

RESTORE RUNDBERG REVITALIZATION TEAM MEETING MINUTES

CommUnityCare North Central Health Center

1210 W Braker Ln.

March 12, 2015

11:00 – 12:30 pm

Call to order 11:14 pm

Attendance:

RRR Team Members: Donald Baker, Monica Guzman, Ann Teich, Margaret Valenti and Ming Chu, Aida Cerda Prazak, Erica Saenz

APD: Lt. McClure, Sgt. Bazzle, Lt. McClure, Lt. Leverenz, Officers Kianes, Ortiz, Nelson Andrade, Patricia Zavala

UT: Paula Yuma

Team Priority Updates

- **Priority 1 – Revitalization of Key Properties**
 - Erica is continuing this work. (Update was not recorded. It will be recorded once information is received from Erica Saenz)

- **Priority 2 – Healthcare**
 - Aida attended health care training as part of her job and identified some needs. She is interested in proving transportation so people can get to their medical meeting. Adopt the program called “Drive a Senior”. Cap Metro takes senior citizens shopping so Aida thinks that if Cap Metro does this program then maybe they could take people to their medical appointments.
 - There is also a “backpack program” where doctors are on foot making house calls, which is great for seniors who need medical attention. They are bringing this program to the Rundberg meeting. The director of this program is going to give a presentation at the next community meeting.
 - Connect with the Austin Groups for the Elderly (AGE). Margaret and Ming went to a senior transportation workshop to identify needs in the community and Aida could follow up with them to learn more about their project.
 - There will be results from the Latino Health Care Forum needs assessment. They are going to present their findings at the end of March.

- **Priority 3 – After School/Youth Services**
 - No update.

- **Priority 4 – Code Compliance**

- There is a meeting that will happen next week. There will be more info after that meeting
- **Priority 5 – Homeless and Prostitution Intervention**
 - Michael Willard is the lead on this team but is not present for the meeting. There is no update today except that the organization called ECHO wants to come to the next meeting to present on the “point in time” results.
 - Also, there is some work being doing to follow up on the IDEA school site and addressing the homeless camp.
- **Priority 6 – Housing Affordability**
 - We are meeting with Council member Casar on March 23
 - The City of Austin Neighborhood housing community development wants to come do a presentation at the next community meeting. They need about 20 minutes for the next community meeting in March.
- **Priority 7 – Economic and Workforce Development**
 - Cary Roberts is not present do to the update. Erica says that they are conducting various meetings such as a quality of life forum and economic development forums. There have been various reports that have come out about Austin in the last week. The reports reveal that we are number one creator in tech jobs and have surpassed San Francisco. The other report also reveals that Austin is also number one in economic segregation and have created isolated pockets of povert. The issues are linked and the city council is looking at how do to deal with this. There is an initiative that the Community Action Network (CAN) is going to roll out called the Einstein meeting, which is supposed to be transformational and pretty widespread. They are going to be presenting this tomorrow. This is a really big topic for the mayor and for the council. This something that we really need to look at in this area because segregated impact is felt in this area.
 - Ms. Dora Balla (spelling unclear) is present; she is the owner of Austin Suites and has been working with APD. Her property is in one of the hot spots and she has been implementing strategies to improve the property. She wants to team up with the economic development team. She has been very helpful in working with nuisance abatement. Ms. Dora Balla says that their goals for the property is to change the crime situation but they are having a hard time figuring out a solution; how to weed out the negative and keep the positive. The idea is to be able to keep the good people and reduce the crime. Ms. Balla has been implementing some of the suggestions of Julie Long. She took over ownership a few years ago. The suggestions that have been implemented have helped but they are still not where they want to be.

New Business

- **Approval of February 26, 2015 meeting minutes**
 - Postpone approval of the minutes till next meeting

- **University of Texas updates**

- The research center at the School of Social Work asked UT to present an update to the RRRT. There has been a near 1% reduction of crime which is the goal outlined in the grant. In 2013 there was an increase in crime during the month of July but in 2014 there was not the same level increase of crime during July, it should have been 50% higher. There has been an increase of aggravated robberies. Commander Baker speculates this is due to the increase of hand held devices that are susceptible to robbery and when someone tries to resist the robbery it can then become an aggravated robbery. The Georgian and Powell area has increase in violent crime and there is a suggestion that they add another hot spot. This needs to be approved by Commander Baker. Hot Spot 2 you can see a difference, there are not prostitutes walking down the street now we need to move to sustainability efforts. The mobile walking beat should not stop but something needs to be done about the increase of crime to the west of hot spot 2. There could be displacement that is occurring like what happened with the homeless camp behind showplace lanes. APD would not be effective if all they did was just move people out and they go somewhere else. With Austin Suites, they cleaned up but they just went next store to Red Roof. It is important to try to get to the root of the problem, which requires long-term efforts. Ms. Dora can help build a coalition of property owners so they can address the problem collectively since she knows many of the property owners.
- Hot Spot 3 reduced crime, Hot Spot 1 has stayed the same, and Hot Spot 2 has minimal reduction that is not noticeable. Paula will send out the crime data report.
- UT got the IRB approval to do survey within AISD. They are trying to figure out which grades they want to target.
- Paula finished the process evaluation interviews and is going to give the team a report in late April early May.

