



CHARLES STREET AREA COUNCIL COMMUNITY MEETING MINUTES

1/28/2021 @ 6pm

Welcome- 6pm: Zoom

Attendance: Shawn Pippi, Thomas Graham (State Rep Wheatley); Ericka Wingfield, Deb Gist, Carol Patterson, Debbie Reed, Harold Ralph, Louann Louis, City Councilman Daniel Lavelle, Amy Cotten, Angela Williams, Isreal Williams

Excused: Shalace Moore, LaRita Alston

Guests Speakers: Mica Williams, Tierra Collins, MaryAnn Patton

- I. Introductions 6:00pm
- II. Guest Speaker: Tierra Collins, Lion of Judah Enterprises 6:15pm
 - a. Lion of Judah supports people with Downs Syndrome
 - i. Non-discriminatory: will help anyone with disabilities/in need
 - ii. Find on Facebook/ 412-654-5359/ lionofjudahenterprises@gmail.com
 - b. Previous experience working with elected officials to direct funds to help NS, Hill, Hazelwood (Corey O'Conner)
 - i. Diverted funds from Mon-Valley connector project to above neighborhoods; majority went to "Housing Opportunity Fund"
 1. First time home-buyers assistance (banks that will forgive loans after 4 or 5 years)
 - c. Strong board is needed to help guide the org: lawyer, doctor, accountant, social worker, community members
 1. Housing Opportunity Fund
 - ii. Funds for individuals and developers, not organizations (behind on rent, tangled title issues, renovations, small landlord fund, homeowner assistance program, etc.)
 - ii. If gap between proposal costs and acquired funds, HOF may assist iii. Available online: <https://www.ura.org/pages/HOF>
 - d. **Action Items:** CSAC Housing Committee to follow-up on how to access funds for residents in CSV
- III. November 2020 Meeting Minutes Approval 6:30pm
 - a. Motion (I. Williams) properly moved and 2nd (S. Pippi) to table approval of Nov 2020 minutes
 - b. **Action Items:** President Angela Williams will send Nov & Jan Meeting Minutes
CORRECTION: No meeting was held in Nov (Thanksgiving).
October minutes must be approved.

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- IV. Foundation of Hope: Mica Williams & MaryAnn Patton
 - a. Program to help people who struggle with substance abuse, mental health, or any poverty-related challenges with hopes to prevent them from engaging with law enforcement
 - i. Can refer via community, police, or individual
 - b. Primary audience: people convicted of low-level misdemeanors
 - c. Looking for individuals to join community advisory board
 - d. Contact Mica Williams @ Mwilliams@foundationofhope.org or MaryAnn Patton mpatton@foundationofhope.org / Facebook
<https://www.facebook.com/foundationofhopepgh/> <https://www.foundationofhope.org/>
 - e. Provide faith-based support as well
 - f. Focus on the North Side

- V. President's Activity Report; 6 meetings in Jan (US, Buhl, NWWPA, PGH FAN); 1 service activity 6:35pm
 - a. Urban Strategies
 - i. Met with U.S. to determine how they can help CSAC
 - ii. They will be a resource to provide supportive services (mental health and more)
 - iii. Previously consulted in Larimer for Larimer Choice Neighborhoods
 - b. Buhl Foundation meeting with Dan Barrett re: Allegheny Dwellings Choice Neighborhoods
 - i. Buhl not owner of project; HACP & Fineview/ Perry Hilltop are grantees funding granted for use over 2 years
 - ii. 3 tasks force with steering committee (Housing, People, Neighborhood)
 - 1. Housing – relocation of dwellings and determining new living spaces for residents
 - 2. People – social services provided
 - 3. Neighborhood – public utility entities
 - iii. 6 meetings/ year to determine types and site of housing.
 - iv. Foundation will host events for residents (employment & health seminars...)
 - 1. Determined by residents

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2. Per Councilman: For each LI unit removed from Dwellings it is expected to be 1 market rate, 1 affordable at min. ; but desire is to take public housing and return (1/3, 1/3, 1/3)
3. Per Councilman: Examples of development outcomes: Elmore Square and Beford
Square on Hill
- v. Per Councilman: CSV, CaliKirk, Fineview/Perry Hilltop are targeted areas because:
 1. Due to vacant land surplus
 2. Plan to relocate people once not multiple times vi. HUD most concerned with low-income residents of Fineview
- vi. Implementation plan to be sent to HUD in 2023

Action Items: in the future there will be an Open Call for people serve on task forces 1+/
task force

