

## **RESTORE RUNDBERG COMMUNITY MEETING**

Guerrero-Thompson Elem School

102 E Rundberg Ln.

March 26, 2015

7:00 – 8:30 p.m.

In attendance: Ming Chu, Ann Teich, Brian Almon, Linda Powers, Roberto Perez, Aida Cerda Prazak, Michael Willard, Lt. Leverenz (Donald Bakers Designee), Cary Roberts. Team members not present: Abel Lopez and David Contreras

APD: Officer Kianes, Officer Soliz, Officer Kim, Nelson Andrade, Patricia Zavala, Officer Basulto,

UT: Paula Yuma, Kyle Pitzer, and Allison Marshal

### **AGENDA**

#### **Interpretation**

An announcement was made in English and Spanish asking if anyone would like to hear the meeting interpreted into his or her native language. Nobody asked for interpretation.

#### **Rundberg Rock Stars**

A SHORT VIDEO CLIP FROM THE NEWS WAS SHOWN. IT WAS CALLED “AUSTIN SPURS MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN RUNDBERG NEIGHBORHOOD”. MOSES APOUT, A STUDENT FROM DOBIE MIDDLE SCHOOL THAT PARTICIPATED IN THE EVENT TALKED ABOUT THE BENEFITS OF PARTICIPATING IN THE BASKETBALL CAMP WITH THE AUSTIN SPURS.

#### **Public Comment**

On Saturday May 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a garden tour. Tickets are \$10 each. The money that is raised will be used for beautification project. This will fit in with the big activity at the YMCA community garden.

The Latino Health Care Forum is announcing their results but prior to that they would like feed back from each of the priorities. The community forum will be located at the Guerrero Thompson school from 10-11:30 on Saturday April 11<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Community Presentations**

- **Announcement by Sharon Mays:**

- There is a community picnic celebrating the one-year anniversary of the garden at the YMCA. The other part of the event is to celebrate and bring pride to the area. When bad things happen in the area, the news always seems to use “Rundberg” to describe the area. So there is a very negative reputation that is constructed around Rundberg Ln. Sharon feels that if you give people something to be proud about then they will hold onto it. The social media project is to get a group a people in the area to collaborate and create an online portal to share the positive events. We made a D4

pride sign to get people to friend D4 on facebook. There will be a meeting in April to bring people together to be working on the same goals. We want people to promote the things we are doing in the area so please participate in social media. Please come to the community pride picnic.

- **Presentation by Cara Welch from City of Austin Neighborhood Housing Community Development.**

- The city has programs for home repair. The first thing they try to promote is the “lets starts” program it is 30,000 for households that were built before 1978. It requires that there be a child under the age of 6. This is a free grant program. It has been expanded to Travis County.
- There is also the Architectural Barrier Removal program. It is available to homeowners, they will convert bathtubs to showers, and it is up to \$15,000 in free accommodations to the house.
- The final program is the home repair loan program. It is a loan and they place a lien on the property. The homeowner is not making monthly payments and it is forgiven over time. They have to pay property taxes and stay in the home. The lien will be removed after a certain amount of time. Anything that can bring the house up to code they will do, sometimes they will have to demolish and reconstruct the home.
- **Questions:**
  - How much time is required for the lien to be removed? It depends on the amount of the loan but for the full amount it is 15 years. If the house is demolished and reconstructed then there is a shared equity loan. They are trying to get people to stay in their homes, they would like for people to be able to utilize the funds to stay in their homes. A lot of the funds are federal dollars. The lead grant comes from federal funding. It is through HUD’s Lead and Healthy Homes Initiative.
  - What is being done to do outreach in these neighborhoods? Cara is the person responsible for education the community about this program. They have already done a lot in the East Austin area and they are working to reach out to other parts of the city.
  - Are there people that can help navigate through the permitting process? They have a list of contractors, the homeowner is not responsible for the reconstruction. This is all managed through the city of Austin. The contracting is done through the city of Austin.
  - If a person passes how are the heirs affected by the loan? The heirs can take on the loan and it is the responsibility of the heirs to comply. Typically the lien is released at the time that the person passes so that the family can sell the property if they choose. Typically the lien is released and the loan is forgiven.
- There is another program called Housing Smarts, it is a housing counseling program. It goes over everything you need to know about purchasing your first home. It prepares homebuyers to know everything that goes into buying a home and determining if you are ready. After you get the certificate it will help the homebuyer get down payment assistance. They have a loan payment that is forgiven overtime. They have \$15,000 deferred forgivable loans that are forgiven after 5 years. There is

another one that is a shared equity loan that is for 30 years. \$40,000 is forgiven after 10 years.

