBCDI) that the paper came into being;
- **yeovue news** gets delivered every Thursday to every household in the area and piles are left in public places - 10 000 copies are printed per week;
- the cost to print and distribute is currently almost R5 000 per week;
- some benefits of the paper include:
 - publishing of by-laws and other useful information
 - job and accommodation adverts
 - contact information for NGOs, government departments and other institutions
 - publication of applications for liquor licenses and re-zoning, thus allowing people to object to such applications if they so wish
 - reports of public meetings and stories of interest to the community
- however the paper is under threat because of
 - a lack of funding
 - calls to close it down by people opposed to its existence
- the YSF raised funds to fence the sportsground next to the market;
- the YSF has objected to a number of liquor license applications to date;

- the YSF has circulated a petition calling for a halt to new liquor licenses and effective action against illegal outlets - 430 signatures have already been handed to the local committee of the Gauteng Liquor Board;
- the YSF also handed the local committee a list of 72 liquor outlets in the area and asked for them to be investigated - this is because the YSF is concerned about the large number, especially the illegal ones, and the impact on our youth;
- on 6 June, the YSF led a community clean-up campaign in the sportsground as part of Pikitup's contribution to World Environment Day. Supa Saver kindly donated R250 for refreshments afterwards at Yeoville Boys School;
- YSF members teamed up with other community members to honour the first 67 Minutes for Mandela Day on 18 July. The African Diaspora Forum (ADF) donated 100 T-shirts for the occasion and each person made a hand print on his/her T-shirt. The YSF collected a large amount of food, which was given to Mother Theresa's home, and R500 which was given to Siyophila Orphanage;
- also in July, the YSF and the YBDCI collected funds and bought blankets for distribution to homeless people.

message from the new chair

At the YSF AGM, people were keen to listen, hear, and understand what's going on in and around the YSF and our broader community. I could sense some people also wanted news from the individual organisations present, wanted to feel the pulse of the community via other 'pressure/pulsating points. Perhaps that's what's to happen next time around.



This AGM also presented itself as a type of barometer: I sensed a hunger for community engagement, like the need for a senior school, a youth vibe at high school teenage learner level, easy-to-manage small/micro-businesses available to single mothers & senior citizens, etc..

I also noticed that people grabbed the hardcopy information that was distributed, and almost no-one trashed it around. What does this say to us as the new YSF committee? People are thirsty for knowledge and development! They want a Pierian spring to drink deep from: so, let's roll up our sleeves and work!

2010 is a few months away, and then it's local government elections. So enjoy the rest of 2009, have fun over the festive season, rest and come back to start 2010 with vigour and vim!



Your new YSF executive (with presiding officers): from left are Thubalakhe Zwane (treasurer), George Lebone (chair), Seipati More (presiding officer), Bienvenu Ngila (deputy secretary), Neliswa Ndlovu (organiser), Joseph Setloboko (communication), Nomaswazi Mohlala (presiding officer), Amos Mbambo (deputy chair), Connie Tsolo (fundraiser) and Cate Bompas (secretary).

For the election to go ahead, more than 50% of the member organisations needed to be present. Out of 28 qualifying organisations, 19 were present, meaning the required majority was there. Those present and participating in the election were: ANC Joe Slovo, Congo Heart of Africa, COPE, Grace Community Centre, Impumelelo Cultural Group, Ivorian Community, Kopanong, Mother Johnson International, SA Disabled Musicians, Self-Help Christian Refugee Association, Siyophila, St Francis Catholic Church, Trinity Congregational Church, Ward 67 Ward Committee, Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle, Yeoville Boys School, Yeoville Community School, Yeoville Environmental Organisation, Yeoville Muslim Association.

community notices

YSF General Meeting & 2009 Farewell

10 December. 5.45pm

St Aidans Anglican Church, 59 Regent St

ANC Zone 12 Inner City Workshop

Focus on youth. All BECs in Inner City to attend. 22 November. 9am-4pm.

29 Rissik St Regional office

ANC Branch General Meeting

2pm Saturday 28 November 2009

Yeoville Recreation Centre (councillor's office)

Ward 67 Public Meeting

2pm Sunday 29 November 2009

Yeoville Recreation Centre (councillor's office)

ANC Zone 12 Inner City

Annual report-back meetings.

3 December. 5.30pm.

29 Rissik St Regional office

St Aidans Centenary Gala Dinner

Gala dinner to celebrate 100th birthday of St Aidans Anglican Church. 26 November. Joburg City Hall. R220 per head, R5 000 for a company table. Mandla Dlamini - 011 4871112

Apology: last week we said a company table was R3 000. This was a typing error. It is R5 000.

