

Community Advisory Meeting 7/3/17

Location: Tent City 5 Community Tent

In attendance: Janis Traven, Marilyn Cornwell (on speakerphone), Stacy Goodall, Michele Marchand, Sibby DeForest, Tim (TC5), Amber (TC5), Jim (TC5)

Chairperson - Stacy Goodall

Note Taker - Janis Traven

June Minutes had not been circulated prior to meeting, and will be reviewed/approved at August meeting, along with July minutes

General Updates:

Physical Camp/Meals/Amenities – Tim

- 65 residents, all tents filled. Space available for 4 men and 4 women in dormitory tents. There is one minor (15 years old, with his mother) in residence.
- Camp supplies are in good shape
- Meals are stable
- The hot meal option (one hot meal a day, delivered) proposed by SPU/the City does not seem to be moving forward in City Council. It was remarked that meal resources were not being apportioned equitably. The Navigation Center will provide 3 hot meals a day, while Licton Springs, a sanctioned encampments has no meals provided. Because they have not been in their location long enough to have established community support, they are placed at a significant disadvantage. TC 5 is grateful for their community support, and recognizes that there is no guarantee that it will continue other than good will.
- Stacy reported on Starbucks' upcoming Food Share Program, in which their unsold lunch entrees will be donated. It is not clear if stores can designate recipients, or if a larger distribution structure and network will be put in place.

Community Relations – Amber

- Church support Network will meet July 9th
- Camp is appreciative of all the support from churches, District 7 NAC, and CAC, who attended and spoke in support of TC5 at City Council Committee meeting on June 28
- Stacy reported on an incident at Starbucks, in which a former camper who had been barred from TC5 showed up after being stabbed. TC5 was not involved or implicated in the incident, other than the man having been a camper in the past.
- The camp neighborhood has been pretty quiet.

Demographic

- Residents continue to move into permanent housing

Encampment Evaluation Findings. Report and discussion –

- A report was made on the presentation that was made by Lisa Gustaveson at the 6/28 City Council Committee hearing, which was an evaluation of the efficacy of the sanctioned encampment model.

- Takeaways were:
 - Sanctioned encampments have exceeded the benchmarks set for them
 - Communities may have been resistant at first, but have been welcoming; presence of sanctioned encampments has been community-building for neighborhoods
 - Leadership training provided within the self-governed encampments was lauded
 - Racial equity was discussed: the profile of encampments does not reflect the homeless population as a whole, but much more research needs to be done, including perhaps research into demographic differences in outdoor v indoor communities. There was a commitment to explore what could be done for equity
 - Areas surrounding sanctioned encampments do not experience an increase in criminal activity

Permit Expiration on 11/18/17

- Michele and Janis briefed people on the meeting between camp operators and HSD on June 6, at the Emergency Operations Center. It was cordial and collaborative.
- Marilyn, Janis, and Sibby met at City Hall with George Scarola, Lisa Gustaveson (HSD), and Chris Wiley, Deputy Director of Financial Administrative Services. Apparently follow-up from Senator Reuven Carlyle has reinforced the community desire to find a suitable Interbay location for TC5.
- A site search drive-around was conducted on June 30th. A possible location on Port property was reviewed. There are pluses (flat lot, proximity to support network) and minuses (poor transportation options for medically-compromised residents, and for those who work late-night or early morning. No easy access to amenities, grocery, eateries).
- The City is on an aggressive timeline to select a site
- If Port property is selected, much collaborative work—City, supporters, TC5 folks—will be needed to secure the Port's OK.
- TC5 is inclined to give a tentative yes to the Port concept with the caveats that transportation solutions/walkability be addressed. Access to reliable nearby public transportation is a priority. This was to be discussed at the next all-camp meeting later in the week.
- As always, TC5 and CAC members will keep the CAC apprised of developments.

Update from Licton Springs, other New Initiatives

- Licton Springs Village is full. Many medically-compromised residents.
- Many residents are hungry – no reliable meals provided
- Still no full power to site
- Navigation Center to open July 12
- Homeless Services contracts to be put out to bid

Priority list/Organizational Needs

- List was reviewed. The camp is stable.
- Possibility of an additional CAC meeting to plan move was discussed.

Next Meeting: August 7, 2017, 5 pm at Tent City