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CITY SECRETARY
DALLAS, TEXAS

OFFICE OF COMMUNITY CARE
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY CENTER
ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

2922 MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. BLVD, BUILDING A – ACTIVITY ROOM A
MONDAY, AUGUST 19, 2019 - 6:30PM

MINUTES

PRESENT

Ms. Elaine Sacks
Ms. Candace E. Wicks
Ms. Amanda Johnson
Rev. Donna Slater
Mr. Asa Woodberry
Mrs. LaSheryl L. Walker
Ms. Johnnie Goins
Mrs. Clara Brown-Trimble
Ms. Venester J. Haywood
Mrs. Michelle Espinal-Embler
Mrs. Shari Hicks

ABSENT

Mr. Aaron Johnson
Mrs. Nancy Latner

VACANT POSITIONS

2
9

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. COMMUNITY CENTER STAFF PRESENT

Pamela R. Jones, Division Manager
LaRhonda Bacon, Coordinator II

CITY OF DALLAS PRESENT

Jamel Slaughter, Program Administrator
Zena Palmer, Manager

CALL TO ORDER/WELCOME

Chair Hicks called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

INVOCATION

Board Member Slater prayed for everyone and the decorum of the meeting.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was completed by Zena Palmer.

INTRODUCTION

Chair Hicks introduced Dr. Jamel Slaughter, Program Administrator for the Office of Community Care. She gave him a moment to introduce himself.

APPROVAL OF JUNE 24, 2019 MINUTES

Board Member Sacks motioned to approve the June 24, 2019 minutes as written. Board Member Woodberry seconded.

CHAIR REPORT

- Update: 2019 Audit
An email was sent from the auditor's office several weeks ago to all board members. They have only heard back from 3-4 people and were hoping to get more participation, so if you haven't had a chance to reach out, please contact Shino Knowles at (214) 670-5868 or shino.knowles@dallascityhall.com. Once the audit is complete, the report will go to staff, then back to the Chair for dissemination to all board members.

UPDATE: 2020 MLK PARADE AND GALA

Staff is working on a calendar of events for the celebration. The contract was sent to the City Attorney's Office today to secure the hotel and date for the gala. 20 emails were sent out and only 2 proposals were received; one from the Anatole and the other from the Statler. The price for the Anatole before settlement and regress of \$55,000 was dropped to \$38,000. The Statler was \$85,000. At that time, a celebration committee meeting had not been scheduled. If anyone has any suggested speaker recommendations, please send all suggestions to Ms. Pamela Jones.

The gala is Saturday, January 18, 2020 at 6:30pm with the parade set for Monday, January 20, 2019.

CENTER MANAGER'S REPORT

- Clients Served

Center Manager, Pam Jones, provided an overview on social services and tenant programs for the months of June and July. For the month of June, the Social Services Program total number of clients assisted with financial, food, referrals and donations were 3,180. Financial assistance for 36 individuals totaled approximately \$27,971. (A breakdown section of the financial assistance was included).

For the month of July, the Social Services Program total number of clients assisted with financial, food, referrals and donations were 2,284. Financial assistance for 36 individuals totaled approximately \$18,919. There were no special events because there was not enough funding.

- Tenant Program Highlights

In June, the Black Chamber of Commerce hosted a successful golf tournament to raise funds for their scholarship program. The ChildCare Group plans on being open year-round starting in 2020. During the summer the organization will only accept children from infants up to head start. Family Care Connections has increased their visibility at the MLK Center, compared to previous years, which has also increased their number of client's served. For HG Consulting/Senior Year Production, 86% of students given their SAT Pre-test scored 1200+. The MLK Dallas Civil Rights Museum produced a Juneteenth Banner, now on permanent display, but was displayed at a number of events in June.

Board Member Goins questioned what EPN – Pan Handing was and wants more information on the program. She is concerned about the underserved and poor. Chair Hicks mentioned a typo under HG Consulting/Senior Year Production for Tenants with Lease Agreements. ACT should be changed to SAT.

In July, the Black Chamber of Commerce welcomed their new president, Harrison Blair, and were preparing a lot of new initiatives. Empowering the Masses started their phlebotomy class. For Turner 12 Inc., their 6-week Summer of Choice program was successful with the help of Nissan, MLK, Jr. Community Center, Benchmark Bank and UNT Dallas staff. A banquet was held at the MLK Recreation Center where students shared their learning experience with parents and stakeholders.

Judge Amber Givens-Davis used the MLK Dallas Civil Rights Museum to conduct an interview with NBC Channel 5 as a response to public remarks about her hairstyle. Board Member Goins wants information on the input of the new produce production on Wednesday and Sunday's. As of last Saturday, 3,500 individuals were served. Sometimes the left-over fruits and vegetables are given to community partners. Board Member Walker suggested St. Philips School and Community Center as another community partner since they

have a food pantry. Chair Hicks would like a note under the financial assistance breakdown for Reliant and TXU Energy that states the Center is out of funds, so it is not assumed the Center is not serving anyone.

- **Budget Town Hall Schedule**

Budget Town Hall meetings started on August 15th and will extend until August 29th. The meetings will consist of staff from all the City departments just in case the community has specific questions.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ms. Jones mentioned the 2nd Annual Can We Talk “Youth Conference” on September 14th in the foyer from 9:30am-2:00pm. The Day of Dignity will be held on September 21st from 9:30am-2:00pm in partnership with Islamic Relief USA. Day of Dignity is an event for everyone no matter where you live, your background or income, to receive information, products, cloths and food from numerous vendors free of charge.

Board Member Wicks and Vice-Chair Haywood praised staff for doing a magnificent job on the Back to School event. Out of the 3,000 backpacks that were put together, 1,800 were served. The number is still counting because staff is still allowing people to come to social services. The Center opened today from 9:00am-4:00pm for the parents who couldn’t make it there due to their work schedule. Vice-Chair Haywood especially thanked Center Coordinator, LaRhonda Bacon, for her management and oversight of the event.

Vice-Chair Haywood attended both the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center and West Dallas Multipurpose Center’s Back to School events. She spoke to CBS Channel 11, along with Reliant Energy, about the Community Center. While at the sister center, she invited vendors to reach out to the Ms. Jones about coming to the Center. Board Member Sacks commended the Wells Fargo volunteers for their work done and would recommend them for Best Volunteer. Several volunteers mentioned they would like to continue their work on their personal time.

Ms. Jones mentioned there is now two security officers at the Center from 8:00am-10:00pm. Board Member Espinal-Embler would like to advocate for the Center, so she requested an itemized line budget of next year’s needs. A full list will be distributed to the board later in the week after staff discusses. Security cameras, flood lights and signage are needed. If 3 or 4 can’t be bought at once, it was suggested to add in increments of 1 or 2 according to the budget. Chair Hicks will follow-up with staff to understand the process and expectation on how the information in the annual report is relayed.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ADJOURNMENT

Board Member Goins made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Board Member Sacks seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

Approval of Minutes:

Shari Hicks
Printed Name

 09-16-2019
Signature and Date