Johannesburg Housing Summit

25 November. Starts 8.30am. NASREC

Invite to inner city artists

Launch of preparations for end of year carnival.

24 November. 4.30pm.

Yeoville Recreation Centre (councillor's office)

Inner City Charter Partnership Forum

24 November. 8:30am-11:30am

SciBono Museum, Newtown

Yeoville Contractors' Forum (YCF)

Summary of Agenda

Overview of the forum; Accepting of members; Tendering issues; Challenges facing contractors; Way forward.

4.30 pm Thursday 26 November 2009

Yeoville Recreation Centre (councillor's office)

All involved in the building trade are welcome.

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Thanda Mlilo - 078 1029321

Notice 3152 of 2009 Gauteng Gambling Act, 1995 Application for a Gaming Machine Licence

Notice is hereby given that Keith Ho trading as Keith Ho Betxchange Yeoville of Supa Saver Centre, 46/50 Raleigh St, Yeoville intends submitting an application to the Gauteng Board for a gaming machine licence at Keith Ho Betxchange of Supa Saver Centre, 46/50 Raleigh St, Yeoville. This application will be open for public inspection at the office of the Board from 26 October 2009. Attention is directed to the provision of Section 20 of the Gauteng Gambling Act, 1995 which makes provision for the lodging of written representations in respect of the application. Such representations should be lodged with the Chief Executive Officer, Gauteng Gambling Board, Private Bag X 125, Centurion, 0046, within one month from 26 October 2009. Any person submitting representation should state in such representation whether or not they wish to make oral representations at the hearing of the application.

organising in our community

organisations & institutions in yeoville bellevue

Community-based organisations

- African Diaspora Forum**
Claire Benit-Gbaffou - 083 9685444
- ANC Joe Slovo Branch (Ward 67)**
Eddie Majadibodu - 082 8093227
- Congo Heart of Africa**
Bienvenu Ingila - 082 6675969
- Congress of the People (COPE)**
Ben Mabasa - 071 9756788
Nolitha Majola - 082 0509464
- Disabled Musicians Association**
Johannes Dube - 083 6897194
- Impumelelo Cultural Group**
Bongi Kubheka - 082 7594987
- Ivorian Community**
Marc Gbaffou - 083 5147367
- Kopanong**
George Lebone - 079 3894409
- National Association of Yoruba**
Descendants, Southern Africa
Prince Adesina, National Youth Leader
076 6928060
- Nigerian Union South Africa**
Prince Adesina Al-Amin, Secretary
General, Gauteng - 076 6928060
- Observatory Ratepayers Association**
Louise Denyschen - 011 2746825
Email: ora.secretary@gmail.com
- Ward 67 Ward Committee**
Nomaswazi Mohlala - 083 2972936
- Yeoville Community Policing Forum**
Mbuyiseni Khoza - 082 2657435
- Yeoville Environmental Organisation**
Joseph Setloboko - 072 1581030
- Yeoville Muslim Community**
Hussein Musa Baza-Awe - 083 9565363

Non-governmental organisations

- Mother Johnson International**
Mother Johnson - 011 4870309
- Siyophila**
Amos Mbambo - 011 6489753
- People Opposing Women Abuse (POWA)**
011 6424345/6
- Self Help Christian Refugee Association**
Xavier Bulimwengo - 078 4251650
- SA National Council for Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (SANCA)**
011 8362461
- Curriculum Development Project**
Charlotte Schaer - 011 6241025
- Christians for Peace for Africa**
Pastor Thomas-Rene Kitutu - 072 2625302
- Yeoville Market Micro-Retailers**
Sebastian Zaremba - 072 1416411
- Lesbian and Gay Equality Project**
Phumi Mtetwa - 011 4873810/1
- NOAH's Ark Resource Centre, Yeoville**
Gloria Nhlathathi - 079 2330030
- Nazareth House**
Sister Lorraine - 011 6481002

Institutions

- Grace Community Centre**
Claude Nkebi - 076 6310180
claude.nkebi@yahoo.com
- Observatory Girls Primary School**
Corner Regent St and de la Rey St
Tel: 011 4871100
- St Aidan's Anglican Church**
Father Neo - 011 4871112
- St Francis Catholic Church**
Cate Bompas - 011 6488794
- St John's College**
Tsepo Matubatuba - 083 7737382
- Sheikh Anta Diop Schools**
Jemadiri Kilele - 011 6488122

