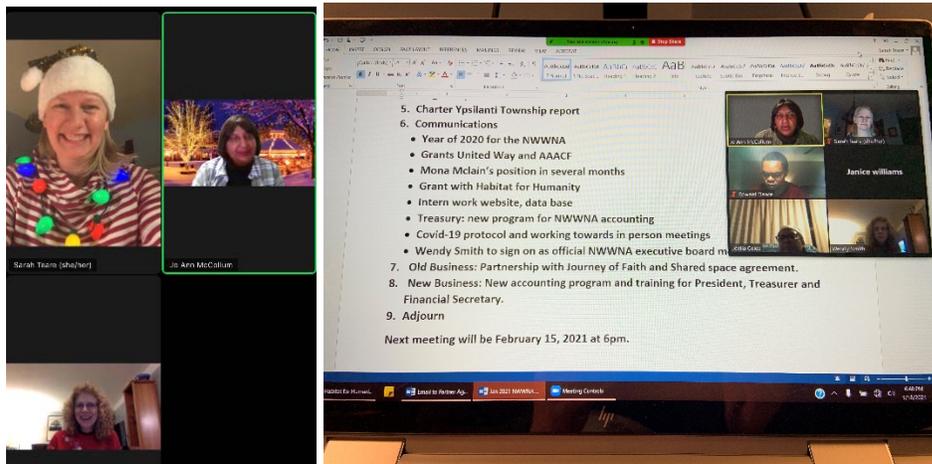


Habitat and West Willow Activities 2021

January



West Willow Holiday Zoom and January Association Meeting

We coordinated the delivery of face masks from Ford Motor Company through our partnership with the Ford Thirty Under 30 Program. 6,840 masks were delivered to be used in West Willow and Sugarbrook.



Feb & March

We continue to support resident initiatives and community agencies in our partner neighborhoods of Sugarbrook and West Willow. We are registering eligible residents for COVID vaccine clinics, supporting the purchase of durable yard signs to support community events and activities, discussing ways to provide activities for youth, planning ways to get ordinance information into the hands of residents – especially renters, and working on eradicating the pesky groundhogs that have taken up residence in the West Willow community garden.

April

Breyahna & Sarah met with West Willow residents at the Community Garden to discuss the upcoming year. Good news: the groundhog family has been removed and we are looking at ways to build a fencing system to keep them out permanently.



Greg, our joint intern with the New West Willow Neighborhood Association, researched platforms to host NWWNA's new website. We were very excited for the first look at the new site!

May & June

We are working with West Willow residents and community partners to discuss how to better share information within the neighborhood. The West Willow Communications Team published our first quarterly newsletter “What’s Up West Willow” and distributed it at the June New West Willow Neighborhood Association meeting – the first in-person association meeting since February 2020! The newsletter is part of a larger Quality of Life improvement initiative that is underway throughout Ypsilanti Township. Read more about the initiative in the Concentrate Media article here:

<https://www.secondwavemedia.com/concentrate/features/ytownqualityoflife0595.aspx>



Members of the West Willow Communication Team with our first issue!

October

On October 9, 2021 we helped out at the Pull Over Prevention and Mutual Aid Fair in West Willow. The Southeast MI Pull Over Prevention is a “group of community members that organizes regular free auto repair events to help folks avoid unnecessary and dangerous interactions with police and immigration.” They host monthly events, and in October partnered with the NWWNA to hold the event in West Willow. In addition to free auto repairs, the event included live music by several local musicians, COVID-19 vaccines from the Washtenaw County Health Department, free pet supplies by Pet Pals Mutual Aid, free lunch from FedUp Ministries, and lots of local resources, including information about Habitat’s programs.

November

45 West Willow community members participated in Trunk or Treat on October 23, 2021. Greg, our EMU work study student who works jointly with Habitat and NWWNA, brought fellow Alpha Sigma Phi members to help out.



EMU Alpha Sigma Phi members



Jo Ann McCollum

On November 6, 2021 volunteers from local company HDR contributed over 100 hours in the West Willow community. They painted the Tool Lending Library office and Little Free Library, chopped down vines and tree limbs, gathered up leaves and trash from Whitehead Memorial Church next door, scraped and stained picnic tables, power washed the concrete, cleaned the entire Community Center inside, organized the Center's storage room, and cut down plants for the fall and planted bulbs that will come up in the spring! Crew leaders were from our board (thank you Dave Benedict and Jo Ann McCollum!), EMU work study student Greg, UM social work student Breyahnna, and UM Public Health Student Isabelle.



