

# EQUITY MEETING - February 23rd, 2023 | 7pm

**Lead:** Jessica Willman **Notes:** Jessica Willman

**Attending:** Jessica Willman, Kyle Anderson, Joy Gerdes, Melissa Pappas, Jennifer Pawlowicz

## **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

## **New Items**

- Community Input
  - Union Flats Association Meeting (Jennifer)

***Met on Friday, 3 of the 9 core members showed up - they decided to reach out to Kara about some training now that they're getting clearer on the roles. Next step is to put together some goals for recruitment and what they'd like to see happen next.***

- Church Leader's Meeting (Jessica) - ***cancelled***

***Jessica talked about who was involved in the group and what their goals were. Kyle and Joy said they may want to join the next group meeting in March.***

- Food Equity Opportunities (Kathryn's Email) - reach out to Scott to see what his connections are. Maybe if it's not a huge scale thing, we might be able to do it.

***Folks were interested, but unsure of capacity. For the food recovery, Jessica was going to reach out to Scott to see what relationships already existed, but the timeline was too short to apply for this grant. Maybe get some things started and get funding for next year.***

***The Farmers Market was another area of interest, but unsure of capacity. Seems like a big thing to take on.***

## **Old Items**

- WE GOT THE CURA GRANT!!! \$9,000 for Community/Renter Outreach and Tenant Organizing (including translators, events, community meals and VISTA stipend)

- WE GOT THE VISTA TENANT ORGANIZER!!!! Starting in August they will be split 50/50 with the Hamline Midway Coalition - 20 hours per week each.

\*\*\*\*\*CELEBRATION BREAK\*\*\*\*\*

- [SAP Internet Service Providers](#) - Started a [Resource Sheet](#) - Jessica  
*Mostly pointing to the Internet Accessibility program. Melissa said that PCs for People have their own program, so it would be good to add that on. This will be available for folks if the internet hike does take place.*

- Westgate Park Celebration Update - Joy

*Joy has been talking to folks from the Environment Comm - trying to figure out a date. The second weekend in June is the art festival - so either collaborate with that or avoid it. She has a few people who want to be involved and would like to connect some folks from the apartments around it (Legends, Mulberry Place) - Kyle mentioned later that he could help flyer in the area as he lives in an apartment building by the park. Jessica and Joy will determine the next steps in the next week.*

*Kyle wondered if the city was going to do anything - Joy said she'd check in on that. Jessica said that we normally invite City Council members to these events and they usually come with enough advanced notice.*

*Planning will happen mostly outside of the Equity Meetings with updates in the meetings. Equity members were excited to be involved as the event got closer.*

- [2023 Calendar](#) Upcoming Events
  - Kasota Clean Up SAVE THE DATE - April 15th
    - Great way to get to know community members.
    - Who is able to help that day? (Kyle, Jessica, Joy, Jennifer, Melissa)
    - Rides are a hard one for this event - bus doesn't go there. Jessica and Joy said they would both be okay with giving rides the day of.
  - City-wide Clean Up SAVE THE DATE - April 22nd
    - Located by Seal and Union Flats
    - Potential flyering to get a group from Union Flats/Seal to help - Jennifer and Melissa said they would help get the word out in their buildings
    - Who is able to help that day? Didn't get commitments for this day yet

### Wrap Up (5 min)

- Upcoming Events

- Equity Committee Meeting - Thursday, March 30th | 7pm
  - CURA Grant Timeline
  - Westgate Park Celebration
  - Equity Committee Tabling
- Upcoming Deadlines - March 30th | Good Neighbor Fund Application Due (for Westgate Celebration)

#### **TASKS**

- Jessica will reach out to Scott about food recovery**
- Jessica will send Kyle and Joy information about the Church Leader's Meeting**
- Jessica will add on PCs for People Internet to the resource sheet**
- Joy and Jessica will come up with next steps for the Westgate park event**
- John, where are we at with the truck letter we were looking to write?**