- There is also a match savings program. The recipients must fall 200% below the federal poverty line. Every dollar that the participant saves the city will match \$4. So if the participant saves \$1,000 then the city will give them \$4,000 for a total of \$5,000. The idea is to get people used to saving.
- **Questions:**
  - How is this development account not part of the economic development program in the city? It is because they received a grant that their department applied for and was rewarded. They want to get information to find out when or if the program will end. They need the flyers in Spanish as well. They would like to get the information online. If there are any other community events then Cara requests to be informed.
- **Presentation by Justin Golbabai from the City of Austin Neighborhood Partnering Program**
  - There was the Brentwood neighborhood association that came to the city and asked the city to build the bike lanes and in exchange the community would be willing to build the benches. There was another neighborhood that came to the city with a project idea and then worked with the city to implement it. How are they doing this? Well they are going to the city with a plan and approaching the Neighborhood Partnership Program. There are multiple ways to cost match the projects. People are taking advantage of this all across the city. In Patterson Park they turned the side of a wall into a beautiful mosaic. They can also cost match sidewalks that are not currently in the city's plans. They can do pedestrian islands as well. There is also cost match project for a sidewalk. Criteria: the project has to be on city property. It has to be submitted by a neighborhood or community group. They have to get a petition and go door to door and show that 60% of the people around the area approve the project. The community group has to maintain the project for the life of the project.
  - If you have an idea for a project, contact Justin. They will go to the city property with engineers, they will help you come up with the plan and then it will be submitted to a board to be improved. The core values are the following: community participation, cost sharing, etc. There are a few other programs: the grant assistance program. They can help you develop a grant for a project. You may ask: how do I know what is city property in this area? Well just ask Justin, he really wants a project in this area. It is very likely that we would get the help of the city.
  - **Questions:**
    - What about Barrington? Is that part shared with the city? Yes, it is. What is the 5-year plan? Justin is going to follow up about this.
    - Erica wants to partner with Justin as part of the priority 1 team lead. They want to do revitalization of some key properties.
- **Presentation by Matthew Balthazar from CommUnityCare's Mobile and Street Medicine teams,**
  - Matthew Balthazar director of strategic planning. There are a couple other people here with Matthew. George Miller has been to these meetings in the past. Mobile

healthcare can be delivered in 3 forms: 1) Mobile bus (children health express). 2) Traveling physicians, you go to a brick and mortar place in the community and set up shop 3) Street medicine, they deliver acute care on the street. Community Care does number 2 and 3. Why mobile health teams? They know that in a city like Austin people are being pushed outward at a faster rate than the infrastructure that is being built. There are also transportation barriers. Taking services to the community is one way to fix this. For these three reasons they wanted to explore mobile health teams. They kicked off the program in April 2014 with 2 mobile teams. Each team consisted of one provider; one registered nurse, one medical assistant and one medical admin clerk and case manager. In addition they have a dietician, clinical pharmacist and a financial screener. Last year they had a total of 2,036 eligible encounters and they visited 36 locations. They also do a combination of one-time events and regular events. They did events in conjunction with EMS. One of the challenges that they faced with this style of mobile healthcare is that they need a brick and mortar location to be able to provide privacy for the services the patients need and not every location is suitable. They have partnered with churches, schools, and recreation centers. They go out to the Hornsby bend fire station and do a Well-Child exam. They also visited the pink house. There is a 4-minute video that shows what the mobile health teams do. (Video was shown).

- What is coming up in the future: There is a street medicine team aimed at providing care to Austin homeless population. They are looking to collaborate with EMS and ATCIC. They are looking to have quality improvement metrics of blood pressure control. What makes a successful location? An engaged community that helps schedule patients, accessible facility, as well as a facility with at least 2 private spaces. If there are ideas please contact the mobile project manager, Treennis Jones 512-978-9289. [Treennis.jones@communitycaretx.org](mailto:Treennis.jones@communitycaretx.org). They are looking to get ideas for where to go to engage in providing street medicine as well as where to go in order to reach out to homeless communities.
- **Questions:**
  - Where does the street team work out of? They work out of the ARCH. Patricia Guerrero has done outreach to some of the homeless areas already so Michael thanks them for getting engaged with the efforts. The important thing would be to coordinate with ATCIC and APD. With the street medicine teams they are working with EMS and ATCIC.
  - What about alcohol and drug services? In some of the clinics they partner with bluebonnet trails they do OSAR (substance abuse counseling and substance abuse referrals).
  - When do they administer the medical support? They try to be flexible with the hours and try to accommodate the needs of the population but not put too much pressure on the mobile health teams.
  - Do they have more than one team that goes out? Yes, they have two teams going out everyday of the week.
  - Are they walk-in? They have both walk-ins and appointment scheduling.
  - How does the community know where the teams will be? Once they establish a place they reach out to groups like this to get the word out. They try to do a

set schedule so people can know when to expect them. Contact Trennis if you have ideas about where the mobile

***Public Comment***

- Council Member Greg Casar is here. The Restore Rundberg project is in his district. They have been doing a lot at City Hall to figure out how the new district system works. Many of his colleagues are intentional about investing in the D4 community. They are emailing people a monthly newsletter to let people know about what is happening in the area. They are doing a community workshop around transportation. They want to address the needs north of 183. There is a lot of will on behalf of the Council to engage the community. He asks that people come and tell him what they are concerned about. He is going to be holding office hours twice a month.
- Marco Orrantia is here as a representative of Congressman Lloyd Doggett. He is the new engagement and outreach person for the office he lives in Crestwood. Come and talk to him regarding federal issues, veteran issues, and immigration issues. Please reach out to him in case there are any concerns that people may have.

***Adjourn***