1. Ms. Ericka (evening availability)
 2. Angela Williams
 3. Shawn Pippi (can record meetings and share)
- c. Neighborworks of Western PA Meeting “Dorothy Mae Richardson Homeownership Financial Planning” Program
- i. Looking to facilitate homeowner financial planning for CSV residents
 1. CSV/ CK/ Fineview residents have heart to own house; program will provide way to make it happen
 - ii. Cohort model to council individuals in smaller groups as determined by NWWPA capacity planned to start March 2021
 - iii. Interested Residents: [See website](#) and mention CSV program
 1. Katy Cotten (1st time homeowner)
- d. Food Action Network of Pittsburgh Meeting on 2/27/2021
1. 1,300 Boxes of Perishables to be delivered starting Feb 6 (meats and produce)
 2. CSAC will focus on senior high rises and CSV residents: Northside Coalition Senior Housing; Steelworkers Highrise; West Court

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- VI. Operation Warm (coat) event: Vice President (Ericka Wingfield) 6:40pm
 - a. Coats well received
 - b. Spare coats available due to community member not picking up after multiple contact attempts

- VII. Financial report: President 6:45pm
 - a. Financial report reviewed via screen share
 - i. Thanks to Ms. Louann Louis, Shalace Moore, Angela Williams and LaRita Alston for making heartfelt donations!
 - b. Finances in Charles Street Bank Account (review)
Action Item: Mr. Harold to deliver letter from CSAC to remove and replace people's names on the account
Action Items: AW will create letter on CSAC letterhead **Needs:**
2nd person from CSAC to add name to account
 - 1. Angela will be second name
 - c. Fundraiser ideas:
 - i. Sarris/Betsy Anne Chocolate / Candy Catalog
 - ii. Fish Fry & dinners (hold for after COVID-19)
 - iii. Selling Charles Street Pride Merch (handbags & t Shirts)
 - 1. Mr. Pippi can donate T shirts
 - d. How to donate***:
 - i. Need logo and words**Action Items:** AW to provide info to Shawn

- VIII. Development Committee: Chair: Louann Louis 6:50pm
 - a. Beautification Committee: Debbie Reed, Angela Williams

- IX. Projects Update: 7:00pm
 - a. Housing: CSAC Infill on hold waiting for grantor
 - b. Flocker Street Collaborative (Maggie Conner/ Shawn Pippi)
 - i. 100% responsibility on Councilman Lavelle office to schedule meeting between Housing Committee and Flocker Street Collaborative
 - 1. Meeting set for **Tuesday, Feb 9th at 6 PM**
 - c. Strauss Playground Renovation (Angela Williams)
 - i. Hold on title transfer
 - ii. Councilman Lavelle to follow-up on letter of support w. City Solicitor

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d. ABS Food Program: CSAC will distribute food boxes and help with admin & logistics for NS distribution

Action Items: AW to meet Jana/ NSCFM Friday, January 29th @ 12pm

- X. Open discussion & other committee reports: Safety Issues 7:20pm
- a. Concerns with men working at Flocker Street commandeering space
 - i. Councilman Lavelle proposes we can call 911/311
 - 1. Need record of being a nuisance
 - 2. CSAC wants to find safer, larger space for this business to operate
 - b. Nuisance for residents – 2600 N. Charles Street (gunfire at 1:30 AM few nights ago) i. Trash, gunfire, other issues
 - ii. 311 chain
- Action Items:** Mr. Harold to provide small list of grievances
- Action Items:** President Angela Williams to send 311 alert to residents
- c. Resolution for tree on Kent Street: Councilman Lavelle reported to city and city notified homeowner
 - i. Funds available to aid homeowners in remedying like issues (HOF)
 - d. Call to join Beautification Committee
 - i. Angela Williams
 - ii. Tiffany Brown(?)
 - e. Losses in Community (Bereavement)
 - i. Mr. Nate James, from lower part of Charles Street, lost his sister
 - 1. **Action Item:** to send card
 - f. In search of development project manager
 - g. Donation at Wellness Center Saturday: CORRECTION: dates are **February 13, 27, & March 13, 27**

- XI. Board Governance: 7:30pm: NOT COVERED- INADVERTANTLY SKIPPED
- a. Board Member Docs: Conflict of Interest/ Contact Form
 - b. Committees Meetings (calendar review)

XII. Next Steps

Adjournment: 8:08 PM motioned (I. Williams) & 2nd (S. Pippi)