

## **Rockwood Weed & Seed Steering Committee Minutes** **Thursday, May 27, 2004; 5:00PM Portland Lutheran School**

**I. Welcome and Introductions** IN ATTENDANCE: Kristen West, Gene Hayes, Angeline Hayes, Brenda Butler, Kathy Minden, Ivan Cortes, Rich Pierce, Gloria Wiggins, Helen Estrada, Pat Kunert, May Cha, Sarada Boland, Chris Piekarski, Laura Adania, Alicia Lopez, Ken Snider, Pat Snider, Gayle Brooks, Virginia Warren.

### **II. Approval of March Minutes**

- Chris motioned, Helen seconded, motion passed

### **III. Collaborators' and Partners' Reports and Updates**

- Soccer Cup @ RHS – Ivan – It was a successful event, 13 teams (men, women & youth) participated on 5/8 & 5/9. Trophies were given to winners. Ivan would like to hold another one in the summertime.
- Poder es Salud – Alicia – She continues to work on the Power for Health activities within Rockwood Landing & Station, Barberry Village & Riviera Gardens. The Voices in the Community photo exhibition may occur the week of 6/16. Rockwood Landing wants to set up a Neighborhood/Apartment Watch. UP & COMING – JUNE 12<sup>TH</sup> – 8:30am – 12:30pm @ Barberry Village – Health Fair, mini-volleyball tournament and mime entertainment (Free eye exams, blood pressure checks, etc.)
- County Budget 2004-2005 – ALL -- There were a lot of concerns with the county budget. Commissioner Roberts' office is working hard to get dollars for East County.
  - Chris – The East County DA's office might be in trouble. Please call all the commissioners and stress the importance of our presence in the community. (*County budget has been approved since 5/27 and it is confirmed that the DA will NOT be cut.*)
  - Laura -- Rockwood Neighborhood Health Access Center -- we provide preventative health services for those with no insurance (immunizations, women's health, family planning, well-child checkups, and breast/cervical cancer). It appears that it will not be closing after all, but rather be open a couple days/week. (*County budget has been approved since 5/27 and it is confirmed that the Center will NOT close.*)
- Gresham Police Department – Rich – surveys were distributed at Rock Soup (English/Spanish and we'll be seeking out to get Russian done). The survey asks questions like; do you feel safe in your neighborhood? How often do you hear gun shots? What is the primary crime in your neighborhood? drugs, gangs, theft, etc. We did the survey at Rock Soup 2003 but it wasn't directed towards the age groups that we would like. When the folks filled out the survey they were entered in a drawing for a new bike, so in turn, mostly kids filled it out. We are working on rectifying this situation. Surveys will continue to be distributed by the CSSs to apartment tenants.

The Bike Patrol is growing. Out of 58 GPD officers, 21 of them are certified and 7 more went through training this week. On 5/29, Bike officers will ride around Stark/Yamhill/190<sup>th</sup> 'hood and establish some presence. The Gang Enforcement Unit now (for the summer, at least) consists of three full-time officers (Hogan, Wheeler & Hardy). 2 SROs (one Gresham and one Troutdale) will assist the team periodically throughout the summer. Fairview has also agreed to lend a hand on some patrol shifts.

- Rockwood Bus Tour – Kathie – It was a great turnout (about 50 people). The bus was a little late but it ended up being better than planned because everyone networked in the parking lot. It was a powerful and encouraging tour to see all the potential for the community.
- Rock Soup 2004 – Brenda/ALL -- It really went well. Thank you all for your support; we couldn't have done it without you! Everyone added their ingredients. The soup and beverages were yummy! Gene emphasized that WE NEED MORE VOLUNTEERS to help with set up and take down. Brenda will be talking to Dina about further follow-up to the event. We had it in conjunction with Rockwood's International Marketplace at the Kaiser site.
- Information is available in various languages for the Marketplace: [www.eastcountyonestop.org/marketplace/](http://www.eastcountyonestop.org/marketplace/) -Overall it was a good turnout. The weather didn't cooperate the whole weekend but it was still a good event. The Marketplace also needs more volunteers. For questions contact Joan Pasco at 503-661-3981 or email her at [jpasco@lstop.org](mailto:jpasco@lstop.org).
- Human Solutions – Helen -- There will be a new Human Solutions office opening in Gresham on June 3, 2004. (501 NE Hood, Gresham – 503.988.4531) They currently have money to assist homeless people into proper housing so they can then support themselves. UP & COMING: They are holding a golf tournament as a fundraiser (8am on June 22<sup>nd</sup>, Persimmon Golf Course). If you are interested, contact Vynette at 503-988-5200.
- OR Employment Dept. – Virginia – They kicked off a new system, IMatch, in April. All employment benefits services will be managed out of the Bend, Milwaukie and Eugene offices.
- “A Day in Vance Park” event will take place on Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 2:30-5pm. Come and join in the fun. There will be trees planted, tiles painted, food and entertainment. For more information contact Sari Toplin 503-577-8670.
- People for Parks – A PFP Intern will be joining us in July. The Children's Play Equipment Project is underway. We break ground in September. The OR National Guard has agreed to assist.
- UP & COMING -- The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Celebration of Culture, also in conjunction with the Int'l Marketplace – August 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be a fashion show; contact Brenda if you have ideas about adding glitter and spunk to the festival!
- El Programa Hispano – Gloria -- is opening a Portland office on Sandy Blvd and 17<sup>th</sup>. (Hispanic Access closed.) There are jobs available so talk to Gloria Wiggins if you are interested. A special thanks to Reynolds School District for restoring the funds for the retention specialist. 80 families went to a meeting to advocate for EPH. RHS Latino Parent received a scholarship to attend the LA RAZA conference.
- MCTV – Ken – All are welcome to submit information to our MCTV Community Bulletin Board; we prefer 3 weeks advance notice. [cbb@mctv.org](mailto:cbb@mctv.org)

