

Allied Partners Meeting October 15, 2019

Attendance: Eileen Dresser, Flora Flygt (for Bethany), Molly Plunkett, Rev. Cindy Bacon Hammer, Ryan Estrella (JFF), Rhea Schultz, Gloria Manadier-Farr, Wynn Davies, Zachary Henak (Alder), and Alice Howard.

Report on Allied Wellness Center.

Congregations have signed up to purchase and provide Adult and Youth bus passes and gas cards for the Wellness Center. Suggested are: 20 Adult passes @ \$3.50 each, 10 Youth passes @\$2.25, and 15 \$5.00 gas cards to be purchased at Speed Way Gas Stations. Westminster Church will buy passes for November and Prairie UU in December. Sheet circulated for further sign up in 2020.

Center is planning a Halloween Party at meal on 10/31 at Revival Ridge from 5-7 pm. \$50 approved for cake.

In Sept. Welcomers, CHWers, and Mother's in the Neighborhood attended Black Women Wellness Day. Sina Davis was honored in program.

Member of Welcomer's group may take charge of dispensing bus passes.

City and Neighborhood Association

Alder Henak asked how many people served by passes given out at Wellness Center because the city is considering an increase in money for free and reduced lunches. Kids and adults on WIC would get free bus passes in the summer. Gloria explained the passes are given to people who are job seeking, need to get to doctor appointments or are homeless. Alice stated that kids who live less than a certain distance from their school do not receive bus passes. Alder Henak added that the city has increased funds to neighborhood centers but funds not equally distributed and are problematic because centers are not controlled by city and are nonprofits.

The city is funding neighborhood leadership through Institute for Transformative Community Engagement which is taught by staff from the Progress Center for Black Women in a 3 month program.

Henak also reported that the Neighborhood Resource Team meetings are viewed by some dominated by city staff who speak for the neighborhood and are therefore not considered as effective spokespersons.

Discussion about need to have involvement by latino community in the Allied Neighborhood Ass. and Allied Partners. Henak offered that latinos tend to affiliate with established organizations. Ryan often asked to suggest people to involve in Neighborhood Ass. but he is conflicted about asking people who may already have a lot on their plates and may not see the importance. There is a general decline in participation in organizations.

Treasurers Financial Report

Five people received assistance totaling \$1135 for rent, utility payments, etc.

Balance in Special Projects Fund of \$1562.00. Wellness Center has received \$1250 in direct contributions from congregations plus \$675 from Special Projects Fund. Scholarship Fund has a balance of \$2,252.00