

Rockwood Weed and Seed Steering Committee
Thursday, September 16, 2004; 5:00pm
Portland Lutheran School Library

- I. **Welcome and Introductions** IN ATTENDANCE: Kathie Minden, Mary Lou Begert, Helen Estrada, Chris Piekarski, Cheryl Houston, Virginia Warren, Patti Swanson, Angeline Hayes, Gene Hayes, Brenda Butler, Dina DiNucci, Gloria Wiggins, Rich Pierce, Kristen West, Tricia Harding, Maria Avila, Rebecca Ocken, Scott Hogan.
- II. **Approval of August Minutes:** One note from the August RWS Meeting Minutes – Sophia Vargas from the Oregon Employment Department (Gresham Office) announced an in-house recruitment for local home improvement store with multiple positions as well as openings with a Camas, WA employer. Visit www.workinginoregon.org or call 503-669-7112. Chris motioned, Patti seconded. August RWS minutes were approved, w/ changes.
- III. **Partner Updates: (around the table)**
- **Rockwood International Marketplace** – Brenda reminded everyone to come join the festivities at the Rockwood International Marketplace on September 18th and 19th. The Marketplace runs from 10am to 8pm on Saturday and from 11am to 7pm on Sunday. This is the LAST WEEKEND (for 2004) for the Marketplace! We will be celebrating Mexican Independence Day – Be there!
 - **Yamhill Early Head Start Open House** – Everyone is invited to the Open House which will be held at MHCC 19309 SE Yamhill on September 23rd from 4-6pm. Tours and refreshments will be provided. Guest speakers include MHCC President, Dr. Robert Silverman as well as the Mayor of Gresham, Charles Becker. Come and see what Early Head Start is all about!
 - **People for Parks** –Kathie Minden updated us on Vance Park. A bulldozer broke ground on Tuesday, September 14. There were four Oregon National Guardsmen helping out. Friday night, fences will go up and the World map and U.S. map are underway. The park will be complete by November. Beth Ragel is working on the People for Parks website and it should be up by late November. There will be a People for Parks Board Meeting at the Reynolds School District Building on October 21st. There will be discussion regarding a logo as well as the possible areas to cover. Also, let's not forget about Winter Wonderland Walk...its going to be that time of year again soon!
 - **Latino Network – new community groups have formed!** Maria and Alicia helped to organize a group of concerned citizens that live in the Barberry Apartments; this group wants to organize a health fair. Also, the Apartment Watch group that formed wants to organize a clean-up fair for Rockwood Landing, Rockwood Station and Riviera Garden Apartments.
 - **Eastwind** – Programs at Rockwood Station – Tutorials will be provided on Wednesdays coming soon. The Tuesday hang-out is going really well. It is for high school aged kids and younger. There is a good sized group of middle schoolers who are showing up so now so we may need to expand the program.

Family mediation is also available for teen/middle school aged kids and their parents or guardians at Eastwind. For more information about these programs, please contact Patti.