- Trinity Congregational Church**
Zama Mpambani - 079 4274838
- Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle Church**
011 6487325
- Yeoville Baptist Tabernacle Youth Dept**
011 6487325
- Yeoville Boys School**
Lindelani Singo - 011 6489901
- Yeoville Community School**
Martha Mente - 011 6489163

Public services and facilities

- Johannesburg Development Agency**
Seipati More - 011 6887860
- Region F Stakeholder Management and Liaison**
Zaabe Magwaza - 082 4679411
- Urban Inspectors**
Yeoville North:
Fikile Mdlalose - 083 4448517
Yeoville South:
Basetsana Bogopane - 083 3811359
Bellevue/Bellevue East:
Lettie Rasebeka - 083 3811435
- Ward 67 Community Development Worker (CDW)**
Neo Setloboko - 083 9537053
- Ward 67 Councillor**
Nomaswazi Mohlala - 083 2972936
- Yeoville Bellevue Community Development Initiative**
Maurice Smithers - 082 3737705
ybcdi@yeoville.org.za
- Yeoville Community Clinic**
Kenmere Rd, corner Hopkins St
Tel: 011 6487979
- Yeoville Police Station (SAPS)**
23 Kenmere Rd, corner Yeo St
Tel: 011 4875900
- Yeoville Post Office**
Kenmere Rd, between Raleigh St and Hopkins St, inside the arcade
Tel: 011 6489103
- Yeoville Public Library**
49-51 Raleigh St
Tel: 011 6484804
- Yeoville Recreation Centre**
(closed for upgrading until further notice)
- Yeoville Swimming Pool**
Corner Raleigh St and Kenmere Rd
Tel: 011 6489359

Other contact numbers

- Black Sash**
Tel: 011 11 8348361/5
For advice and help with your rights
- City Power**
Tel: 011 4907900
- Emergency Connect**
Tel: 011 3755911
- Emergency Management Services**
Tel: 011 4076374
- Hijacked Buildings hotline**
Tel: 011 3768640
Email: patrickpho@joburg.org.za
- Joburg Connect**
Tel: 011 3755555 (ask for reference no.)
joburgconnect@joburg.org.za
- Toll-Free Presidential Hot-line**
Tel: 17737

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Ward 67 Nomaswazi Mohlala councillor's corner



Many people are looking forward to the end of what has been a long year. For the community of Yeoville Bellevue, it has been a hard and difficult one - many remain

without jobs, some are sick, there are those who are homeless. As councillor, I will attend the upcoming Joburg housing imbizo to raise some of these issues. If we all attend and make some input, we will help to find solutions.

We have been lucky to have JDA working in our ward, though they have problems with some of their projects. For example, though the building of the library was long complete, it could not be used because the IT network was not installed.

The upgrading of our Recreation Centre was due to finish in June 2009, but it is still not ready. I have had to intervene at times because part of the problem is that the contractor failed to pay salaries on time. It seems everything is now on track.

Three weeks ago, there was an attempted illegal march against council. I am grateful to the Yeoville SAPS who acted promptly to stop it and remove tyres that were blocking Raleigh St. Your Ward Committee is monitoring service delivery and advising me where they feel there can be improvements.

I am happy that a Forum has been formed to represent building contractors in Yeoville Bellevue. We are also in the process of forming an Artists' Forum. I encourage other sectors to form organisations to represent them. By doing so, you will more easily be able to have a say in what government is doing in your area.

We face challenges with some council departments. One was Pikitup, but there is now a definite improvement. But we must all play our part in keeping our area clean.

Joburg Roads sometimes take too long to respond. But they have helped with two new speed humps in Cavendish Rd. We hope they will install more, improve our street markings - especially near schools and churches - and fix all potholes.

Ward 67 will face more challenges in the year to come, but I am sure we are all ready to face them.

I take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support. Special thanks go to the ANC BEC for its ongoing support and to the JDA, Pikitup, Joburg Roads, our faith-based centres, especially Pastor Humphrey Mogashoa, the YSF and the SAPS, and others I may not have mentioned. Together we can do more - together we can defeat all negative forces.

Nomaswazi

Yeoville Stakeholders Forum: George Lebone (chair) - 0793894409; Amos Mbambo (dep chair) - 0826974536; Cate Bompas (sec) - 0796105909; Bienvenu Ingila (dep sec) - 0826675969; Thubalakhe Zwane (treasurer) - 0732779613; Connie Tsolo (fundraiser) - 0832561354; Joseph Setloboko (communication) - 0721581030; Neliswa Ndlovu (organiser) - 0722938876

yeovue news

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