**Camp Second Chance Community Advisory Committee Meeting Notes**

**Sunday April 7, 2019**

**Arrowhead Gardens Welcome Center**

**CAC members present:**

Willow Fulton, Judi Carr, Grace Stiller

**Camp 2nd Chance/LIHI rep:**

Eric Davis – Camp Manager

Richard Horne: LIHI Case Manager

**City of Seattle rep:**

Tom Van Bronkhorst – Department of Neighborhoods

Sean Neal - Contracts

**CAC/LIHI/City Updates**

Judi:

Very pleased about 6 month extension and hopes it will help bring positive developments

Willow:

Things have been pretty good in the area - open house at camp was on March 17 – there was a vision board if the camp was able to stay – a community member put together the results (attached)

Great attendance at the open house including some community members that have not had the opportunity to spend very much time at the camp in the past – it was good to see

Myers Way appears to be staying pretty clear - there has been a few dumping instances which have been reported and cleaned up quickly (within 1 week) – some appear to be businesses (like a truck with a dump trailer that was seen inside the gate of the recently cleared city property under the power lines) - neighbors encouraged to stay vigilant and report dumping

Grace:

Was also at open house – great event – city and state reps were present - Lisa Herbold, Joe Nguyen – plus art, music, food, kids

Noticed that the gate near the power lines is wide open today – maybe having it locked could help

Has been working on project with camp and parks – had meeting with Parks – was informative – there is a map on seattlepartnership.org – area has a lot of steep slopes, so that work will have to be contracted – they will have to work with the contractor, Dirt Corps, to try to see how the camp and community members can help. Any planting will likely need to be in the fall as there is no way to water through the summer - Will need auth from FAS to move forward – she’s working on those contacts

Richard:

11 housed in last 6 months – 1 this month, one moving at the end of the month

Has been working with SHAG to see if they can refer some of the seniors to the Renton and SeaTac locations - they are required to have a certain percentage of occupancy, and these two new locations are having trouble reaching that – referrals would be for those with a higher monthly income. The camp works well because they are safe and supported there, and SHAG might offer some needed services (later discussion was around transportation and community)

Streets to homes program is helping with placements – like one member of a couple that had a longstanding debt that was preventing him from qualifying for rentals – they were able to get that debt reduced and payed, then were able to help with first/last/security to get into a place, and are also helping ensure they have the items CPS requires in the home (beds, etc) to help get their kids back.

More People are participating in their own solutions because they are seeing success in housing – sharing resources they see when they are out and about.

They are also proud to have been able to bring some camp residents on at LIHI as employees

City of Burien reps recently toured the camp

Taking questions now as he has to leave early...

Questions for Richard:

Tom – what are the issues with those that are trying to qualify for shag?

A: SHAG requires income to be double the rent – some of the seniors are close to that but a little low, they also need some support with nutrition, sorting out medications, etc

Judi – if coming to SHAG, they would need support - SHAG is set up as an independent facility, so there would need to be a caregiver to provide the additional support

A: That would be the plan – it's hard to hire caregivers to come to camp, but would be easier at SHAG. SHAG has transportation, social support, etc.

Willow:

Regarding support within camp – how do we balance the need for it to be temporary, and also the need for role models and peer support? It seems that some of the residents that have been there longer provide key operational and peer support and make it successful

A: The camp in not temporary housing, it is a temporary shelter. The main focus of case manager is to help people move up and out – the camp as a whole provides the structure – it's more than just certain individuals. Due to the intake process, new residents are provided with knowledge to keep things going. The positive reputation of the camp is also helpful.

Q – are there any vets in camp?

There are 2 vets in camp. Richard says there are many extra benefits through the VA for those with appropriate discharge papers

Eric:

50 res – 18 women 32 men – 1 got housing, one moving this month

41 tiny houses now – only 7 tents left, plus 2 more spaces – thanks to Sound Foundations NW volunteer and residents all working together

There were no police calls or bars this month

The residents of Camp Second Chance would like to thank the city and community for the 6 month extension – their gate is always open for tours and for those seeking a second chance

Regarding the transition questions: as people come in, there are always people to provide the services and support – as new people come in, they learn from their peers and it carries over as they get a “sense of living” - the spirit of hope gets passed on and on to provide that good influence.

Tom:

Very glad to see that Myers is clear of vehicles

Regarding 6 month extention: had conversations with hpac and nuac – any objections to the extension are not necessarily about the camp but more about other issues in the area and the feeling that the area has been neglected by the city – the city will be working with those groups to address those issues.

Regarding: illegal dumping – keep reporting to illegal dumping hotline – Pictures and video are helpful. It's likely to see an increase of dumping things like yard trimmings and such.

Also, regarding illegal dumping signs previously requested by Aaron Garcia – SDOT is not putting up more signs because they are not very effective.

Sean:

HSD still working with LIHI on getting hygiene trailer installed permanently at camp

**Community Discussion**

Question from Eric for Tom:

There is a small camp between C2C and fire station and it seems like it might be growing – can nav team investigate?

A: Nav team follow up has been requested – would

Questions from Judy for Tom:

Have any dates been set for community meetings during the extension? Will there be another meeting at the fire training facility? What will the meetings cover?

A: No dates set yet – will be working with HPAC to see how they want the conversations to go forward – may be community meeting or something else.

Meetings will likely be city working to be a better partner - also, HSD will be doing a review of the entire managed village system and determining how they recommend the Mayor go forward

Question for Tom: How many 6 month extensions will be made? And what might move in if C2C leaves? Would it be more unsanctioned camping as it was before?

A: At the end of the 6 month extension, they will be determining from the review what to do – if the camp were to move, the city would address any issues that might arise in the area

Question for Sean/Eric:

Showers – how close are they on that?

A: They have the shower trailer and are working on getting everything in place to set it up – in the next few months.

Question for Sean:

What was initial 2 year timeframe based on? Was it the thought that there would not be a need for the shelter after 2 years?

A: was based on Seattle ordinance when transitional encampments were established – thinks there are conversations about revising the ordinance due to success seen in some transitional encampments

Comment from Willow:

It’s important to include HPAC on some of the community conversations and address the concerns they have, but they are often focused on issues in other areas of Highland Park that are unrelated to the camp – hopes that engagement will reach beyond just HPAC – they are doing a lot of work for Highland Park in general but have not always directly engaged with community members closest to the camp. They are a self proclaimed community group but they do not represent the views of the entire community – it's very important that all community views are heard, and that meetings are in neutral locations

A: There will be additional outreach beyond just HPAC

Question for all:

when are City council elections? Will we have changes to navigate?

Tom: there is an election this year – primary in Aug, election in Nov

A: 7 district seats up for election, including Lisa Herbold that represents the area

If ordinance was revised, that would be done by mayor, HSD, then passed to city council, so it’s important to provide all your representatives with input

Comment: Many of the neighbors of the camp are not able to vote in the Seattle election as they are in unincorporated King County – so their representatives are in the County

WSB Coverage: <https://westseattleblog.com/2019/04/housing-challenges-future-questions-camp-second-chance-community-advisory-committee/>