

**Nickelsville Othello Village  
Community Advisory Committee**

Notes:

March 16, 2017

Location: Le's Deli & Bakery, SE corner of MLK and Othello  
(Next Meeting April 20th, Le's Bakery)

From Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI):

Kenneth Fowler (Site Coordinator), Arthur Warmoth

From Nickelsville:

Mike Stevens, Karie Smith, Sean Smith, Trisha Lea, Tewquila Roach, Shawanda  
During, Andrew Constantino (Nickelsville Staff)

From the City of Seattle:

Frank Nam (Department of Neighborhoods)

From the Community Advisory Committee:

Dick Burkhardt & Mona Lee (Community Advocate)

Not in Attendance:

Brian Mack, Pastor Ed Choi, Genevieve Ross, Josh Castle, Linh Thai,  
Stephanie Endres (LIHI case manager for Othello)

**Nickelsville Contact Information:**

Othello Village Phone: (425)-615-0800

Nickelsville Staff: Scott Marrow- (206)-450-9136 & Andrew Constantino-  
(206)-601-6335

Email: Scott@nickelsville.works & staff@nickelsville.works

Social Media: Facebook.com/nickelsvilleworks/

**Progress of Village Development (LIHI)**

- o Unit 29 being remodeled. New insulation and paneling has been ordered. Work being completed by Othello Village residents.
- o Currently working with Village leadership on events for the Village.
- o Possible invitation for Path Art to join the village for the children's benefit. Arthur introduced LIHI to them years ago. This is a great program for Low income individuals. Registration started March 13, 2017 and Activities begin in April.

- o Arthur speaks about HMIS and his position requirements, how LIHI works with Nickelsville staff and the Othello Village book keeper, Michelle Kafel, to keep accurate detailed records.
- o Do these Leadership positions help residents learn new skills? Yes, but often residents possess these skills and the leadership positions allow residents to utilize those skills to rebuild their confidence in these abilities.
- o Frank Nam speaking on the Mayor's Plan for property tax, is geared for rapid rehousing, not affordable housing or housing first options, but this is not his department. Most believe there are a lot of outdated notions about encampments and our ability to provide a viable solution to this crisis. Nickelodeons call this 'Poppe-cock' and voice concerns about Mrs. Poppe not meeting with us before filing her report with the mayor.
- o Becoming homeless can be very traumatic, rapid rehousing can cause vulnerable citizens to experience this trauma again.
- o Section 8 vouchers do not follow market rates as high as Seattle and King County. Section 8 works great in places with a lower market rate like Utah.
- o The City should hear from Community Advisory Committees like Othello's about these pressing issues. Frank recommends writing to our City Council as well.
- o Tiny houses are working! Mr. Burkhart feels strongly that this could be a partial solution to this crisis.
- o ONE year down! What happens after the next year? Shares TC5 Interbay Community Advisory Committee is asking for an extension of two more years. Share is not seeking an extension; however the general community would like them to be able to stay.
- o Financing issues with the Othello development. Would it be possible to offer an extension to Othello for two more years? Is there enough space for the Village? Othello is smaller and feels very over crowded with so many children.
- o Concerns over the lack of Community Advisory Committee members present. Only Mr. Burkhart is in attendance. Frank Nam will research the possibility of replacing absent members. Possible newsletter on the City's Community Advisory Committee website.
- o Tom Bronkhorst working on posting the meeting minutes on a city created website. This would be a great place for narratives, calls for action. The site should be up and running in a few months.

#### **Nickelsville Updates: (Nickelodeons)**

- o Census: 62 Residents: 48 Adults, 14 children, 9 families, 1 Pet
- o New residents arriving daily.
- o Georgetown Opening on 03/15/2017 with 37 tiny houses and our new overflow structure.
- o Nickelsville is partnering with REACH to provide outreach and referrals to the Georgetown locating. Openings will reported daily by Georgetown Leadership to REACH. REACH has until 4:30pm daily to fill the unit. This includes the overflow spaces as well.
- o Georgetown Village is a work in progress with 14 tiny houses currently on location

with Nickelodeons providing security on site.

- o Saturday March 18, 2017 Nickelsville Georgetown will host a large work party with numerous volunteers.
- o Large tour groups at Nickelsville Othello Village this month, including the Neighborworks Organization and many others researching Seattle's solution to the nationwide homeless crisis. 50+ visitors per tour over the course of one weekend. Othello Village residents love to provide narratives about their own experiences and what Nickelsville has done during this epidemic.
- o A large contingent from Vancouver BC visited the Village on 02/28/2017 with George Scarola to learn about Tiny House Villages to address their own homeless crisis.
- o Othello has had a few difficulties this month with disruptive, non-community minded residents that had to be asked to leave. Nickelodeons refuse to let the situation damage our moral!
- o Former Head of Security Mike Stevens received employment at the new lower barrier SHARE village in north Seattle on 88<sup>th</sup> and Aurora. This location is desperately needed and supported by our community.

#### **ACTION ITEMS:**

1. Contact absent Community Advisory Committee members about their commitment and seek replacements if necessary.
2. The Low Income Housing Institute will continue to provide housing supportive services.
3. Upcoming housing Lottery from March 16-21<sup>st</sup> will be closely monitored by the Low income housing institute.
4. Nickelsville office site search. Frank Nam is on the task. Researching the option to utilize community workspaces that could possibly help with cheap or free space. Possibly the Collaboratory or Mercy Housing where groups frequently meet. Arthur agrees that Nickelsville needs work space and will approach Sharon Lee about assistance.
5. Mona Lee announces the April 30, 2017 10am is the Othello Neighborhood cleanup! Nickelsville will make this a participation credit for Othello Village residents.

#### **Resources:**

- [www.homelessremembrance.org](http://www.homelessremembrance.org)
- [www.washington.edu/community/homelessness/](http://www.washington.edu/community/homelessness/)
  - [www.nickelsvilleworks.org](http://www.nickelsvilleworks.org)