**DRAFT MEETING NOTES – CAC APPROVAL PENDING**

**Licton Springs Village**

**Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes**

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| Date | April 26, 2018 |
| Location | Aurora Commons, 8914 Aurora Ave North |
| Call to Order Time | 5:00 PM |
| CAC Members Present | Marni Campbell, Elizabeth Dahl, Rachel Long,  Kathryn Olson, Tim Pritchard, Darryl Ulskey  David Osaki |
| Permitted Encampment Members Present | None |
| Operator Representatives in Attendance | SHARE/WHEEL: Charlie Johnson, Michele Marchand, Bobbi Ehly  LIHI: Josh Castle, Sherry Sternhagen |
| Community Members Present | Mary Riski, David Baum |
| City of Seattle Staff in Attendance | Karen Ko, Department of Neighborhoods |
| Recorder/Note Taker | David Osaki |
| Meeting Chair | Elizabeth Dahl |
| Previous Meeting Notes Approved | Yes (March 22, 2018 meeting) |
| Previous Meeting Notes Posted | Yes, March 22, 2018 meeting (City website still missing February 2018 meeting notes) |

**MINUTES**

The minutes of the March 22, 2018 Community Advisory Committee (“CAC”) were unanimously approved as presented.

**PERMIT RENEWAL REPORT, UPDATE AND ISSUES DISCUSSION**

Michele Marchand thanked the five members of the Citizens Advisory Committee who attended the March 26, 2018 Licton Springs Village permit renewal meeting at North Seattle College.

Michele indicated that the City of Seattle has sent a letter (dated April 23, 2018) calling for an improvement plan for the Licton Springs Village encampment. Among the key items mentioned in the City’s letter were security, improved opportunities for village residents during day hours, aesthetics (e.g. village cleanliness and property perimeter), and professional staff service provision. The letter asks that the Low Income Housing Institute (“LIHI”) submit a written plan to the City by May 4, 2018 addressing the issues identified in the letter.

Security deals with limited incidents of non-encampment residents obtaining unauthorized entrance into the property. This mainly occurs at night due to breaches in the fencing that enables individuals to sneak in. People also climb over the fence to gain unauthorized entry into the encampment. Stronger enforcement of the no visitor policy was discussed, including a need to secure the gate.

The encampment trash issue is being resolved with the twice a week pick up. Hoarding continues to be an issue. Staff has prepared a draft outline on how to deal with hoarding. The Hoarding Network has been called to help.

Professional training for staff is continuing. Harm reduction is a big issue. Encampment staff will be documenting its encampment experiences and what has been learned into a written guidance policy document/manual. The document/manual will identify best practices for camp operations.

Michele stated that SHARE/WHEEL will need better coordination with LIHI on big items for the encampment. There will be a need for LIHI’s resources on matters regarding encampment improvements and maintenance.

The encampment is now moving to implementing 12 eight (8) foot by x eight (8) foot cabin style tents rather than the dorm style housing.

SHARE/WHEEL is also seeking more services and case worker related help.

There was discussion about the encampment’s impacts on businesses. It was mentioned that SHARE/WHEEL and nearby businesses, including Seattle Fabrics, do not interact much.

Charlie indicated that areas around certain nearby businesses could benefit from clean up. Clean up actions by the businesses themselves would be helpful to improve the overall appearance of the neighborhood and around the encampment.

Crime was discussed in context of recent news articles and information being presented by the public. The crime studies and reports are conflicting and often are being prepared and/or interpreted to support a particular narrative, whether for or against the encampment.

There was mention that 911 calls alone are not a good indicator or metric of an increase in crime associated with the encampment and that crime itself is going up in general citywide. It was also mentioned that the three schools (i.e. Robert Eagle Staff Middle School, Licton Springs Elementary, Cascadia Elementary) opened in the fall of 2017. These schools may have contributed to an increase in the number of 911 related calls, unrelated to the encampment, over the prior year.

Darryl mentioned there seems to be two groups: 1) People that reside in the camp; and, 2) People that hang around outside the camp. Concerns being raised seem to be with those outside the camp. He also mentioned that none of his apartment complex tenants on Nesbit Avenue have expressed issues with activities along Nesbit.