#### **IV. Conference Feedback**

- Brenda – The former 'EOWS' now lies under the Community Capacity Development Office (CCDO) of OJP as OWS – Office of Weed & Seed. The Acting Director, Bob Samuels, ends his term in June and Nelson Hernandez is now the CCDO Director.

IMPORTANT NOTE -- We met with the OWS Project Manager (Mark Sakaley) and talked about future funding for Weed & Seed sites. The Official Recognition gives a

site the option of being funded for 5 years. They used to allow for Expansion sites, but now the rules have changed and new sites can only share one boundary with the old W&S site. Basically, it seems that we couldn't stay in Rockwood for another 5 years. Also, another change they indicated is that a site's minimum population has to be 3,000; the minimum used to be 1,000.

SAMHSA reps. were in Buffalo (just as they were in Dallas) emphasizing that Weed & Seed sites should take note of the \$15 million available in these next three years for grant opportunities.

## **V. Video Presentation**

- “La Sombra de la Cocina” – “The Shadow of the Kitchen”  
Produced by Rosa Shayo Dominguez & Monserrat Mendoza Martinez, and supported by MCTV & the RWS/MCDCJ opportunity fund mini-grant. GREAT WORK, EVERYONE!!! To see this nine minute documentary, contact Brenda.

## **VI. Conference Opportunity**

- Weed and Seed Youth Summer Camp: A Training Ground for Leaders of the Hip Hop Generation – June 17-20, 2004 – Snowbird Resort near Salt Lake City, Utah. We can send 2 youth between the ages 14-18 that are involved in the community and one adult. The Steering Committee agreed that it would be a great use of RWS travel funds to send Rockwood representatives. It was suggested that the video producers be considered and Gloria agreed to talk to Gerardo to inquire about it with the girls.

## **VII. Reminder of Pending Applications**

- a. AmeriCorps Member RFP – Oregon State Service Corps (direct service)  
APPLICATION INFORMATION:

- Member's Position – Family and Community Involvement Specialist
- Program Focus Areas:
  - Public Safety Summary – Member will develop a referral system for youth and their parents/family members to participate in family involvement courses called 'Talking It Out' and 'Parent Project'. Member will coordinate logistics of course delivery, etc.
  - Other Human Needs Summary – Member will help to coordinate five community events with the main focuses on recruitment of community participation in those events and rebuilding the neighborhood, improving the everyday quality of life.
- Program Goals:
  - Reduce juvenile crime and overall crime rates. Improve parenting skills and parent-child relationships. Decrease school drop-out rates.
  - Reduce fear of crime. Define tools to address current public safety concerns to strengthen neighborhoods. Empower neighbors to recognize assets and develop them further to create a more livable community.

### **TIMELINE:**

- April 19<sup>th</sup> – Application submitted (MCDCJ agrees to provide match)

- June 1<sup>st</sup> – CNCS informs OSSC of 04-05 funding (If OSSC is not selected in the first round in June, final notification from CNCS may not come until July.)
- June 7<sup>th</sup> – Sponsors notified of status (target date) **TARGET DATE HAS NOW BEEN CHANGED TO 6/21 (as of 6/7).**
- August 6<sup>th</sup> – Member recruitment and selection deadline
- July & August (exact dates TBD) – OSSC Sponsor Orientation (required)
- September 7<sup>th</sup> – Members attend OSSC Orientation (projected)
- September 13<sup>th</sup> – Members start service at sponsor site (projected)

b. Continuation Application (TOTAL = \$224,960) 2004-2005

TIMELINE:

- April 29<sup>th</sup> – Application submitted – drafts are currently on website; final versions will be there next week.

From last year's experience:

- JULY – received response from an analyst with the Office of the Comptroller – replied to clarification requests of budget items.
- SEPTEMBER – received approval notice of application for funding to begin October 1.

c. SPECIAL EMPHASIS (portion of Continuation Application = \$49,994)

1. Included continued request for support to Gresham Community Court
  - Social Services Case Manager
  - Community Service Agency Placement Specialist
2. Prevention Specialty Programs: Conflict Resolution
  - Continued commitment to address reduction of juvenile crime and other issues mentioned with AmeriCorps RFP.
  - Create and implement a program (like diversion) for youth and their parents and families to engage in to avoid additional criminal mischief-type activity, decrease the school drop-out rate and increase the involvement of parents and families in the lives of our youth.
  - Financially support supplies, materials, bus tickets and staff for providing the 'Talking It Out' and 'Parent Project' courses.

PLEASE notify Brenda if you want to be part of this NEW Special Emphasis planning process.

**VIII. The Executive Committee will gather on Wednesday, June 9<sup>th</sup> at 8:45am.**

**IX. Next Meeting Thursday, June 17, 5-7PM at Portland Lutheran School  
COME ONE, COME ALL! ☺**