

Advisory Council Meeting
Cathy Hudgins Community Center at Southgate
12125 Pinecrest Rd, Reston, VA 20191

Minutes – March 5, 2024; 7:00 pm

Council Members Present:

Caren Anton, Maryam Ovissi, Gerald Padmore (virtual), Lisa Hviding, Darlena Ricks (virtual), Yasmine Aquino, Judy Singer, Alexandra Rossi

Council Members Not Present: Andy Sigle, Kathleen Jones

Community, Staff and Others Present:

Quincy Lewis (NCS), Satoria Warren (NCS) (virtual), Karen DeMijango, Gwenn Minton (BOS Hunter Mill), Ha Brock (RA), Kerri Bouie (future Council member), Officer Jenette Post, Lt. Cash (FCPD), Elizabeth Ford (Better A Life)

2023-2024 Council GOALS

Progress Workplan including:

- i. Increase balance in Advisory Fund to enhance capability to support CHCC programming efforts.
- ii. Have all Council members involved in a minimum of 15 hours of service at CHCC.
- iii. Have all Council positions filled.
- iv. Support CHCC staff to increase outreach and programming to our adult communities.
- v. Have all member complete NCS Volunteer training.

Meeting Call to Order: Caren Anton, Chairman, at 7:04pm

Tonight's Agenda: Approved after the motion passed unanimously.

Past Meeting Minutes: Approved after the motion passed unanimously.

Chairman's Report (Caren Anton):

- Thank you to family dinner volunteers! The event was wonderful!
 - Next dinner will take place on the evening of May 3. (They are scheduled to take place every 3 months.)
- Lubna Mohammed has resigned due to health issues.

Treasurer's Report (Gerald Padmore):

See Treasurer's report for detail.

- March balance – \$6,469.00
- A P&L format was requested for viewing financial information.

CHCC at Southgate – Directors Report (Quincy Lewis):

(See Director's report for detail.)

- Standard programming continues.
- 5 more kids registered today!
- Girls on the Run (new program) – 14 girls signed up
 - Program includes a cross-country tournament
 - Teaches life skills

- Basketball team 3 – 0! Next game is at Lorton Community Center
- Upcoming:
 - Spring Break Camp March 25th – 29th. 8:30am–6pm (Theme Building A Mystery Adventure)
 - Field Trips (Spy Museum, Super Mario Day at Jim Scott CC, Kung Fu Panda 4)
 - Boy Scout Service Day - March 16th.

Reston Association Report (Ha):

- Boy Scout group will visit with Quincy and staff on March 6 to discuss a community project for their Eagle Scout certification – possibly a community garden project or they will brainstorm other project ideas.
- March 8 @ 3:30 – meeting with volunteer to go over vision on maker’s space
- Scout Service Day (clean-up project) – Sat. March 16. They will organize bookshelves, closets & the kitchen in addition to litter clean-up outdoors (10 – noon).

FCPD Community Outreach Report (Officer Post, Lt. Cash):

- Community Concerns:
 - A lot of communities have been experiencing increases in ‘suspicious noises’ (i.e. gun shot sounds). There had been about 9 or so in the past month.
 - Detectives are assigned to investigate each incident and officer presence has increased in communities and along trails. The message is not to be alarmed.
- Teen programs with police are in progress and ongoing.

‘Better A Life’ Presentation (Elizabeth Ford, CEO / Executive Director):

- The organization is focused on 3 main programs:
 - Food (food delivery is 1x per week on Wednesdays).
 - There is now a line of people waiting for food – the program is growing – many people have been served.
 - Homework Club (future program to be held with police and will include dinner)
 - Cooking Classes – to start March 16 (life skills classes)

Old Business:

- Scholarships – the application has been approved and is on the website (can be downloaded). It will be sent to SLHS and announced to other groups (including the basketball team) to get the word out. Targeting people participating in programs at the center.
 - Possible press release being considered
 - Will post on social media outlets
 - Quincy will highlight in the newsletter
 - Flyers will be passed out at the mobil market
 - Consider translating to Spanish and Arabic
- Honors College Connect – focus of the group is on a fundraising strategy (not just an event). The 4 participating students visited the Center for a tour and discussion with some council members.
- Youth Member Update – nothing is happening yet. Outreach will target high schools.

New Business:

- Caren suggested that The Reston Letter is a good resource for PR. Yasmin will contact them to inquire about a potential story on the Center.
- A walk-thru tour of the Center will be scheduled (TBD) to note its appearance and explore areas for improvement.
- Think about nominations for officers – elections are in June (shoot for a slate of nominations in May).
- NCS Volunteer Training for new members – every month a 2-hour virtual NCS training takes place. Please REGISTER! This is mandatory for all Advisory Council Members. (Caren will send a link.)

Adjourn:

Adjourned at 8:20 pm after the motion passed unanimously.