Georgetown Tiny House Village Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

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| CAC Name | Georgetown Tiny House Village |
| Date | Tuesday, August 13, 2019 |
| Meeting Location | St. Vincent de Paul, Georgetown |
| Call to Order (time) | 4:05pm |
| CAC Members in Attendance | Erik Maus, Barbara Grace Hill |
| Permitted Encampment Members in Attendance | Stacy Johnson, Hattie Rhodes, Chris McDaniel, Lorraine H |
| Operator Representatives in Attendance | Andrew Constantino/LIHI |
| City of Seattle Staff in Attendance | Tom Van Bronkhorst/DON, Lisa Gustaveson, Michelle Eastman/HSD |
| Recorder/Note Taker | B Hill |
| Previous Meeting Notes Approved (No or Yes/Date) | Yes/July 19 |
| Previous Meeting Notes Posted (No or Yes/Date) | Yes / July 26 |

**Introductions/CAC Member Reports:**

Intros only, no reports

**Update on Georgetown to South Park walking/bike lanes**

Hattie reported that neighbor Jesse Moore attended the last Georgetown Village community meeting and showed the plans and various path options to the villagers. The GV residents drafted a letter of support for Option 4, copy attached. Barbara will hand deliver letter to Jesse.

**Report on GCC board meeting regarding Village permit/status**

Lisa Gustaveson / HSD reported on the open GCC Board meeting held the previous night:

Jason Johnson, Interim Director for HSD began by giving an overview of all the areas the Human Services Dept. oversees and the specific role the villages play within the overall goals for addressing homelessness in the city. Further reporting included past challenges and successes of the villages in the 3 years they have been in operation as well as specific GV updates. Those included the highest success rate of all the villages in transitioning residents to permanent housing, the smooth transition of the day-to-day GV operations from Nickelsville to continued self-management, the hiring of a site manager and an additional ½ time case manager by LIHI.

HSD then said they were behind in their plan but would bring the plan to the September GCC community meeting. When pressed by all to be more specific Johnson stated that the permit for the GV would be extended another 6 months. Continued requests were then made by the community in attendance for more engagement in that time period as to what the future of the village, the site and other services being considered for Georgetown will look like.

**LG then further explained to our CAC meeting that the 6 months were necessary for several reasons:**

* It would not be prudent to close a village/ move people in winter
* Closing or moving the village in fiscal 2019 poses budgetary problems
* Plans to merge City and County homeless services has taken a large chunk of time and focus by HSD
* Additional time to engage community will be beneficial now that they’re complete with data gathering

**LG then said the village likely will close in March 2020.**

Much discussion ensued and all agreed community/village engagement is CRITICAL moving forward.

Q and A:

Q. Where will residents go? What assistance will be given to help ease the understandable anxieties for GV residents in these next 6 months?

A. This is why an additional 6 months is needed, to make sure alternative living situations have been identified, to give residents time to talk through issues and adjust to moving.

Q. Will the village move or just close down? If it moves where will it go?

A. The City is not prepared to talk about where a new village might be built in this forum.

Q. Are other homeless services, i.e. a Navigation/Hygiene Center, low income housing, other shelter models etc. being considered for Georgetown?

A. Yes. This will be discussed at the GCC community meeting September 16th

Andrew Constantino, LIHI site coordinator and GV resident talked about the metrics the GV resident operations team has added to measure successful residency, how they’ve revamped the barring system making it less punitive/more transformational to improve success for residents staying and learning to work within the community.

LG noted that 2 years ago the villages weren’t considered “enhanced shelters” (meaning more privacy, hygiene services, case management on site), much has been learned and improved upon regarding set-up, self-managed day-to-day operations working in conjunction with LIHI who provides services, case management, volunteerism. Villages have become a model for the US. Georgetown Village is viewed by HSD as one of the best of all Seattle villages.

**Discussion on what CAC suggests the GCC meeting in September include:**

HSD provides brief history of tiny homes villages

Overview of learnings – successes, challenges

HSD Plan for GV –

People – how the residents will be assisted in the transition

Capacity – how will HSD and Georgetown residents work together over the next 6 months regarding the village/other human services being considered for Georgetown

Property – what other possibilities are being looked at for the village site and other sites in Georgetown regarding human service plans

**Georgetown Village Operations report**

Hattie Rhoades, current GV bookkeeper reported:

60 adults – 39 men/21 women/1 child

15 pets

5 calls to 911 - 4 medical, 1 police

1 bar – male, reason for call to police, 2nd time for aggressive behavior, sent to Union Gospel Mission who are familiar with him and his issues. Good that GV has relationships with other shelters for this reason. LG/HSD reminded village leaders to also call and work with Yvonne at REACH

CAC member John Phillips invited Andrew and Lorraine to a training at SCCC on Mental Health 1st Aid. Great strategies for de-escalating and problem solving in non-threatening ways. Very helpful and appreciated! LG asked that AC let LIHI know about these training opportunities as well, in future.

House inspections are going well, much improvement in cleanliness, no big issues identified.

