

**Rockwood Weed & Seed Steering Committee Meeting**  
**Minutes-03/20/03**

**Attending:** Gloria Wiggins, Kathie Minden, Eugene Hayes, Angie Hayes, Alvin Kimble, Tory Paul Mitchell, Polly Burton, Beth Faulhaber, Rich Pierce, Chris McCormack, Patti Swanson, Dina DiNucci, Paulette Keller, Corrie Coston, Ivan Cortes, Meghan Mahaffy, Robyn Gregory, Karen Cusick, Pat Kunert, Sherri Luru, Steve Cooper, Brenda Butler

**Approval of Minutes:** The Rockwood Weed & Seed Steering Committee Minutes of 02/20/03 were approved with minor corrections.

**Community Issues Impacting Rockwood Update:**

-School Aged Policy Framework – new structure of aligning services through the County for children and families. The services will be school-based and school-linked. ‘We’ are in the design and implementation phase for core funding. The intent is to streamline funding and reduce duplication of services in the County. A main issue is equity – assuring all regions get funding that they need. Gloria is a representative of the Coalition of Communities of Color. The design will be presented to the Board of County Commissioners on April 16. For more information, visit <http://www.ourcommission.org/policyplan/ppsapf.shtm>.

-Regarding Law Enforcement: Rich said due to the warmer weather, there has been an increase in activity. The Gang Unit and its work are to be re-evaluated April 1. Rich sees no reason why it shouldn’t continue. Gresham Police Dept. is implementing a car prowl project in order to identify prime vehicles for theft. This will be advertised city-wide mostly by putting flyers on vehicles’ windshields.

-Kathie Minden – the Oregon Association for Minority Entrepreneurs (OAME) is preparing for their incubator’s opening. It might be open by spring/early summer.

-Rockwood-West Gresham Urban Renewal – due to Daughter of 28 to be on the County’s ballot for the May 20<sup>th</sup> elections, Urban Renewal will NOT appear on any ballot that day. The Council is looking to either refer the item to September’s or November’s ballot. For more information please contact Dennis Anderson, a volunteer for Community Outreach on Urban Renewal at (503) 225-5725.

**Coordinator’s Report:**

Brenda has been attending meetings throughout the community, including presenting to the Rockwood Kiwanis and the Gresham Breakfast Lions. She has also established new connections which may lead to working with the Summer Feeding Program, Habitat for Humanity, and the S.M.A.R.T. program.

Brenda requested that the Committee discuss the boundaries of the W&S Site. Brenda will ask EOWS about revising the boundaries of the SW corner. There may be rules about minimum population, site lying within two jurisdictions, etc. Some concerns were

mentioned about not recognizing services/resources that are being offered within that SW corner and those services/resources that are needed to be addressed.

Two issues came up at the Application Conference. 1. The Committee discussed establishing communication and PR guidelines that include how the Coordinator and SC Members and W&S Volunteers represent Weed & Seed within the community. All partners should have the same information to present and present it in similar manners. It's important to be cognizant of how we represent Weed & Seed. *(This is a sample/rough statement which Brenda created since the 3/20 meeting: "Weed & Seed is a strategy established by the U.S. Dept. of Justice intended to 'weed out' undesirable elements in a targeted area of the community and then 'seed' the area by restoring it with positive programs, activities, education of resources in order to improve the quality of life. After much hard work and collaboration of many, Rockwood Weed & Seed was recognized as an official site in January of 2002 and funding was awarded January of 2003. Recognition lasts for five years; a site can re-apply for funding during each of those years on an annual basis. For more information, visit [www.weedandseedoregon.org](http://www.weedandseedoregon.org) or call 503-816-1530.")*

2. The Committee discussed background checks for Volunteers/Members. EOWS does have a policy in place. Screening of people working with children is an important element of managing a Safe Haven and other youth-focused activities and is required by a special condition of the Weed & Seed grant. Do we need to consider a policy for others who may not be working with youth but are still working in the name of W&S? A background check policy was discussed for those who work with vulnerable populations and youth. Perhaps this is an issue that can be discussed further among the Law Enforcement Subcommittee.

Please present to Brenda any brainstorming ideas anyone may have for an official W&S Kick-Off!

### **Subcommittees:**

**The W&S Executive Committee** will meet Wednesday, April 9 at 3:00pm in the Police Chief's Conference Room at the Gresham Police Dept.

**Community Policing and Law Enforcement Subcommittees (LE/CP)** met Wednesday, 3/12. It's been clarified that a match is not required in order to continue W&S funding.

Beth & Brenda clarified the allowed budget amount for overtime per year. DOJ law enforcement agency policy limits maximum reimbursement for overtime to state and local agencies at a rate equivalent to \$10,901 per officer, per year. This requirement applies to all federally-funded task forces. This limit on reimbursement does not affect the actual pay rate set by the parent agency for its state/local officers: the parent agency should still pay officers at its own rate, whether or not the Federal reimbursement covers the full amount. Rich and Brenda will be discussing changes to this year's budget due to

the change in terms, but regardless the budget for overtime will most likely increase in order to support the W&S strategies.

