Northlake CAC Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 23, 2019 5:00 PM

John Stanford Elementary School

* Attendees:
  + CAC: Jordan Schwartz, Brooke Brod, Sarah Jones, Jami Fecher, Ed Mast, Wendy Barrington, Dirk Burkhart (Othello CAC)
  + Northlake: John, Amanda, Kris Ingersoll, Vanessa Pacelli, Joey McAllister,
  + Nickelsville: Peggy Hoats & Marvin Furtell
  + LIHI: Will Uhlig, Josh Castle, Naomi
  + Community: Rich Gamble,
  + City: Lisa Gustaveson
  + Community / didn’t catch: Rich Gamble, Octavia Cattasco, Peggy Hotes, Marvin Futrell III, Barbara Hill, Anthony Anders, Alycia Roberts, Jennifer Durham, Sally Keeny, Ted Hunter
* Village Report
  + 25 adults, 1 child, 16 men, 9 women, 1 family, 6 couples, 6 pets
  + 2 move-ins
  + No bars
  + Residents are gardening
  + David Baum, Greenwood Food Bank, others brings burritos
  + Fire Marshall says they are abiding by code
  + Initiating a pantry drive, info on Nickelsville Facebook page
  + Timeline
    - At final MOU meeting, LIHI cut off negotiation and said relationship over
    - Camps put padlock on gates
    - With one early exception, no LIHI staff outside of case managers have been allowed in
* Case Manager Report (Will Uhlig)
  + 11 out of 24 residents talk with Will on a consistent basis
  + 4 out of 11 have expressed interest in finding permanent housing
  + A resident obtained a job with solid hours
  + Former resident (from Ballard days) has obtained job in Ballard, plan to move him into subsidized apartment next month
  + Proud of the way residents speaking amongst each other, handled difficult situation with former residents
* Kavana (Brooke’s congregation) will be sharing a meal with residents on 4/28
* Sarah driving pick-up of Amazon food donations
  + Asked about possibility of food being thrown away.
  + Residents say only expired (2004) food was being thrown away.
* Public Comment
  + Gabriella Molar: Live in Ballard, involved in transfer Ballard > Northlake
    - There has to a better solution than just cutting Nickelsville loose. I would like to see City and LIHI agree to professional mediation.
  + Dick Burkhart: Things are more extreme in Othello; Food thrown out in Othello because Scott is hanging out and acting crazy. There have been tales of feces around the toilets; Of Scott telling people not to eat the food saying it was poisoned; Said he has heard reports of residents dealing drugs onsite. Wants Scott / Nickelsville out of it, no mediation
  + Alicia: Enjoyed Thanksgiving
  + Rich Gamble (Keystone UCC): Nickelsville was once housed in the church; has always been very respectful of our space; Ask that the city encourage mediation between to the two parties.
  + Sally Keeny: Member of many neighborhood organizations; Apalled that this is happening; This won’t stop until the city forces a mediation. We’re going to see more people are homeless at next count. Enough of this. City call a mediation
  + Octavio: Supports request for mediation
  + Jean Darcy: Was on CAC Ballard; Really impressed by Nickelsville; Seconds that mediation following a cooling off period is what is called for
  + Josh Castle: Brad and Luke came out to village today to talk to members of village about supplies, it was a positive meeting
  + Barbara Hill (CAC Georgetown): I don’t think there is a person in this room who isn’t committed to the well-being of the people in the villages. Supports mediation;
  + Ted Hunter (neighbor, Wallingford Community Council): Mediation is not a panacea; Recalls that mediation was introduced at John Stanford to resolve playground disputes. It was always the bullies that didn’t want mediation. Those that don’t want to participate in mediation typically have a bully mentality. Mediation won’t work until that attitude changes.
  + Amanda: Litter busters have improved by 100%; red box for picking up needles on the ground in the neighborhood.
  + Will Uhlig (LIHI case manager): When I signed up for social work, it wasn’t with the idea that I would be locked in;
    - Allen: nobody likes it, but we’re in fear of people with blunt objects and intentions coming into our houses
    - Amanda: Many of us feel safer with the locks; addresses the anxiety of LIHI; Always someone there with a key
    - Resident: Saw footage of Othello where the staff were wearing [body] cameras; It’s oppressive; I would leave and camp in the woods before I would live like that.
    - Resident: I feel safer with the gate locked
    - Resident: No reason to feel upset. Will you should feel safe
    - Will: not worried about personal safety, worried about a propane tank fire or other danger and having a locked gate can be a danger
    - Ed: Reminding that residents report Fire Marshall approved locked gates given where the keys are
  + Brooke: Would like a restorative justice process. What saddens me most is people living in a situation w/o trust. You restore trust through actions, not just words
  + Rich Gamble: Thanks CAC
  + Jean Darcy: Agree that mediation isn’t a solution by itself, but it’s a an opportunity for people to come together and get a disinterested opinion / response; Now there are just dueling letters; The more that goes on, we won’t have a cooldown period.
  + Dick Burkhart: Stands by his early comments
  + Wendy Barrington: Epidemiologist at UW; approached by Nickelsville to study self-management model; met with residents to establish metrics for establishing how it works / what works.