- **Mt. Hood Legacy Health Fair** – Gloria Wiggins reminded everyone of the Health Fair from 10am-2pm on Saturday, 9/18. Children will be able to get vaccines there for only \$20. The event is held at the Mt. Hood Legacy Hospital on Stark and 248th. Bike helmets will be given away, someone will check children's car seats and the GPD is handing out more than 500 gun safety locks.
- **Ceasefire Oregon Annual Gun Turn-In** – This event will take place on October 2nd and October 9th from 10am-2pm. When you turn in a gun you will get a gift certificate or other incentive. Kids can also turn in toy guns in exchange for other toys. This is a **NO QUESTIONS ASKED** event so everyone should feel comfortable turning in their guns. It will be held at the 192nd and Halsey Fire Department (as well as other sites throughout the metropolitan area.)
- **GPD** – Rich informed us that he has scheduled bike officers to patrol on Sat. and Sun. at the Marketplace. Bike Patrol in Rockwood has been limited because officers are getting scheduled for overtime in other places (ex: homicide in Fairview). Regarding that homicide, the Gang Violence Response Team worked with Fairview and Troutdale to form an East County Major Crimes Team. This team was very efficient and made two arrests in less than 36 hours! Great Job!!!
- **El Programa Hispano** – Gloria informed us that EPH and the GPD were awarded a VOCA (Victims of Crimes Act) grant to help stop domestic violence. The grant will fund one 0.8 FTE by El Programa Hispano (a Safety Advocate).
- **Human Solutions** – Miriam from Human Solutions sent a big thank you to RWS via Helen for helping her go to the domestic violence conference in Minnesota. It was very helpful.
- **RWS has been granted another year of funding!** – We were granted \$224,960 and received the letter from the Office of Weed & Seed on 9/14/2004. Most of this new money is for enhancement of ongoing activities; however we do need to set up the Parent Involvement/Education program (Special Emphasis funds). Because we have funds that have not yet been charged to the grant (approximately \$130,000 from the last two years), we will apply for a no-cost extension. Much of the money is allocated, just not charged (to Community Court and the GPD, for example). However, we need to brainstorm some possibilities for how we want to proceed with 'past' projects such as the community newsletter, hotline and the GCC Emergency Services Fund.
- **Brenda promised a wealth of good news...** and she continues... her and her husband, Jerry, are expecting their first child in March, 2005! The pregnancy has been going well and the baby will arrive just in time to write a grant. ☺ Which means, she will need your help in planning for the '05-'06 application a little earlier this year – PLEASE PLAN TO ATTEND JANUARY'S MEETING TO INCLUDE YOUR INPUT AND SUGGESTIONS!

IV. Back to School Fair 2004 Report (See full report at the end of these minutes.)

- The Fair was a great success! Each student was obligated to sign-in before receiving supplies. This was to ensure that people were not continually returning

for more goods. There were 345 students who received supplies, with the majority of them being in elementary school. 43 schools were represented; most participants attend a school within Reynolds School District.

- There were some supplies left over and Brenda would like to know what RWS would like to do with them. It was decided that we would bag up 30 bags of supplies and split the bags between the Home of God Church and Romanian Apostolic Church. These groups were not well represented, due to the event being held on their Sabbath and we thought the churches could get the supplies out to those who need it. Reynolds School District has the capacity to take on the rest of them and RWS agreed to give them to the district for distribution as needed.
- There were a few improvements that we need to remember for next year. How can we be sure to include students of all faiths? Can we tie it in with another community event earlier in the 'season'? It would probably be a good idea to have the bags ready with the fliers in them, that way things would move faster. Also we need to brainstorm a better way to do the raffles. It was getting a little crazy! Overall it went extremely well. Good Work Brenda!!!

V. Rockwood Urban Design and Redevelopment Plan

- Rebecca Ocken came to inform RWS of the Rockwood Urban Design and Redevelopment Plan. The group is looking at the Rockwood Triangle (181st, Burnside, and Stark). The City of Gresham was awarded two grants totaling more than \$100,000 to create a new vision for the Rockwood Town Center. The project has participation from Oregon Solutions (a group from the Governor's Office) and the city of Gresham. The plan hopes to bring businesses to Rockwood.
- A design workshop is scheduled for October 13th through the 16th to create a vision for the Rockwood Town Center. You're invited to attend! If there are any questions or concerns regarding this project please contact Rebecca Ocken at 503-618-2756 or rebecca.ocken@ci.gresham.or.us
- If you'd like to have a copy of the handout that Rebecca provided, please feel free to contact Brenda. "Rockwood Urban Design and Redevelopment Plan"

VI. Discuss Next Month's Agenda

- Brenda asked if RWS wanted a briefing on the outcome of the East County Justice Facility pre-planning meetings. It was decided that there is an appropriate time and place to discuss the Justice Center and RWS is not one of them.
- Eastwind staff have been invited to attend October's meeting to tell us about their Youth Gang Outreach program (and possibly mediation).

VII. Next Steering Committee Meeting - Thursday, October 21st, 5-7PM at Portland Lutheran School Library (740 SE 182nd)

Make a note for future meetings: November 18 – Portland Lutheran School

December 16 – cancelled

PLEASE ATTEND! → January 20 – (tentatively) Rockwood Library

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