**Othello Village Tiny House**

**Community Advisory Committee**

**Meeting Minutes, May 10th, 2018**

**Location**: Le's Deli and Baker (at MLK & Othello)

**Attendance**:

Committee members: Dick Burkhart (Chair), Mary Hackney, Eliana Scott-Thoennes, Jesiah Wurtz

City: George Scarola

LIHI staff: Josh Castle, Cierra Brown

Nicklesville staff: Scott Morrow

Othello Village residents: Deanne Hunter, Sean Smith, Keith Johnson, Richard Murphy

Meeting opened at 4:08pm without a quorum. Quorum was achieved later in the meeting and the minutes from the April meeting were reviewed and approved.

1. **Community Engagement**:
2. No official responses yet to the letter we sent to the city.
3. Deputy Mayor David Mosley had a cordial meeting with Nickelsville and LIHI.
4. Eliana shared the concerns the Seward Park Jewish community has about vandalism to their cemetery in North Seattle which is perceived as caused by homeless individuals camping or in vehicles nearby. There was some discussion about the possible impact on perceptions of Othello Village and how we might mitigate that.
5. Mary gave a report about a number of community projects including a city Sharps and Litter pilot project, the upcoming May 18th Bikes and Bagels event, and a community clean-up Saturday 5/12 at 10am.
6. She learned that the Othello Church is not available at this time for our meetings, but she is investigating the possibilities of an adjacent building.

She proposed to Sarah Valenta that there is a need for a central source of information on local projects and resources.

1. Jesiah, as a representative of Onboard Othello, will be attending a training in Philadelphia the end of May thanks to a grant from Wells Fargo.
2. The Rainier Valley Action Coalition will be opening a vegetable stand once a week at the Ethiopian Community Center.
3. **LIHI Staff Report:**

Last month 5 clients found new employment (3 full-time, 2 part-time).

A family of 4 moved out into transitional housing and an individual moved out into permanent housing.

1. **Othello Village Reports**:

62 Adults, 10 children, 8 families, 3 couples, and 5 pets (3 dogs, 1 cat, and a guinea pig.)

No police calls since our last meeting.

1 EMT call for a young baby with a worried, first time mom. Baby is fine.

In King County this year, to date, there have been 44 deaths of homeless individuals outdoors or by violence. Women in Black will be standing vigil for the 8th week in a row. (This is a record since they began in 2000.)

The Village arborist has started a garden and residents will be taking turns working on the preparations and then tending it. They are also creating some pleasant places to sit near the gardens.

The residents have decided to begin weekly watering of the plants behind the nearby Chase Bank (at 42nd and Myrtle).

A new TV tent and new kitchen tent, complete with new decking, will be being erected soon. They are waiting on Brad Gerber from LIHI.

Seven residents have signed up for the Bridge to Beach clean-up.

A new staff person has begun work. Marvin can be reached at staff@nichelsville.works ATTN: Marvin

Two tours of the village have been scheduled: Rainier Beach High School (possibly with a KUOW reporter) and the MLK Business Association as part of their annual tour of the neighborhood.

The South Seattle Town Hall regarding the proposed Employee Hours Tax was cancelled due to a family emergency for CM Harrell. It will not be rescheduled as the council is voting next Monday on the legislation. We discussed encouraging CAC members who are so inclined to contact CM Harrell to express support for this important legislation and possibly sending a thank you letters after the vote to Council Members who have been working in support of it.

**Next CAC Meeting: June 14th**, 2018 at 4pm at Le's Deli and Bakery