

EQUITY MEETING - January 26th, 2023 | 7pm

Lead: Ben Bauer Notes: Jessica Willman

Attending: Ben Bauer, Melissa Pappas, John Maurer, Joy Gerdes, Jennifer Pawlowicz, Jessica Willman, Kyle Anderson

Welcome/Introductions (5 min) - Ben

- Welcome New Members/Meeting Overview and Engagement
 - Intro, Old Items, New Items, Action Steps
 - All participants are welcome to speak, share ideas/feedback, add to our agenda
 - Introductions: Name/Pronouns
- Board and Equity Committee Overview (for New Board/Committee Members)
 - Board Overview and Question
 - Committee Overview and Questions
 - Equity Membership

New Items

- Community Input (Jessica)
 - [Wraggs Family GoFundMe](#)
 - Committee recommended re-posting on our social media site
 - [SAP Internet Service Providers](#)
 - Discussed the issue. John said that if there was organizing around this, we would definitely support it, but that we didn't have the capacity to start something for this. Melissa recommended that we compile some resources in case people need help paying for these things - this might include:
 - Comcast Discount
 - PCs for People
 - Affordable Connectivity
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/acp>
- Partnership with Environment Committee (Joy)
 - The Environment Committee is wondering if the Equity Committee would be interested in planning the grand opening for the Westgate Commons Park since it's a community building activity. They're looking for a celebration in May or early June.
 - The Environment Committee is interested in highlighting the history of the park (Native Land), signage and interpretive aspects as well as talking about putting together an indigenous art collective.
 - Thought of getting local restaurants - the Lab, food trucks, or other coordination.

- Committee members were excited to get involved, but wary of taking over the planning of it because of capacity. Putting on another event (besides the Ice Cream Social) might be too much. We talked about having the Ice Cream Social at the park and combining the two, which would take care of finances (we already have funding for that event), but folks didn't know about having something planned by May/June.
- Jenn and Joy said they would be interested in meeting to talk about it with Jessica. *Later Kathryn said that she would talk with Land Use about folks helping out*
- Neighborhoods Now Grant Application - Renter's Outreach (Jessica)
 - We submitted the application - would help with translation, community meals, and with the VISTA stipends.
- Union Flats Tenant Meeting Update (Jessica/Jennifer)
 - Semi Trucks: We talked for a while about working with Transportation about the Semi truck issue they've been having. Going to talk to the board and reach out to Mitra to see if there's something we could do.
 - Flyer Issues: Flyers keep getting taken down - have been doing door to door flyering.
 - Committee members wanted to know about meetings in advance so they could attend - will be sending them out as soon as we know.
- Church Leader's Meeting (Jessica)
 - Met with clergy from all over SAP - they were interested in how folks can get involved from a volunteer perspective and also to see where interests align
 - SAP Lutheran has housing as one of their top priorities for this year, so we'll hopefully partner with them on the Renter Issues. They're also looking to have a Housing Forum later this year that we can be a part of.
 - Talked with Kerry from Environment about putting together a volunteer hub for folks to get plugged into.

Old Items

- Homeline VISTA (Jessica) - [Work Plan](#) | [Timeline](#) | [Application](#) (Due Feb 10th)
 - Met with Alec to finish up the application - please look over it. We will be submitting it next week.
- [Approve Goals](#) (Ben)
 - Goals approved unanimously
- [2023 Calendar](#)
 - Possible dates for (Ben)
 - Equity Hangouts - **Feb 16th & May 18th | 6:30pm (Urban Growler)**
 - Garage Sale (with Environment) - **June 8th-11th (Open to Suggestions)**
 - Movie in the Park/Equity Fair (maybe make into a Renter's Gathering) - **July 21st | 5-8pm (Movie starts at 8pm)**

- Ice Cream Social - **September 16th | 3-5pm**
- Community Drive - **November 1-15th (or just one week?)**
- Seal Holiday Meal - **December 2nd | 1pm**

Discussed that having dates, even if they fall through are really nice. Allows us to keep going on with our goals. All the above dates were approved. Discussed the garage sale and potential Movie in the Park. Talked about a community food drive towards the end of the year.

- Funding Sources (Jessica)
 - Budget: \$500 for Equity
 - GNF: \$2,000 (secured)
 - Community Foundation (date not out yet - normally April/May)
 - Church Funding (event dependant - interested in Renter Rights/Community Meals)
 - CEZ (event dependant - interested in Community Meals)
 - Neighborhoods Now Grant: \$9,000 for Tenant Meetings, Translation, Community Meals, Flyer distribution, Renter Events/Forums

Discussed that a lot of this funding is for Renters Rights and how are we planning to expand that. Discussed expanding our Renter Organizing to other buildings, community meals, and translation and the role funding will play for that. Building the community so that once the VISTA is here there's a good base for that.

Wrap Up (5 min)

- Upcoming Events
 - Union Flats Tenant Meeting - Saturday, January 28th | 12:30pm
 - February 16th | Equity Hangout at Urban Growler
 - Equity Committee Meeting - Thursday, February 23rd | 7pm
 - Grant Update (Neighborhoods Now)
 - VISTA Application Update
 - Dominionium Letter - Based on Tenant Asks
- Upcoming Deadlines - February 10th | VISTA Application Due

TASKS

- Jessica, Jenn, and Joy will meet regarding the Westgate Park Opening
- John will talk to Executive and Board about the truck issues and writing a letter
- Jessica and Alec will submit VISTA Application
- Jessica will compile a list of resources for Affordable Internet Options.