- **Community Advancement Network and the Asset-Based Community Development workshop update**

- At the last team meeting, the team talked about the Asset-Based Community Development workshop. There was unanimous consensus to conduct one in the area. Mary Dodd, executive director of CAN, is here to give a presentation about CAN. Hannah Brown is Program Coordinator of CAN; she will be working with the team to plan the training. Mary has been working with Dan Duncan who teaches this curriculum. They did training at the YMCA in Rundberg, it lasts about 2 hours. Dan Duncan prefers to have 3 hours. They are envisioning a co-sponsored event between both organizations. CAN will pay for Dan Duncan to do the training if the Rundberg team can pay for food and childcare. This would be a great event for both organizations to do together. It is best if the training is 3 hours. APD cannot pay for food or childcare because of legal restrictions.
- Restore Rundberg Team will set up sub-work group meetings to keep working together. We will need to figure out how to get food for the training as well as ensure that we have interpreters available. Date and Time could possibly be on a

Saturday Morning 9am-12pm. The idea is to accentuate the positive of the community and build on the positive things that already exist. Teach community members of how to identify assets. It is important to have community leaders present so it would be good to do it sometime in June when school is out. It would be good to have a subcommittee or planning: Erica, Nelson, Ann and Monica. Could hold the event at a school, maybe the Jaime Padron elementary cafeteria.

- **Announcement: There is a Restore Rundberg Revitalization Team change.**
 - Margaret Valenti is stepping down and Ming Chu is going to replacing her. Ming has been a planner for years; she is familiar with the grant and Imagine Austin. Margaret has spent the last 6 weeks briefing Ming on how the group works. She will be taking over effectively immediately. Jackie Shooter is designee number one and Margaret Valenti will be designee number 2. Margaret will continue to come to the meetings to make sure everything gets effectively transitioned.

- **Introduction of Lieutenant Kevin Leverenz**
 - Lt. Leverenz worked in the halo cameras and is also getting his PhD. He is taking over Lt. McClure's position. He will be Commander Baker's designee.

- **Reminder to Team Members: Turn in "Designee" paperwork. Send to Patricia Zavala.**

- **Presentation by Laura Dierenfield "Vamanos Rundberg"**
 - This initiative came up last year and today there is an update. There is a power point associated with this update. Laura Dierenfield is the active transportation manager. They are part of a coalition called "Vamanos Rundberg". It is a Healthy Eating Active Living initiative (HEAL).
 - There are two goals to the program. Increase physicals activity through the Active Transportation Encouragement Program. They want to encourage physical activity through every day movement—to the store, to school, etc. This is in line with the Imagine Austin project. They want to bring more mobility to the community with a Transportation Toolkit. The second goal is to increase access to healthy food by creating a neighborhood food system plan. They want to increase awareness about how to change the food system, increase production of healthy food and increase access to those foods. They want to develop a food system report—identifying places where people can go to get healthy food.
 - They want to do focus groups after the collect data to engage the community and ask the community if they got it right.
 - There is a timeline with evaluation measures. Obtaining funding is very competitive process. The group was not initially funded but the CDC decided to fund national organizations and APA asked the local chapters to apply for funding. Good news: "Vamanos Runberg" was the only coalition in Texas that won the funding. If they are successful they would like to expand the program. Nelson explained that there is a community walks every Saturday and it would be good to coordinate with "Vamanos Rundberg" on this weekly community walk.

Paula explained that one of the volunteers at UT did an asset inventory and that can be shared with “Vamamos Rundberg” as well. All of these plans are pending approval of funding from Austin City Council. The coalition is comprised of all city departments. They are looking to expand their coalition to include non-city entities but currently the leads on the project are the Transportation, Sustainability and Health and Human Services departments. “Vamamos Rundberg” is interested in coming back and giving updates in the future. City council will hopefully approve this project on April 2nd.

- **Announcement:**
 - There is a clean up coming up the fourth Saturday in April on Brownie Drive.
- **Public Comment**
 - Mathew Cramer is an Americore vista he works with the City of Austin, where his department has worked on bike lanes, community gardens, etc. If there is a vacant lot of land then the city could come turn it into a community project. There is a cost-sharing model which uses sweat equity. The city purchased a plot of land in hot spot 2 to turn it into a park. He is offering to work with the RRR Team.
- **Adjournment**
 - Commander Baker Moved to adjourn, Monica Guzman Seconded, motion carried – 12:43
- **Next Meeting:**
 - Restore Rundberg Revitalization Community Meeting
March 26, 2015
7:00 – 8:30 p.m.
Guerrero-Thompson Elem School
102 E Rundberg Ln.