

Camp Second Chance Community Advisory Committee meeting notes – 5-7-17

(Notes have been organized topically and may not be in exact order of discussion – supporting documentation and links have also been added where references were needed)

In attendance:

Aaron Goss, Patrick Mosley, Grace Stiller, Fred Miller, Carol Sivertz, Willow Fulton, Eric Davis, Chris Brand

Tom Van Bronkhorst, Judi Carr, Tracy Record, Cinda Stenger, Polly Trout, Aaron Garcia, Dolores Warren + 2 other local residents

Agenda:

1. Introductions
2. Camp Update from Polly and Eric
3. Purpose of committee
4. Neighbors share: how are we doing
5. Future dates: The June meeting will be Sunday June 4 at 4 pm at Arrowhead Gardens. Do we want to have the meeting standardized for the first Sunday of the month at 4 pm at Arrowhead Gardens for the rest of 2017?

Camp Updates:

- Camp was 14 ppl initially – during the meeting they welcomed their 50th resident
- Referrals come from REACH, as well as local advocates and direct inquiries
- The requirements for residents is that they have ID, pass background check for sex offenses, follow code of conduct which includes “no criminal behavior, no stealing,” drug and alcohol free, being civil and ethical – (book was passed around for anyone that wanted to read)
 - **post code of conduct**
- The city’s contract and support enables the operator to contract and provide services, infrastructure needs and case management
 - Operator staffing (3)
 - Director (Polly Trout)
 - Camp Manager (Eric Davis)
 - Housing Case Manager (Simon Stephens)
 - Utilities
 - Garbage/Recycling
 - Porto Potty Service
 - Electricity
 - Water Delivery
 - Grey water removal (not started yet)

- Infrastructure
 - Food storage (secure from pests)
 - Water Cistern
 - Tent/structure platforms (required to be raised)
- Pest control
 - Rat traps/bait boxes
- City funds are paid monthly, not all at once so expenses must be prioritized
- City funds are not used for structures – those all come from donations and fundraising from operator, and other non-profits
- Operator goal is to replace all tents with structures by November
- Volunteers/Agencies are providing assistance and services as well
 - Union Gospel Mission shower truck
 - Mobile Dental Clinic
 - Food and other donations
 - Structure materials
 - Construction assistance

The camp is self governed with an internal Board of lead residents and weekly meetings of all residents to discuss camp issues and vote on decisions. There is a grievance process involving Patacara as mediator if ever needed.

Camp commitment is to be good neighbors in the community and good stewards of the land.

Committee purpose:

City requirements were read:

(Full Document: <http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/codes/dr/DR2015-20.pdf>)

Following the public meeting, the encampment operator will establish and convene a Community Advisory Committee to provide advisory input on proposed encampment operations including identifying methods for handling community complaints or concerns relating to the facility or facility clients. The committee will include one individual identified by each stakeholder group in the geographic area where the proposed encampments would be located as best suited to represent their interests. The committee will consist of no more than seven members. Encampment operator representatives will attend committee meetings to answer questions and provide regular reports to the committee concerning encampment operations. City staff may attend the meetings.

Introduced members **Confirm/correct details**

- Aaron Goss – White Center Business Owner
- Grace Stiller – Highland Park resident and environmental advocate
- Aaron Garcia – White Center Community Development Association
- Willow Fulton – Top Hat Resident
- Judi Carr – Arrowhead Gardens Resident
- Cinda Stenger – Delridge resident, Westside Interfaith Network
- Stephanie Lieberman (not present) – White Center Senior Center

Attendee questions:

Will there be lighting added to the back of the camp?

- Solar, low volt and electric are all being considered, but none are in current budget due to other priorities. Any donations would be appreciated

What are city services? What is paid for from the \$205,000 contract

- Items listed in camp update above were described

Were streetlights part of that?

- No – those were not specifically related to the camp

Rats: What is being used? Is there a risk to other animals?

- No – there are some traps, and some bait, which is not a risk for another animal that might eat the rat **(Anticoagulant?)**

How long will the camp be there?

- The city contract is through 2017, with a possible option to renew for an additional year. From current ordinance <http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/codes/dr/DR2015-20.pdf> :
Renewal of Transitional Encampment Interim Use Permit: Section 23.76.032.C.4 provides that a transitional encampment interim use permit may be renewed one time for up to one year. To apply for renewal, the encampment operator or its representative shall submit the form for a

Request to Renew, Revise or Extend a Master Use Permit to the DPD Applicant Services Center, 700 Fifth Avenue, Suite 2000, P.O. Box 34019, Seattle, WA 98124-4019. This form is available at <http://www.seattle.gov/dpd/permits/forms/default.htm>.

In order to provide information about camp status, needs and volunteer opportunities, the Committee will help the camp update their website with information

Other questions and comments regarding issues in the area:

- One neighbor shared that despite efforts, the camp and the non-sanctioned campers in the area are seen as one, and that crime and issues have been a problem (no specific data was provided)
- Another neighbor expressed that housing first should be a priority and there should be a goal of numbers of people moved to housing per month. Also expressed that access to services that are being provided to the camp may result in others in the area not being motivated to respond to caseworkers – Polly stated that the housing itself is the challenge – but they do have a housing case worker that will be focused on that
- Another neighbor stated that the services being provided in the area seem to be improving the situation for all and could result in better outcomes
- Operator stated that the main helpful step is kindness – this often leads to people being able to take the next step toward housing
- City meeting will be May 15 to address all issues with homelessness in the area

Detailed coverage of meeting was also posted in the West Seattle Blog:

<http://westseattleblog.com/2017/05/camp-second-chances-first-community-advisory-committee-meeting>