

Allied Partners Monthly Meeting

June 16, 2020

Note: The May meeting was held virtually via Zoom.

Present: Eileen Dresser, Wynn Davies, Mary Collet, James Costello, Ryan Estrella, Sue Hoffenberg, Molly Plunkett, Debra Annen, Pamela Wilson, Su Timmerman, Cynthia Bacon, Zach Henak

The May minutes were accepted as written.

Treasurer's report (Wynn)

Eviction Prevention Fund—\$1,750 was expended toward eviction prevention in May. The balance of the fund was \$5,295 at the end of May, but down to \$3,844 as of June 15. At the usual rate of \$1,300 to \$1,500 per month, no more than 3 months funding is currently available.

Member contributions—Thanks to Bethany UMC, \$1, 226; First Baptist, \$740; Queen of Peace, \$500; and Memorial UCC, \$500.

Allied Scholarship Fund—No activity. Balance is \$2,552.

Special Projects Funding—Received \$500 from individual donor and \$150 from heritage Congregational Church. Current balance is \$1,512.

Wellness Center—\$2,400 has been channeled to the center in 2020 to date.

Allied Drive Food Pantry—Wynn clarified that although the Food Pantry appears on the financial report, it is not funded through Allied Partners. Donations are sometimes channeled through Allied Partners to the pantry.

Joining Forces for Families (Ryan)

Office hours—The office is set to open in phases: (1) office hours but no face to face meetings; (2) face to face meetings by appointment only. People will need to wear a mask and surfaces will be sanitized.

Eviction prevention—Ryan clarified that he works with the Tenant Resource Center, County and State resources for funding to prevent evictions. Funding is specific to families. Allied Partners fills in the gaps. The COVID-19 moratorium for evictions is over except for subsidized housing; that moratorium will extend until July 25. In general, landlords have been flexible and understanding, though some are using this opportunity to evict undesirable tenants. The Tenant Resource Center needs volunteers to assist residents in filling out an on-line Eviction Prevention application. The contact is Robin Serrano. It's possible to make an appointment to use a computer at Hawthorne Library.

Second Harvest food boxes—Second Harvest is working with the Boys & Girls Club to distribute food boxes once/week. No registration is required.

Scholarship Committee—Ryan has received a couple of applications.

Alder's remarks (Zach)—Zach spoke of the disconnect between the Neighborhood Resource Team (NRT) and the Allied Drive Neighborhood Association. NRT is trying to be resident-centered but it needs input from the residents. NRT wants to build relationships. A joint meeting of the organizations, perhaps every other month, was proposed. Cindy will draft a letter to both organizations to that effect. In answer to a question about the number of rental units in Allied Drive, Zach referred to the Madison Neighborhood Indicator Project for demographics.

Next meeting: July 21, 2020.

[recorded by Mary C]