

Othello Village Community Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

November 17th, 2016

Location: The Station at Othello Park Apartments, 4219 S. Othello St, Seattle, WA 98118

In attendance:

- From Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) – Josh Castle
- From Nickelsville – Mitze, Bradley, Gale & Andrew
- From City of Seattle – Tom Van Bronkhorst (Department of Neighborhoods)
- From Othello Village Community Advisory Committee – Dick Burkhart, Genevieve Ross-Lyons, (not in attendance: David Chen, Pastor Ed Choi, Mary Downs, Brian Mack, Linh Thai).

Nickelsville Othello Village contact information:

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- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/nickelsvilleworks/>
- Website: www.nickelsvilleworks.org

History/Background of Nickelsville Othello Village

Originally, the City sited seven potential sites for the three City-sanctioned encampments. The first three sites to be utilized were in Ballard, Interbay and SoDo. The SoDo site, because of its proximity to the electrical lines, proved to be unfit/unsafe for an encampment site. Meanwhile, the Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) had acquired two properties in the Othello neighborhood with the 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). The 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 establish a 7-person Community Advisory Committee. Each CAC member should represent a different stakeholder group/perspective. This group is responsible for advising on encampments operations, identifying strategies for handling community complaints/concerns.

Minutes of the meeting

A) Introductions.

B) Progress of Village development & Updates from Nickelodeons.

- 1) Current Village census: 60 residents, 11 children, 7 couples, 7 families, 6 pets.
- 2) 10 residents working full time, many more working part-time.
- 3) Nickelodeons who are employed contribute through Litter-Busters.
- 4) Residents continue to move from tents to Tiny Houses.
- 5) High turnover at Othello due to residents getting housing.
- 6) New people, new faces everyday & constant inquiries by phone.
- 7) Bars have been for violation of zero-tolerance rules.
- 8) New Leadership at Othello; elections are held at camp meetings.
- 9) New TV tent monitor to watch children & keep the area tidy.
- 10) Shower trailer is having some plumbing issues; using apartment unit #1 as a backup. The trailer is more like an RV which may require special knowledge to fix.
- 11) We had a Dump Run. Othello residents cleaned the Village and picked up excess junk from the two other sites on Market & Union.

12) Hillside Planting event had a good number of Othello residents participating. CAC member Dick Burkhart brought the information to the camp & afterwards his wife, Mona Lee, spoke on Othello's behalf at City Hall budget hearing.

13) Mobile Medical Van has been visiting twice a month; great people.

14) Greensheet funding existing encampments and with a proviso for bus tickets and staff pay passes.

15) Nickelsville's friends at Transit Riders Union get bus ticket price for service providers reduced from 20% face value to 10%.

16) Pastor Ed invites Othello to a meal the weekend after Thanksgiving as well as continuing his Sunday breakfasts.

17) Pastor Ed is organizing a coat & shoe drive for the Village!

18) Georgia Perry, a reporter from Oakland, visits and interviews residents.

19) YWCA, looking to help veteran's, drops information at Othello.

20) Seattle Library provides Hot-spots to Othello residents.

21) Dearborn Elementary plans on donating children's clothes.

22) The turkey donations have begun! Lots of interest in doing meals.

23) Visitors and tours of the Village going strong.

C) Case Manager Report

1) Othello residents continue to find housing and access services.

2) Work load is huge & continues to grow.

3) Many long time single adult campers have been placed in housing.

4) Case Managers welcome to attend Camp Meetings.

D) Next Meeting will be December 15th, 2016

E) Questions & Discussion

- 1) When is the Camp Meeting? How long does it usually run?
 - a) The camp meeting is at 6pm every Tuesday & normally lasts an hour.
- 2) Are the rules the same for every Nickelsville Site?
 - a) The rules are the same for each site with a few minor exceptions; for example Nickelsville Ballard has no showers, therefore no rules related to them.
- 3) Would the Village like a computer? Could I bring it by this weekend?
 - a) The Village would love a computer! Yes!
- 4) Would the camp like free tutoring for the children at camp?
 - a) Yes! We will bring it up at the next camp meeting.

F) Closing Thoughts

- 1) More Tiny House Villages to come! Where might they be?
- 2) Ballard Bites event tomorrow; Nickelodeons invited.

Resources

www.lihi.org

www.nickelsvilleworks.org

<http://murray.seattle.gov/mayor-murray-announces-interim-action-plan-homelessness/>