



Rochesterians Engaging in Action for the Chronically Homeless

PO Box 10845, Rochester, NY, 14610

Minutes April 16, 2018

- Welcome to Michael Hopkins, who will be joining us as our new treasurer.
- The team who were present introduced themselves.
- Minutes from April 9 and the modified agenda for April 16 were approved.
- Thank you, Deacon Dan for leading us in a reflection centering on what we personally might need to give up that stands in the way of loving God's people.

Treasurer's Report

David

- Still waiting for county reimbursements of approximately \$10,000 for February
- Reimbursement requests for March/April need to be submitted to the county
- \$3500 in the FLACE account currently
- Expenses to be paid:
 - Payroll this week
 - House of Mercy fronting security deposits for residents moving into apartments
 - Staff bonuses owed to current staff
 - RG&E for April.

REACH Home Updates

Shannon, Oscar and Lulu

- One of the best winter shelters REACH has managed thanks to Shannon, Lulu and Oscar!
- 27 current residents (many arrived with the bad weather)
- 5 moving out tomorrow to apartments
- Wednesday noon everyone out
- Some are moving to the same rooming house
- Everyone left has a shelter bed available to them
- Shannon is going to Northern Iraq, Kurdistan, to help rebuild skate parks for the Iraqi kids.

Cleaning Updates

- Need to secure the vestibule door, Dan will work on it
- M, W, F, Sat. cleaning schedule will begin next week
- Sarah will contact Tyler Rinaldo and his cleaning service to inform of time schedule
- Clothing will be removed this week
- Deb will set a date for all to volunteer to vacuum pack the linens
- Set an RG&E transfer of service date, back to Dimitri House
- Anyone with keys return to Lori
 - John and Peter will keep a set.

Celebration Picnic

- Suggestions made:
 - Have a celebration for a smaller group the day we vacuum bag linens
 - Plan a summer picnic when we have a clear idea of where we are going, invite the larger group/volunteers



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REACH Advocacy Future Planning

- April 23 meeting plan format:
 - Everyone will have a chance to talk about what we dream for REACH
 - This is what I am invested in and this is where I see us in 3-12 months
 - Review of who we are and why we are here
 - Time to have opinions heard
 - Sarah will send the questions to consider out by email to prepare our thinking
 - Does REACH want to be board-driven or volunteer?
 - It was suggested that we need to know what the Continuum of Care group feels are the needs/fact finding.

Announcements

- ROC tiny homes, Richard Rosen, working with VOA who is about to break ground on a tiny home project, panel is putting together a plan and they want to know if REACH wants to be involved
- Candlelight Vigil **tonight** about issue of homelessness
 - 8:00pm, church across from the Jail, 101 S. Plymouth Ave.
- Dr. William Barber, spearheading National Poor People's Campaign, speaking
 - Thursday, April 19, 5:30, 1549 Dewey Ave. serving dinner, no RSVP necessary
- Peter thanks REACH for their support in attending the Housing First Conference in Denver
 - 800 people participated, mostly social workers amazing experience!
 - New awareness of what happens to people who live under stress in their brain
 - He would like to prepare an educational program for organizations to help them understand the challenges for the homeless
- Oscar pointed out the best way to learn about the homeless is to talk with our residents
- Connie learned a great deal about how you treat addicted people in comparison with just homeless people at a conference last Friday
- Heide suggested we view the Charlie Rose series on the brain.

Watch for an upcoming date to help pack up our things for storage in the basement and have an informal celebration!

Next Meeting: April 23, 2 pm at Dimitri House

Reflection: Heide

Agenda: Where do each of us wish to see REACH going in the next few years?

We will share our personal thoughts.

How do we want to continue as an organization? A group of volunteers or a more structured 501(c)3