

Tent City 5 Interbay | Advisory Board Meeting | March 7, 2016

Introductions.

CAC Attendees: John Gaines, Stacy Goodall, Pastor Marilyn Cornwell, Lisa Gustaveson, Niki Amarantides, Danielle Burt, Janis Traven.

TC5 Attendees: Charlie Johnson, Nichole Graceley, Louis Warren, Michele Marchand (SHARE/WHEEL Organizer)

DON Rep: Laurie Ames

General Update: Louis

- Numbers: 62 slots – full with room for overflow for 10-12
- Propane – THANKS to Church of the Ascension!
- Security shack in the works
- Power should be at camp any day
- Water generous donation from Keller (pallets of bottles)
- Waiting for permission to use the back 15' – matter of doing tests on the slopes.
- Exploring possibility of bringing water in through fire hydrant
- Getting by – using Urban Rest stop

Community Relations Update: Charlie

Positive things continuing

- Church relations individually and groups
 - Ascension has been bringing in other churches – 6 churches/ 25 people came together to talk about TC5
 - Met with the QA Interfaith group
- Resident support is great – coming from “both hills”
 - Visits and tours ongoing
- Large Sacramento group came to visit the camp to see how it is run.
- Department of Neighborhoods came by
- Magnolia Community Council visited
- Magnolia QA District Meeting
- Neighborhood Appreciation Day
- Meal Calendar: Most days are full which represents a lot of different support
- Subsplash has been doing a monthly meal

Concerns have been voiced that the camp is bringing people into the neighborhood

- Many homeless people already in the neighborhood before TC5. The TC5 residents have been reaching out to ask transient people to come into the camp to stay if they are in need, doing regular patrols and Litterbuster brigades.
- Ron & Don show: Nicole represented TC5. She was questioned about things that were not expected, leaving her feeling ambushed. During the interview it was brought up that the QFC bathroom was closed allegedly due to TC5 along with allegations of shoplifting.

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- It's impossible to tell if it's people from the camp and the camp does not feel it is their participants
- The problem long pre-dated TC5
- Displaced people are coming with no place to go
- The camp prepared a letter, sent a delegation over to QFC, met the manager, and would like to continue strengthening this relationship (and with other businesses in the neighborhood).
- The camp has been working hard to find ways to stabilize the residency and find a balance between rules and enforcement.
- Updated set of rules will include some that are developed specific for TC5

Conversation

Question: How do you get people to leave?

- Most people will leave when asked.
- If they won't leave the police (911) are called – there have been only four 911 calls in 3 months.

Question: How many families are in the camp?

- Two 15 year olds with parents/mother
- 15 women (10 in couples)

John offered feedback:

- Anecdotal – no feeling that things have changed significantly
- One person feels people traffic growing – but others say no

Stacy offered feedback:

- Conversation with Fire Department – overall impression is neutral to positive. Didn't feel they are being called to the camp more. (Only once for a RV that was burning things)
- The traffic of new people ebbs and flows, the feedback has been anecdotal depending on the day. There are things that are happening that are ascribed to TC5 but it's more the problem across the region.
- Generally, feel that incidents in the store have decreased. Less drug use in the bathroom (but the culture is set up to address this in the beginning.)
- Recognize that TC5 has been advocating for everyone to be good neighbors – and made some good new relationships.

Janice Question:

- QFC restroom: key needed months ago or was it as a result of TC5. No clear answer – lots of different understanding of what has caused the problem

Interbay DESC

- Have been doing lots of tours of the 97 units to help people understand the program

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- Last Thursday hosted big meeting of neighbors with a lot of questions or concerns about the foot traffic.
- Feedback has been positive once the community understood how they could get in touch with someone if something goes wrong.
- It's a culture change in the community – often the neighbors are not reading notices or understanding what the DESC building is about.
- Lots of meetings happening where the conversation is about both DESC and TC5

Discussion: Community Grievance Policy

- We need to make clear what the complaint process is – you deal with SHARE/WHEEL at the office not taken to the camp. This is important to get up on the website.

Question: Does the Advisory Board address grievances?

- (group looked at the handouts around what is used for the roving encampments)
- Lets assume the best about each other –not the worst about each other.
 - The board discussed the importance of TC5 SHARE/WHEEL going directly to the QFC to continue to address the issue.
 - Discussion around the NextDoor postings vs Buy Nothing experiences

Grievance process

- Should include
 - a response time
 - what will happen
 - record keeping – public record
- Update the website to show the full story
 - Sharing what is happening in reality
 - Possible help from SU and SPU students

Question: Security Desk Training

- Handling of complaints and training on how to handle the complaints
- Admit that there have been some people at the desk that haven't understood the best way to handle.
- Suggestion:
 - create some type of a template/form that is filled out when a complaint is made (who what when where why). Incident report forms could be adapted.
 - Contact information taken and offer to

Stacy Observation: Executive Committee turnover/change at the campe makes it hard to find consistent someone to talk to. Could there be a representative to the business community who is at the camp?

- There is a history of setting one person to talk to in other TC

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- Old Timer / coach or trainer is sometimes identified as the point person

Discussion: Web Page

- Better sub page of the improved SHARE/WHEEL page
- Communicate success stories
- Include protocol and rules
- Tell the story of people who are moving into housing, jobs, socialization, getting the help they need

Camp Priority Needs:

- Refer to list

Sacramento Delegation

- Great story

Discussion: RV campers on Armory Way

- 17 campers in need
- they are looking for consulting advice from SHARE/WHEEL
- Permits are good until the 11th

ACTION: Community Engagement

- Open House/ Thank You event is in the works
- Public invited
- Press event – we need to find a way to get them there

ACTION: Grievances

- create a primer for complaints, talking points on how to interact and sending people to SHARE/WHEEL
- Modify the incident form to meet the need and have it available to hand to the person making the complaint

ACTION: Point Person

- Camp Advisor role will be sorted out at the camp meeting Tuesday night

Regular meetings 5 PM on the first Monday of the month at DESC Interbay Place

Meeting minutes will be distributed to the committee as soon as possible