**SNACC MEETING MINUTES NOV. 18TH, 2021, 6:30-8PM**

**Present:** Jes Maran, Matt Lembo, Ash Hester, Emily McCadden, Hannah Wallace, Vincent Dawans, Andria Robbins, Cole White.

* **Letter to HUCIRP, any updates?**  
  + Sent to the council members whose emails were on the website (Wheeler’s wasn’t) also sent to SEUL
  + How do we move forward? Should we keep it high level or do direct outreach?
  + Jes: Do we want to move forward with the ideas in the letter with the intention that sweeps will continue, what is our capacity? Can we take on a new project to support?
  + Vincent: if we get porta potties they need to be maintained, it’s really time consuming to have to constantly reach out to HUCIRP to get that done. As a side note, should we attempt to get volunteers to help clean-up the area behind Laurelhurst Village (Alder Place between 30th and 31st)?
  + Matt: pursue points in the letter with city leadership as a secondary goal, could we do a press piece, maybe we can pinpoint some specific needs with a needs assessment and channel energy into those areas that we identify, getting people involved in the place where things are happening is really valuable
  + Ash: can we go to the City and tell them to stop the sweeps? Testifying in public comment during city council meeting?
  + John Mayer emailed Jes about Officer Jacobson expressing frustration with sweeps, too. Matt asks if there are other allies we could identify to help support our cause—leaders from SEUL, other NAs, etc. Getting powerful allies could help our cause. Jes proposes that we define a testimony template for people to reproduce so that it’s not a super challenging ask.
  + Vincent worries that the message of “Stop the Sweeps” won’t be accepted by the community at large, that we may also need to ask for a different solution. Matt suggests that stopping sweeps is enough of an improvement in and of itself to advocate for that alone. It will help bring stability to the houseless community and allow us to do our work better. Also, it may be to complex to try to advocate for a solution. We can give ideas once we win this part. Ash suggests that we could at least ask for more trash pick-up support at camps so that they don’t get so messy, which is one of the things that supposedly triggers a Sweep.
  + Cole mentions the protocol that triggers a sweep. That the neighbors in wealthy neighborhoods like Laurelhurst seem to complain the most and the City seems to be pandering to them. The City/ CCC is not cleaning before sweeps. Did not make any efforts this last time, he says. Also, they are supposed to provide people with housing resources and they don’t. He even had a long conversation with Officer Jacobsen last week who said he would help find him housing by tonight (Thursday) and that was the last Cole heard from him. Cole says why don’t they give the $$ directly to the people instead of paying for all the administrative work?
  + Matt says maybe we ask HUCIRP to actually engage in dialogue with neighborhoods before just responding to complaints. More metered way, better outcomes for more people. [Isn’t this sort of what our letter asks?? Just sayin’]
  + Cole says there are people who come out of nowhere who are agents of chaos. They come from camps across town—he’s not sure where they come from. Vincent wonders if there’s anything we can do to remove the so-called “Bad Actors” at the camp who distress both unhoused and housed residents of the neighborhood.
  + Emily doesn’t think we can “remove” individuals from a camp. How do we have conversations with problem people? Isn’t there a way we can do conflict resolution? Some kind of mediation?
  + Jes: law enforcement is not the path we’re looking for, obviously. But the idea of shared governance. A council idea. Do a restorative justice approach. We need a village square—a way for housed and unhoused neighbors to get to know one another.

DECIDE TO TABLE THIS DISCUSSION FOR NOW—RESUME IN 2 WEEKS (ON DEC. TK) AT JES’S OFFICE ON BELMONT NEAR THE TRIPLE NICKLE.

• N**eeds Assessment Update from Emily**

◦ Right now we’re brainstorming questions. We’ve decided to do a paper survey over 3 weeks at the showers. People from all 3 days will get it.

◦ We’d like to compensate people with $10-$15 gift cards. We see an average 11 people a week, Emily says. But over 3 weeks there were 19 people total. So we’re looking at anywhere from $200-$300, depending on how many people fill out the survey. Hannah says she has no problem with having an incentive like gift cards BUT she worries that if we use the $$ in our account right now, we won’t have $$ for laundry cards. We are only getting $100 a month from our anonymous donor.

◦ Andria suggests we put a tip jar at the Clothing Drive. (Great idea!!) and also have a flyer there asking for $$ donations for the shower program.

◦ Hannah asks if she can slip in a little blurb in the Dec. newsletter with a direct ask for donations, too. It is the holidays…

**Neighborhood Needs Assessment**

◦ Something Matt said earlier made Emily think that it would be wonderful to do a larger-scale needs assessment with the houseless population in Sunnyside. She would love to do that but needs to have a bigger crew of volunteers to help her. (And this would be after the shower needs assessment, which is solely focused on the shower program.) Maybe we could divvy the neigborhood up into quadrants and take a walk with a friend/neighbor who doesn’t yet work with us and yet who is interested in meeting some of his/ her houseless neighbors. In that way, we could help that person feel more comfortable talking to their houseless neighbors and vice versa.

**How to pay a Stipend to a Houseless Shower Volunteer to help run the Shower Program**

◦ We loosely talk about how this would work. We could 1099 the person. But then that person would have to pay taxes on their income (assuming we paid over $600.) We talked about whether the SEUL community grant might be able to cover this if we call it an internship—and frame it as a “professional development internship” for houseless members of the community. We could pay $18 (or so) an hour. The person could help Hannah with legwork—maybe getting supplies, checking to make sure we have enough supplies (gloves, cleaning products, as well as Q-tips, razors, soap, etc.) making sure we have a good selection of clothes for the people we know will be coming. That sort of thing. Maybe help with reminders to volunteers, maybe not. Hannah has sent an email to Matchu asking him about the logistics of using the grant money for this. She will report back.

Meeting is Adjourned