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**To:** fruiz@ashevillenc.gov  
**Cc:**  
**Subject:** A New Co-Captain & a Chance to Help Kids Learn Tech

News, updates, and announcements from Code for Asheville

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**In this edition:**

- Next steps for the police data petition on May 15
- This Thursday: a new co-captain & an opportunity to help kids learn tech
- News from the Network
- LOTS of upcoming events

Read about the Code for Asheville police data request [here](#) and [sign the petition!](#)

***Note:** We include the main articles in full so those without internet at home can download the email in advance.*

**Babysitting Available for Community Night!**

*We will have a Red Cross certified babysitter available at our Community Nights on May 10 and for the next few months. If you plan to bring your child, please email [info@codeforasheville.org](mailto:info@codeforasheville.org) and let us know your name, your child's age, and anything else important for the babysitter to know. There is no cost involved.*

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## Next Steps for the Police Data Petition on May 15

Patrick Conant presented the Code for Asheville [Petition for Police Accountability Through Data Transparency](#) at the last Asheville City Council on April 24. We highly recommend watching the [video of the presentation and ensuing discussion](#).

The next City Council meeting is next week, May 15, and Interim City Manager Cathy Ball committed to having staff reports available from the Asheville Police Department and from the City Attorney's office.

Please attend to show your support if you can. Details are available on [this meetup event](#).

Also, please continue to sign and share the petition until then. We have over **930** combined signatures online and in person, and have the endorsement of **27** organizations and businesses. Let's keep it going!

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## This Thursday: A New Co-Captain & An Opportunity to Help Kids Learn Tech

Our next Community Night gathering is **this Thursday**. Join us as we welcome:

- **Jim March, new co-captain of Code for Asheville.** This is more acknowledgment than inauguration since Jim has effectively played this role for much of the past year. In addition, we'll talk about other upcoming transitions. Suffice it to say here that Code for Asheville is blessed with a deep bench of talent!
- **Kimberly Zygmant, the facilities manager for the Dr. Wesley Grant Southside Center.** Kimberly will talk about an easy opportunity this summer to introduce kids and adults in the Southside community to coding and other technology and the latest thinking of the Asheville Parks & Recreation Department on after-school coding programs. We're looking forward to exploring ways for Code for Asheville members to support and participate in enhancing technology education here, especially in communities that have historically been left out.

Babysitting is available - email [info@codeforasheville.org](mailto:info@codeforasheville.org) for more information. RSVP for the event [here](#) or just show up. We're looking forward to seeing you there!

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## News from the Network

### Civic Tech Santa in Charlotte

Code for Charlotte partnered with the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Police Department to help bring Christmas to thousands of local kids in 2017. [Read how they did it.](#)

Want more civic tech news? Subscribe to [This Week in Civic Tech](#).

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## Upcoming events

### 5/9 Github Patchwork Event

Github and Code for Asheville are holding a [Patchwork event](#) on Wednesday, May 9, 6:30-9:30 PM at The Collider at 1 Haywood St. Patchwork is a self-directed, hands-on workshop for learning Git and GitHub. The atmosphere is casual and informal—it's not an event full of presented tutorials and copious note-taking. You will be able to go at your own pace with the help of a community mentor nearby in case you run into any trouble. Join us for a night of hacking and snacking and make some new friends while you're at it! Check out the [blog post](#) for details and sign up [here](#).

### 5/10 Monthly Community Meetup

Our next Community Night will be on Thursday, May 10, 2018 at 5:30pm, at the Stephens-Lee Recreation Center. RSVP on [meetup](#) or just show up. We will welcome incoming co-captain Jim March and hear from Kymberly Zygmant, facilities manager of the Dr. Wesley Grant Southside Community Center, about opportunities to introduce technology and coding to youth and others in the Southside community. Free babysitting is available - email [info@codeforasheville.org](mailto:info@codeforasheville.org) and let us know your name, your child's age, and anything else the babysitter should know.

### 5/15 City Council Meeting

Asheville City staff will report back to City Council on our [Petition for Police Accountability Through Data Transparency](#) to the Asheville City Council and Council may take action. Please attend to show your support if you can. Details are available on [this meetup event](#).

### 5/22 Brigade Planning Meeting

Our next regular planning meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 22 at 5:30pm at the Battery Park Book Exchange. RSVP [here](#) or just stop by. You can find the agenda and notes from previous meetings [here](#).

*Community nights occur on the second Thursday of each month at Stephens-Lee Recreation Center.*

## Have a Story to Share?

We'd love to have your contribution. You can write something up about a Code for Asheville event or share something else going on in the civic tech world in Asheville or elsewhere. Email us at [info@codeforasheville.org](mailto:info@codeforasheville.org).

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