



Rochesterians Engaging in Action for the Chronically Homeless

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Minutes September 10, 2018

A motion was made and passed to approve the August 20 Minutes and the Sept 10 Agenda was accepted with a change to the timing moving Andy to the beginning of the agenda.

Thank you, Lulu, for a thought-provoking reflection on the meaning and intent of the word, "No."

Next meeting Reflection: Oscar

REACH Home 2018: Andy

- Last Spring the State did a review of shelter policies and regulations through the OTDA, Office of Temporary Disability Assistance. Fortunately for REACH, the State has not been able to follow through with new regulations as of yet. We have been given a green light from the County and the city to establish a temporary transitional residence for the chronically homeless (a shelter) and the county will reimburse REACH for residents who qualify as they have done in the past several years. Currently, there seems to be a larger need as shown by the HoM who is overfull even in the summer.
- Dimitri House submitted a grant to the State last year to rehab the former REACH Home on Union Street. They will find out October 3 by conference call whether they have been approved for the funding and then Laurie will need to contact the developers to determine a timeline for construction. If they do not anticipate construction until the Spring of 2019, we are welcome to use the building. We do not have any other viable options at this time.
- Meals: Bridget will continue organizing the evening meal for our shelter or if it becomes too much for her will train someone new
- We will discuss what appliances, etc are needed at another meeting
- Staff: need to form a staff interview team and those present Dan and Jeanette volunteered with hopes that Deb will continue with the group. Andy will consult
 - We may be able to actually "officially" hire a manager who can receive benefits and a salary this year
 - An anticipated budget for staffing is requested from the staffing Team
- Andy will prepare tentative numbers of residents that could be reimbursed so Peter can work on a draft budget
- Fundraising: In order to begin writing grants Peter and Sarah need a budget and a narrative describing the need for transitional housing including data. Andy will work on this.
- Dimitri House expectations:
 - Laurie suggested we explore using the other side door for a smoking area as there were some issues with residents gathering in the parking lot. We discussed some possible solutions including moving the office to the front bedroom and using the front door.

Board Creation and Development: Peter

- The intent of the CauseWave meeting is to help us become clearer about who we are and where we are going
- It will be held at Village Gate, directions will be in the email reminder.



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- The group decided the CauseWave meeting will be held Monday October 1 from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
 - Motion to approve passed
 - The CauseWave proposal will be resent along with the meeting reminder and directions to the location a week or so before. Please read it before the meeting on October 1.

Announcements

All

- Jeanette announced a free workshop offered by the VA at MCC on Wednesday, September 26 from 8:00-1:00. The notice is attached. You do need to RSVP.
- Tomorrow, **Tuesday, September 11** there is a rally of the Housing Union outside the county office building on West Main and Fitzhugh at 5:00 pm.
- St. Luke and St. Simon Cyrene on Fitzhugh Street and the corner of Broad is holding a Panel discussion on the housing crisis in Rochester on **October 13** at 3:00-5:00. Sister Grace, Harry Murray, James Murphy and representatives from the Housing Union will speak. This is a free event.
- Peter is working on a presentation on the housing deprived to present at churches and other organizations to help educate people on the issues of housing in our area.
- Project Homeless Connect: **Thursday September 13**, 8:30-3:00 at the Blue Cross Arena
- John reported on River Romance Weekend he is planning a River RAFT, standing for Restoring A Forgotten Terrain, on **October 6** noon to 6:00 at the St. Paul Street site
- John recently presented on the Bull's Head project and was received with interest
- Dan is going to follow through checking on the church property at 1169 St. Paul and Peter has been trying to contact Pastor Santos.
- Wednesday 6:30-7:00 Dan, Peter and Sarah will visit the church gathering.

**Next Meeting: September 24, Tiny Home Project Update
Causewave Meeting for the REACH Team, October 1**