

Nickelsville Othello Village Community Advisory Committee

Minutes, May 25th, 2017

Location: Le's Deli & Bakery, SE corner of MLK and Othello

In attendance:

- From Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI): Kenneth Fowler
- From Nickelsville: Mike and Kerry Stevens, Mattie MacArthur and Chris Brown, DJ Reeves, and Andrew Constantino
- From The City of Seattle: Karen Ko (Department of Neighborhoods)
- From The Community Advisory Committee: Dick Burkhart
- Also in Attendance: Mohamud Yussuf (editor@runtanews.com, Somali leader and local resident)

Nickelsville Contact Information:

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Call to Order & Introductions

Progress of Village Development

1. Construction of the camp is now complete.
2. Shower trailer has had repeated issues with clogging and maintenance. Some residents of Othello were able to snake out the drain, which is now fully cleaned out, and the shower is working well now. It was confirmed that the tank is connected to the sewer.
3. The camp has elected a new Structure Master, who is helping with repairs for the Tiny Houses and is also working on squaring tents and

building garden boxes. Residents may work on the roofs next as more clement weather is arriving.

4. The tents are more orderly toward the front than the back. There are some weird angles in the back. The new Structure Master will examine possibilities of re-alignment.
5. The final numbers are 28 houses and 10 tents.
6. A guest by the name of Dick will be coming to visit the village soon.
7. Villagers want to paint some houses.
8. Houses are cleaned as they are vacated and Kilz is applied if needed.
9. The heat seems to be starting to help the mold problem, which is constantly monitored.

Case Manager Updates

1. Since last we met, a family of 5 has been moved into permanent housing, a couple has been moved into transitional housing, and another couple has been moved into tribal housing.
2. Many campers are working at temp agencies and at least three have found permanent employment.
3. Case Managers are meeting with a resource coordinator for summer programs for kids at camp.
4. Birthday Dreams will be providing parties for children at camp.

Updates from the Nickelodeons

1. 53 adults (17 women, 36 men, 14 children, 11 families, 4 pets)
2. Mattie and Chris have been Nickelsville residents for 2 months, which has been an overall good experience. The first night they were given food and made to feel welcomed. Mattie has been helped with employment by a fellow Nickelodeon and Chris now has a job working at Lowe's.
3. There is a resident who is a lead for a hiring agency and is helping other residents find work.

4. DJ moved here from Texas to rejoin family here (his mother lives at Othello Village). Texas has almost no services for the homeless.
5. Four Othello residents are working at the low-barrier camp at Lichten Springs. The experience of self-management at Othello has helped inform their new jobs. Drug use is not allowed on site but residents are able to come into the low-barrier camp under the influence of mind-altering substances. Many residents at Lichten Springs have been swept and are unable to be productive in a sober self-managed camp.
6. Residents are able to come into the low-barrier camp at Lichten Springs and Georgetown by the navigation team at REACH.
7. Sky-high rents are generally seen to be the main cause of homelessness at Othello Village.
8. The CAC needs new members and Scott is working on recruiting people.

Presentation

1. None given today.

Next Meeting June 15th!

Questions / Discussion

1. None.

Resources

<http://www.seattletimes.com/seattle-news/puget-sound/seattle-report-on-homeless-encampment-cleanups-calls-for-clarity-on-rules/>

<http://www.seattleweekly.com/news/in-her-campaign-kickoff-today-she-framed-herself-as-a-mainstream-progressive-who-could-get-things-done-sound-familiar/>

<https://assets.documentcloud.org/documents/3688694/WLCH-Set-Up-to-Fail.pdf>

www.homelessremembrance.org

www.washington.edu/community/homelessness/

www.nickelsvilleworks.org