The LE/CP Subcommittee will meet on Tuesday, April 1 at 1pm at the GPD.

**Neighborhood Restoration Subcommittee** met Tuesday, Feb. 25.

The Subcommittee is trying to prioritize the strategy and the objectives. The Subcommittee is discussing ways to address the multi-family housing issues throughout Rockwood. Dina is in contact with the Metro Multifamily Housing Council. A tentative date for Stone Soup/Rock Soup Event is Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>. Fred Meyer's parking lot is a possible venue. PAL has agreed to assist with liability insurance. Moore Excavation is interested in attending for an opportunity for job recruitment.

NEWSLETTER: Alvin Kimble presented a proposal to the Committee as possible ideas and methods to implement and create a Rockwood Community Newsletter. There was an open discussion about the newsletter, how it could look arriving at all Rockwood homes. The proposal at-first-glance and more ideas and concerns were also discussed. If you have any questions about the proposal or the newsletter, contact Alvin ([alvin@askdesign.com](mailto:alvin@askdesign.com)) or Brenda ([seed@palkids.org](mailto:seed@palkids.org)).

**Intervention/Prevention Subcommittee** will meet Monday, April 7 @ 1pm at the PAL Youth Center.

**Gresham Community Court (GSCC):**

-Robyn Gregory reported the following: GSCC started on March 11; offenders were given the option of choosing CC on that date. On Tuesday, April 1 (10:00am), offenders will plea their case as well as be arraigned for the Community Court eligible offenses. All are welcome to attend. GSCC takes place at the one and only Gresham Courtroom: 150 W. Powell.

-15 court cases were eligible. 7 offenders showed up. All accepted offer of GSCC.

-El Programa Hispano might be able to receive those to serve their community service hours as volunteers.

-Sherri mentioned the concern for the cut of the Youth Diversion Program. Even though GSCC is currently only for adults, Chris agreed to look into what is happening with the youth offenders. Brenda asked Chris to report back to her what he finds out.

-Robyn may invite the media to cover the opening plea date, April 1. Brenda will have a logo sign provided by Tory in order for W&S to be represented clearly.

**Conferences:**

- A. Brenda and Beth attended the DEFY and Application Kit Workshop March 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. The next application for FY03-04 funding is due April 15<sup>th</sup> to the US Attorney's Office, due to April 30 to EOWS.//Within this application, we have the opportunity to apply for Special Emphasis Initiative funding of \$50,000. You can find more information and brainstorm with Brenda by visiting: [www.ojp.usdoj.gov/eows/funding.htm](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/eows/funding.htm). Click on Supplemental Materials under '1)', available in PDF or TEXT.//Brenda mentioned that at the time EOWS is

reviewing our application, if they find that enough monies are not being spent on time, they may ask us for an expenditure plan for the remaining FY02-03 funds. EOWS may recommend, at some point, an extension in order to allow enough time to spend those monies.

- B. 5<sup>th</sup> National Weed & Seed Conference: (Memorial Day weekend, Sunday through Wednesday). 2 other spaces are available. If someone is interested in attending a conference, and coming back to the Weed & Seed meeting to report, please contact Brenda. Other Conference details:

Weed and Seed 2003 National Conference  
Working Together Works  
Albuquerque, New Mexico  
May 25-28, 2003

- Select your site delegation of no more than four representatives\*. Recommended attendees are:
  - Site Coordinator (Brenda)
  - Law Enforcement Coordinator (Rich)
  - Steering Committee Member
  - Community/Neighborhood Resident

\*Additional participants will be placed on a wait list and will be accommodated on a space available basis.

- In addition to the site delegation above, the U.S. Attorneys and/or their representative will be invited to attend.
- Each site will make their own hotel and travel arrangements. Registration deadlines will be announced mid-March. (Brenda will arrange.)
- All registration details and conference information will be announced in mid-March and will be available on the EOWS web site ([www.ojp.usdoj.gov/eows](http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/eows)). Online reservations will be accepted at that time. A tentative agenda at a glance is also available now.
- All conference expenses, to include travel and hotel accommodations, will be paid by each site and may be paid using site grant funds.
- There will be 110 exhibit booths available, on a "first come - first served basis" for sites who want to highlight their "Best Practices."

**Evaluation Plan Update:** Maura & Brenda will meet w/ Brian Renauer, March 21.

**Nomination Form** was discussed.

**Steering Committee** will meet on Thursday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at Portland Lutheran School Library. 740 SE 182<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, between Stark & Yamhill.

- Enter through the first gate and park along the fence line or in the parking lot. The library is to the right of the fence line. It is an odd shaped building between 2 red brick buildings.
- PLS's library has also been secured for the May 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.