December 2 2018

CAC members present: Willow Fulton, Aaron Garcia, Grace Stiller

C2C rep present: Eric Davis

LIHI rep present: Richard Horne, Sharon Lee

City of Seattle rep present: Tom Van Bronkhorst

Camp Stats:

* 48 residents (15 women, 33 men)
* 36 houses – 8 in progress – 5 will probably be completed within 2 weeks
* Camp would like to thank the community for their support

Things have been mostly peaceful and quiet – there was an incident where someone came to the gate after being chased from the neighborhood for possibly steeling from yards – he was not let in but the camp called 911 and police responded. There have also been a couple of calls to 911 for random people needing assistance that have come to the gate.

Alki UCC is planning a fundraising campaign to cover costs for 18 more tiny homes – which are not covered by the city contract. They have not yet found an indoor space to build, so are planning to put up a large tent at the camp in order to continue. Would like help from LIHI to get power to the tent for the tools.

Aaron Garcia:

White Center Community Development Association recently had a community summit that had about 150 attendees – workshops included re-development plans for 80 affordable housing units at 8th SW & SW 108th. There is also a Community Design Workshop for the project coming up.

LIHI Update:

Sharron:

Recently toured C2C and saw wonderful improvements with the tiny homes. Also noted that Eric Davis is now a full time LIHI employee. Thanked the City Council providing funding in the recently approved budget. LIHI has access to a donated space in SODO that may work for tiny house construction – they are looking into options there.

Is troubled that the current camp site does not have water or sewer – has been talking to the city about options – wondering if they might be able to set up a shower facility at the Joint Training Facility nearby – or maybe at the LDS church? Access to showers is important in meeting basic needs.

They are looking at options for when the current permit is up in March 2019 – a different site might have better facilities, but if the camp moves, other homeless may move into the vacated Myers Way site.

Tom Van Bronkhorst said it may be too far between the camp and the JTF for it to be feasible to tap into those resources. Sharron noted that campers would be willing to walk over if needed.

Sharon also raised a concern that until they have basic hygiene services on site, referrals to the camp should be limited as it may not be suitable for some more “frail” residents.

Richard (Case Manager):

Found housing for 5 residents – 4 more pending. Also pursuing education and employment opportunities for everyone at the camp who wants to pursue it – some are already employed. Has been working with Snohomish County to see if some residents that have connections there can qualify for housing and services in that area. Permanent housing is the goal whenever possible. Also getting more people out of tents and into tiny homes and set up with heaters and blankets – helping with car repairs and clothes as well in an effort to help clients move forward. They are also working on helping clean up HIMS data as there may be some discrepancies in reporting due to inaccuracies and duplications.

Sharon also mentioned some stats:

4% is the general stat for shelter residents exiting to housing – but it’s about 32% exiting tiny-house villages to permanent housing, and 9.5% to transitional housing. “This is what’s showing that living in a tiny house village is much more effective in getting people into permanent housing” as well as into employment. She said that the numbers covered this past January through October, for 10 tiny-house villages.

Aaron asked about city timeline on the decision about the camps future in its current location.

Tom responded that they will be closely watching the Jan 23rd HPAC meeting, which will focus on the camp and the possibility of renewal.

Per Sharon, Othello Village was granted a 3rd year, but if that’s not going to happen with C2C, they need to start looking for a new site quickly. HSD leadership was previously not in favor of tiny houses, but there have been changes in leadership and they would like the new person to see how they’re working.

Community Comment:

Denise: The HPAC meeting on Jan 23 will probably include a panel discussion regarding the camp and community members should be there to participate. Also, there have been discussions with potential partners to work together on stewardship and restoring/activating the east side of Myers way – such as the Duwamish Tribe and Seattle Green Spaces Coalition – they will probably organize a meeting in January to discuss further.

Also, Alki UCC’s Christmas Concert will be on Dec 16 and will be a fundraiser for causes including C2C.

Next meeting January 6th 2pm Arrowhead Gardens community room – 9200 2nd ave SW.

WSB Coverage of meeting: <https://westseattleblog.com/2018/12/will-camp-second-chance-stay-on-myers-way/>