

Tent City 5 Advisory Board | September 12, 2016

Attending: Michele Marchand, Janis Traven, Rev. Marilyn Cornwell, Danielle Burt, Lyle Jones, Donald, Laurie Ames, John Gaines, Lisa Gustaveson, Stacy Goodall

Chair: Pastor Marilyn Cornwell called the meeting to order.

Meeting notes from August 1: approved with amendment (gift cars to gift cards)

Agenda: approved

General Updates:

- **Numbers:** at 73 with 6 in overflow. 3 families in camp (6 kids – 16, 12, 10 and 8) with children all in school or working with LIHI to get any issues settled.
- **Power, ice, water and propane:** delivered in a timely manner, which helps keep camp running smoothly. (Thanks to Janice for the freezer!)
- **Meals:** weekends are still spotty. Ballard and Lower QA Food banks are helping out to keep people fed. Starbucks is also providing much needed food, as they are available.
- **Police Interactions:** Two to four weeks ago, the camp experienced issues with response times for trespassing for barred campers. The slow response was due to, at the time, the police saw the encampment as a self-governing entity or an “unsanctioned” encampment and treated the calls like property trespass calls. They stated that only one who can make the call would be the property owner. WHEEL staff clarified, in writing, with the West Precinct around the sanctioned encampment policies and reminded them of TC5’s desire to be good neighbors. The precinct Captain intervened and has made the necessary internal changes to increase the response times.
- **Specific Neighbor Complaint:** A couple weeks ago, exited campers were found in the doorway of a local business. TC5 used the tools available (verbal request for movement) including calling the police. WHEEL staff contacted the neighbor who shared his concerns and issues. The situation was not resolved.
- **Impact of Closure of Safe Parking Lots:** The camp has experienced an increase in vehicles/ RV’s in the neighborhood due to the closure.
- **Intervention Options:** the group briefly discussed the possibility of the LEAD program being contacted for some of the people who are suspected of using drugs.
- **Community Relations:** members have not heard about major issues. The camp is seen as an asset to the community.
- **Demographics, Successes and Press**
 - Housing Numbers: In the past 2.5 months: LIHI has moved 4 families, 5 couples and 10 singles into housing.
 - Press clips reviewed
- **Financial and Church Shelter Status:** Discussion around the restoration of funding (and re-opening of the church shelters) by King County with a significant increase from the City of Seattle around the per diem reimbursement. SHARE/WHEEL is in fiscal relationship with Catholic Community Services. Additionally, case management resources have been funded which makes a significant impact on the ability to keep people safe.

Community Relations:

- Resumption of the Magnolia Church Support Network this Sunday! Pastor Marilyn will work with the Pastors to identify congregants who can attend.
- One-Year Anniversary! Cindy DeForest is meeting with the camp to discuss ways to mark this milestone. In addition, Cindy is looking for a group(s) to work with on a fundraiser. This will be discussed on Sunday.

Permit Renewal:

- Building permit was converted to a Master Use Permit
- Renewal was submitted and is being processed.
- Management Plan has been re-approved by HSD.
- Public Comment period will begin in one-two weeks with leaflets distributed to a 2 or 3-block radius. The advisory committee reviewed the draft leaflet and discussed the process.

Camp Priority Needs:

- Some of the shelters are to be replaced – materials are needed.
- Warm coats, blankets, sleeping bags and tarps. Discussion around the churches/ community groups taking on a major drive. Also use of the Amazon donation tool.
- Weekend food services are needed.

Next Steps:

- Camp renewal
- One year anniversary planning

Next Meeting: Monday October 3rd at Interbay Place