**Georgetown Village Development report**

New gatehouse and ramps complete making village 100% accessible.

Needs - Food donations. Especially shelf stable dry goods, veggies fruits that keep and frozen meats. Erik, CAC member and St Vincent de Paul Food Bank Manager reminded villagers that the food bank is open 3 days a week – Tues, Thurs, Saturday. Transportation to the food bank is a challenge. Community volunteer opportunity.

**Georgetown Village Case Management report**

Scott unable to attend. He’s in training 1 day a week and continues to be super busy, doing a great job. The ½ time case manager is a help. They really need 2 FT CM’s.

**Public Comment**

None

**Next Meeting:**

Tuesday, September 10, 4:00pm at St. Vincent de Paul

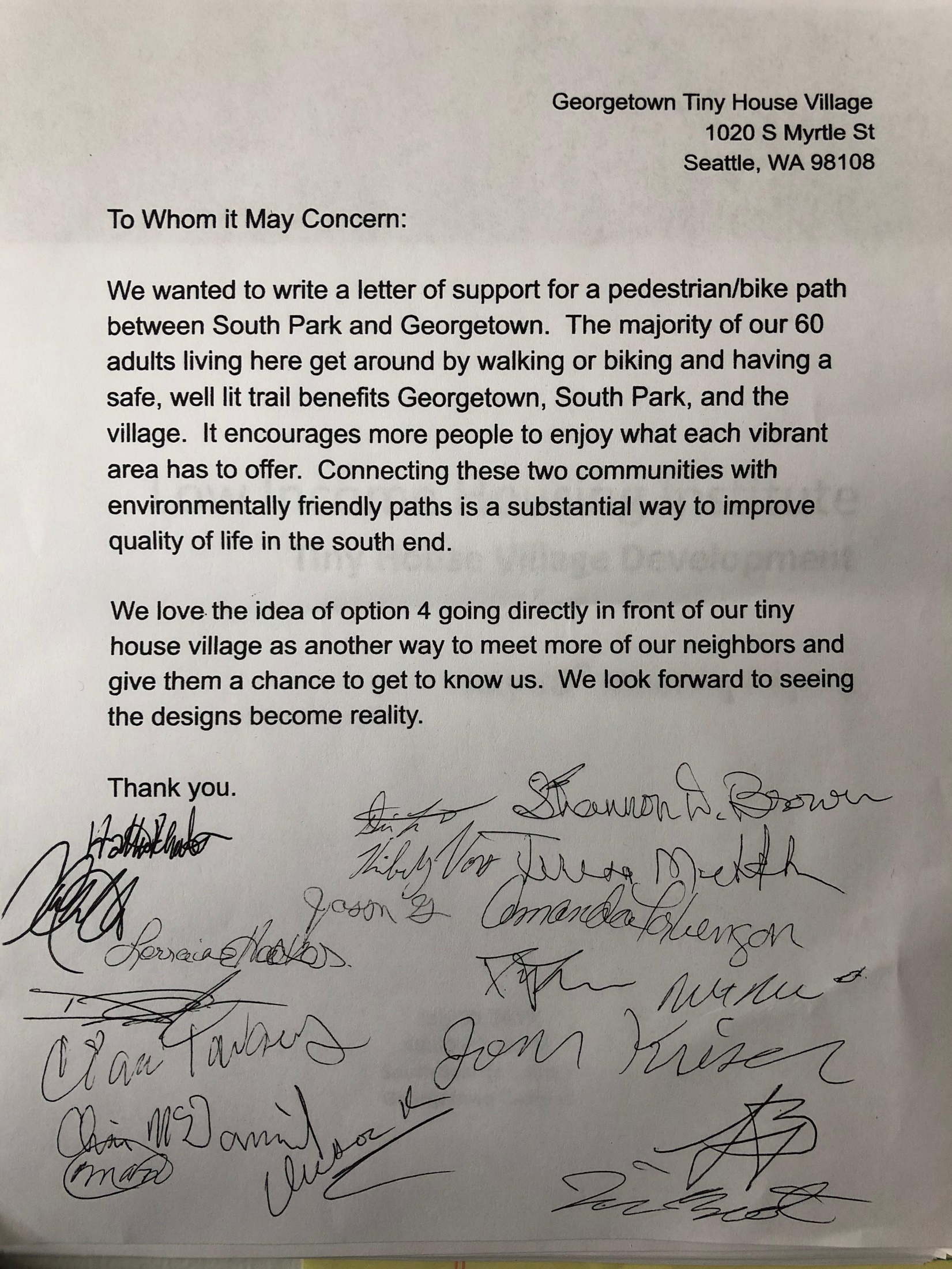
9/10 Agenda items to date:

HSD wants to present their agenda for GCC Community Meeting Sept 16 and get feedback from CAC

Andrew - GV Development Manual progress

Barbara – Review the January 2019 GV community survey by the CAC and discuss what role we want to play over the next 6 months to support the GV

**Adjournment: 5:15 pm**

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