

Minutes of Allied Partners
July 16, 2019

Attendance: Eileen Dresser, Rhea Schultz, Marge Lyford, Wynn Davies, Mary Collet, Ryan Estrella (Dane County Joining Forces for Families Social Worker), Molly Plunkett, Alice Howard, Zachary Henak (City of Madison Alderperson).

Minutes of June 18 Meeting reviewed and approved. Secretary Deb Annen has a broken leg.

Treasurers Report: Report given by Treasurer Wynn Davies with donations highlighted.

Eviction Prevention:

Treasurers report indicated that 10 residents with housing situations were helped in May and June with a total of \$2,495 in financial assistance provided. Balance in account at the end of June was \$4,647.64 with an average predicted outlay of \$1100-1200 per month.

Ryan Estrella reported that this summer has been busier than in past years. In one sample day he received 19 requests for help and the following day, he received 13 requests. There are in fact fewer actual evictions because landlords now issue month to month leases that require a shorter notice and legal process to get tenant to vacate unit. Rents in area are high and many people already work 2-3 jobs but still struggle.

Many energy assistance requests were received in past month. Ryan stated that the fund that the county maintains for emergency assistance is depleted but there are funds still available for help with rent and utilities for people with children. Each JFF social worker receives \$8000 per year for families.

Question about housing unit in area that has had bedbugs. There is a new property manager who seems easier to work with.

Neighborhood Association.

Alice reported that the June 22 Festival had gone well at new location at Red Arrow Trail although tables had to be set up around periphery of parking lot. Home Depot donated building kits for kids which was led by Regina Smith, and Dream Bikes donated 4 bikes that were raffled off. Dream Bikes also trains young people in bike repair. Mobile Book unit was popular.

Wynn Davies stated that he had heard a rumor that a school might be built in Allied area. No one else had heard this including Alder Henak. Agreed that Molly would invite her neighbor and new school board member Cris Carusi to attend a meeting to discuss school issues.

Profiles of neighborhood show that children are not prepared for kindergarten from the area. The Boys and Girls Club has an after school club program but not a prekindergarten program.

Alder Henak noted that the city has named the movies in the Parks series after Sina Davis who Alice Howard reported was declining.

\$50 was approved as a donation to for a snow cone machine for neighborhood special event.

Alice Howard reported on a city initiative to get feedback in the form of surveys by neighborhood residents about several items related to city organizing around neighborhoods and increasing pay for alders. Survey responders are paid. Alice will have surveys to provide to residents.

Scholarships

Ryan reported that there are two good candidates: one is Carolla Jenkins who is a West high school grad who is going into a culinary program at MATC anthem second is a Shabazz grad entering a photography program. \$500 stipends were approved for both.