

TOWN OF WALKERTOWN

CENSUS COMMITTEE



The Census Committee, comprised of Peggy Leight and Sarah Welch met with Charles Plitt, of the Census Bureau, at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, January 21, 2010, at town hall. Also present was Lynn McKinnie – as Coordinator of the Committee – and Scott Snow.

Mr. Plitt explained that the Census Bureau is still seeking applicants for the jobs it has available. Successful applicants would need to visit different areas and get information for the Census.

Starting February 1st, Group Quarters will be contacted. Group Quarters consists of any place where many people who are not related live, such as: college dorms, homeless shelters, battered women's shelters, etc. (Apartments are not group quarters.)

Around the end of March, census takers will canvas all areas where it is thought homeless people might live. These searches will be conducted from midnight to 7:00 a.m. Mr. Plitt explained that they are prohibited from having police go with them because census information is protected by law – it cannot be shared with anyone – not law enforcement, nor social services groups, etc.

The committee suggested several areas that might harbor homeless people:

1. In the woods between Martin Street Hwy-158.
2. At the end of New Street where there are wooded areas.
3. In the wooded area along Rocky Branch between the Center Stage shopping center and the "old" shopping center – and down to Poindexter Street.
4. At the County Park on Darrow Road.
5. In the woods boundaried off Leight Street, Salem Road – and the railroad.
6. Parnell Ridge and Hwy 311 wooded areas.
7. In the woods off Dippen Road of NC-66.

Census forms themselves will go out to everyone around April 1st and are due back within a few weeks. April 1st is "**CENSUS DAY**".

From May 1st till July, census workers will visit households that did not reply. Failure to fill out the census form is a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine up to \$5,000. Census workers will not ask to enter anyone's home nor will they ask bank-account information, income, Social Security number and no information will be requested, nor allowed to be completed online.

Mr. Plitt advised that so far they have not had any problems finding enough census workers for this area. However, they will take applications up until April or some time around then. In applying for a census worker job, you must take a test but there are sample questions on the Census website: www.2010censusjobs.gov.

It was suggested that perhaps the Kernersville News reporter could be contacted to do an article on this issue and perhaps include the sample test. Mr. Plitt suggested the reporter contact their media rep, Ken White, at 499-2230, to get information to do an article.

The meeting concluded at about 3:00 p.m.

Submitted by:

Lynn McKinnie
Committee Coordinator