

Othello Village Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes:

August 18, 2016, 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm

Othello Village Homeless Encampment

a) 7544 Martin Luther King Jr. Way S, Seattle – [425-615-0800](tel:425-615-0800)
othello@nickelsville.works

History/Background of Othello Village

Originally, the City sited seven potential sites for the three City-sanctioned homeless encampments. The first three sites to be utilized were in Ballard, Interbay, and SoDo. The SoDo site, because of its proximity to electrical lines, proved to be unfit/unsafe for an encampment site. Meanwhile, the Low Income Housing Initiative (LIHI) had acquired two properties in the Othello neighborhood with intention to develop as affordable housing. LIHI proposed that this site be used as the third encampment while they are waiting for funding to be secured and design approval (at least two years). City approved this plan. LIHI is the property manager and provides case management services. Nickelsville is the site operator.

Othello Village Community Advisory Committee

For each of the three City of Seattle sanctioned encampments, there is a requirement that the encampment operator establishes a 7-person Community Advisory Committee. Each CAC member should represent a different stakeholder group/perspective. This group is responsible for advising on encampment operations, identifying strategies for handling community complaints/concerns.

Minutes of Meeting

2) In attendance:

- a) From Low Income Housing Institute LIHI – Josh Castle staff,
- b) From Othello Village & Nickelsville – Andrew, JR, Melissa, Gale
- c) From Othello Village Community Advisory Committee: Dick Burkhart
Brian Mack, (not in attendance: Pastor Ed Choi David Chen, Geneva Ross-Lyons, Mary Downs, Linh Thai)

3) Progress of Village Development

- a) Paul Allen donated 4 new tiny houses that will arrive soon
- b) New trailer with showers is about to be hooked up.
- c) 28 tiny houses have been completed
- d) 2 more tiny houses are a possibility
- e) Village is almost at capacity of 75 people

4) Updates from Nickelodeons (aka Othello Village Residents)

- a) Development of children's play area is still being worked on
- b) Othello Park International Festival- Aug 13 – 5 Othello Village residents were there at a tent to talk to the community about the Village. Lots of community interaction. Got 2 new residence because of the day.
- c) Three 911 calls in the last month- 2 residents removed from camp, one medical emergency
- d) Organizations that are helping Othello Village

- i) Urban Impact <http://www.urbanimpactseattle.org/>
- ii) Othello Park Community Church
- iii) Rainer Valley Church - Pastor Ed Choi is now offering breakfast to the Village every Sunday.
- iv) Emerald City Bible Fellowship
<http://www.emeraldcitybible.org/>
- v) Holly Park Community Church
<http://www.hollyparkcommunitychurch.org/>

e) Tour for visitors from

- i) Japanese student group visited and is learning how to build small houses.

ii) Local neighbors

f) City of Seattle Housing Levy passed in the August election
<http://www.seattle.gov/housing/levy>

g) Residents are working on getting Light Rail tickets. Some Metro bus tickets are provided from LIHI.

5) LIHI Case Manager Reports

a) New Americorps / Jesuit Volunteer Corps member, Brad Gerber, started at LIHI – to advocate for villages and homeless issues.

b) New Americorps member Gary - to develop more extensive volunteer program for LIHI

6) Action items for next meeting

a) Website planning for the Othello Village – working on domain name and management.

7) Questions/Discussion

a) What is the criteria for entrance to Othello Village?

i) Families need to go through LIHI- Call them or apply on the LIHI website.

ii) Screening through Sex offender list

iii) Call the Othello Village phone number [\(425\) 615-0800](tel:4256150800) to inquire about availability

b) How do I donate to Othello Village? Web phone etc. wish list on nickelsville web <https://sites.google.com/a/nickelsville.org/home/how-you-can-help>

Next meeting Sept. 15, 2016

8) Resources

- a) Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) website – www.lihi.org
- b) Article on Othello Village opening - <https://lihi.org/2016/03/08/othello-village-tent-city-opens/>
- c) Nickelsville – www.nikelsvilleworks.org
- d) Othello Village wish list
<https://sites.google.com/a/nickelsville.org/home/how-you-can-help>
- e) City of Seattle - Homeless information-
<http://murray.seattle.gov/category/homelessness/#sthash.YZISNPIC.dpbs>
- f) FAQ on Seattle's response to Homelessness -
<http://murray.seattle.gov/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/11.2.15-Homelessness-FAQ.pdf>