Elizabeth mentioned that the Seattle Times encampment article (April 24, 2018) sensationalized the encampment issues. Charlie said the reporting seemed to be a lazy effort. Both indicated that they had talked to the reporter for a lengthy time prior to the article being published.

There was discussion about a nearby business and how it seems to be a magnet that encourages crime activity. The discussion included a desire to see if the property owner and/or City could investigate.

It was mentioned that the CAC should write an Op-Ed piece to the local media addressing recent news articles and social media stories.

Michele mentioned that, overall, what the City is asking for in its April 23, 2018 letter will require more resources to implement. Discussion ensued that SHARE/WHEEL may want to specifically quantify the additional cost and inform the City of what additional funding the City needs to provide for these improvements to be implemented.

Elizabeth reported that the mobile methadone clinic still cannot find a good location in the area. Elizabeth thought that a good idea might be to let the mobile methadone clinic operate from a parked location in the street. She also reported that fentanyl test strips are now available at the Commons.

Marni said that the encampment has had minimal impact on the schools. She indicated that the school does receive an occasional report due to some item or event. However, these events are not necessarily related to the encampment.

**SHARE/WHEEL REPORT ON VILLAGE OPERATIONS**

SHARE/WHEEL reported:

* There are 57residents consisting of 26 women and 31 men.
* Work on the dorm conversion to tents is continuing.
* Pop up encampments are not too bad at this time. There is concern about what might happen during the summer.
* The on-street parking on 88th near Aurora Rents is a concern as it can lead to individuals parking and sleeping in cars.
* Michele asked about the status of the City’s on-street activation effort along Nesbit. Karen Ko said she will talk to Tom Von Bronkhorst with the City Department of Neighborhoods and get an update.
* Needle service has been spotty and not reliable; however, there are more receptacles which have been helping. The number of receptacles is sufficient.
* Some complaints from residents about the quality of the food.
* The entire completed University of Washington study is not yet in publishable form.
* There has been considerable recent publicity about the Licton Springs Village encampment including the Seattle Times, Weekly Standard, KUOW, and KOMO.

**LIHI - 2017 Performance Commitments and 2018 Funding**

Josh Castle with LIHI mentioned that in 2017 there were 79 unduplicated homeless individuals who had emergency or immediate shelter needs met at the Licton Springs Village encampment. LIHI’s contracted 2017 performance commitment with the City was for 75 unduplicated individuals served. The performance metric was exceeded.

The other performance commitment was that a minimum of 50% of homeless households exiting Licton Springs Village go to permanent housing. It was reported that of the 27 homeless individuals who exited in 2017, 13 exited into permanent housing. This is 48%, which is very close to the 50% performance commitment. Josh mentioned the City is satisfied with this performance.

Josh reported that for 2018, the encampment budget is $719,758 for operations and services. The City share of this is $528,000. The encampment is therefore underfunded by $191,758 for 2018.

Sherry Sternhagen with LIHI mentioned that resolution of compulsive hoarding requires mental health professionals. Compulsive hoarding is genetic. There is trauma associated with individuals losing hoarded items.

**LICTON SPRINGS VILLAGE ENCAMPMENT NEEDS**

Because remaining CAC meeting time was limited, it was agreed that SHARE/WHEEL would email Licton Springs Village encampment needs toCAC members.

**COMMENTS/QUESTIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Discussion again occurred about the CAC writing an Op-Ed piece addressing community and media statements about the encampment. The Op-Ed piececould be circulated to various media. Elizabeth indicated she would reach out separately with CAC members to make sure such a letter/article was acceptable to everyone. Marni indicated that she would coordinate preparation of the Op-Ed piece if CAC members each contribute and write a portion for her to consolidate into an article.

In response to a question, Josh mentioned that the 2018 Licton Springs Village encampment contract metrics are the same as the 2017 contract metrics.

**NEXT MEETING/MEETING LOCATION**

The next meeting was set for Thursday, May 24, 2018, 5:00pm, Robert Eagle Staff Middle School, 1330 N. 90th Street. Room TBD.

Elizabeth and Darryl indicated they will be unable to attend the next meeting.