

Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council

Meeting Minutes September 10, 2019

Meeting was opened by President Linda Hillesheim at 12:00 noon

Opening Prayer – Steve Roberts

Introductions were made.

June Minutes were approved with one correction

Financial report by Treasurer Warren Marquardson. (See EISCC.net for current financials).

Lunch was provided by

Congregations for Kids ---Nancy Jacobs gave an update on this year's Good Start Back to School project which supplies backpacks and school supplies to low income families in the Bellevue School District for the coming school year. This year's, project the 24th annual one, provided 1726 backpacks or school supply kits to Bellevue schools. Backpacks and supplies cost around \$42 per student.

EISCC Workshop on Affordable Housing – Saturday, October 12 –9 A.M. to 3 P.M. St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Bellevue Elizabeth Maupin reported work is going forward in the planning of this event cosponsored by EISCC and ARCH bringing together faith congregations on the Eastside and those representing municipalities, to share ways for congregations to address the need for affordable housing. A flyer is attached to these minutes. If interested, please register so we can plan appropriately. Volunteers to help are needed. To volunteer please email to info@eiscc.net You can also register for the event at EISCC.net

Board nominations for the upcoming EISCC year

President	Steve Roberts
Past President	Linda Hillesheim
Treasurer	Warren Marquardson
Secretary	Farida Hakim
Member at large	Elizabeth Maupin

Election of new officers will be a the October 8th general meeting

Presentation

CONGREGATIONS FOR THE HOMELESS (CFH)

PRESENTERS ---RYAN MURK, SARAH BUSTAD

Ryanm@cfhomeless.org, 206-818-8482 Sarahb@cfhomeless.org, 425-633-9334

Ryan opened with a reminder that CFH was founded by EISCC in 1992 and opened its first shelter at St. Margaret's in 1993. Since then lots of changes. That first shelter called the Rotating shelter is still going strong with 12 congregations hosting the shelter and many other congregations providing food and support.

The winter shelter which started in 2008 has found a semi-permanent home at Lincoln Center 515 116th Ave NE in Bellevue and has been operating for six months each Winter. The City of Bellevue has been supporting a move to a year round shelter at that location if sprinklers could be provided. CFH under the leadership of Kevin Wallace has raised over \$700,000 to install those sprinklers and the construction to install them is underway. In the meantime, the City has convinced Cloudivue, the owner of the old Bellevue First Congregational Church property to temporarily house the men at night until the Lincoln Center building is completed.

The Day center which first opened in 2013 is open at the Lincoln Center Sunday through Thursday, 8 until 3pm then reopens at seven to receive the men staying the night. When the Lincoln center construction is complete all men will sleep there and the Day center will be open every day so the shelter will be in operation 24 hours 7 days a week. For those interested in staying at the shelter they should come to the Lincoln Center a 7PM any night.

Sarah also reported that CFH will expand their mental health services for shelter and day center guests. This will be in addition to the addiction support, job placement, case managements, legal assistance, and hygiene services at the Day center and shelter.

Ryan reported on the 70 housing units operated by CFH with funding from King County. These units are in leased houses where 5 men and a house manager all live. This creates a real sense of community and gives men the chance of sobriety and moving out of homelessness. CFH also operates the first of their On and Up houses which do not receive King County funds and therefore can be clean and sober and provide additional assistance for men committed to leaving homelessness.

Ryan shared the CFH program of how a man is first contacted and then can move to stable living, a diagram of which is attached to these minutes. He related a touching story of a man who lived under a bridge for many years but now with effective relationship building by CFH staff has moved inside and is now living in the Rotating shelter on his way out of homelessness.

Sarah filled us in on the Permanent shelter being built by CFH in a location near the Humane Society on Eastgate Way in Bellevue. This shelter which has been in the planning process since 2014 is about ready to announce next steps. She asked for help with meals for the new year round shelter and directed us the CFHomeless.org website to find the meal calendar and all necessary information.

Sarah also encouraged us all to stay up to date on all the fast moving changes by receiving the CFH Newsletter. Subscribe at Cfhomeless.org

If groups are interested in learning more about the permanent shelter project, or wants CFH to come and speak to their community or group, they should contact Sarah at sarahb@cfhomeless.org

And come to the CFH Luncheon September 19th, Register at cfhomeless.org

Announcements

Hopelink-----Tara Adams: Congregational donations to Financial Assistance fund (an EISCC project) is continuing and available from all Hopelink centers and the distribution of funds is being smoothed out. Energy assistance is starting. Call Tara for more information 425-658-2592.

Attain Housing Fund raiser September 26th. See attached flyer

The Sophia Way ----Karina O'Malley reported the location of the Sophia Way Emergency Shelter for women is at St. Peter's Methodist in Bellevue. Also Sophia Way fund raiser is October 15th. See attachments

Congregations for the Homeless ----The CFH annual luncheon is scheduled for Thursday, September 19 at First Presbyterian Church, Bellevue. **There is still a need for a host congregation for the rotating shelter for the month of March 2020.** Contact CFH at 425-502-6105 for more information.

Power3 to Heal presentation on September 18th. See attached flyer.

Resurrection Episcopal Church Tree lighting December 7th at 6PM

Redmond

Lunch Providers ---Thank you to Jean Harris, Anne St. Germain, and Betty Spohn

Closing Prayer ----Nikki Sheriff

NEXT MEETING: TUESDAY, October 8 PROGRAM TOPIC

BACKPACK MEALS FOR KIDS

JAN STARR

Elections for new officers also at this meeting. Please come o vote

EISCC's mission: Members of Eastside Interfaith Social Concerns Council ("EISCC") believe we are guided by the moving of God's spirit in our community to work together in a spirit of caring and celebration. We honor and respect each other's religious heritages, welcome and pray for each other, and share information about pressing community needs.

EISCC provides a forum to educate, advocate, initiate, coordinate, and support through task forces and other means, to work for the common good, and to address human needs and improve the quality of life of the citizens living in the eastside communities of Bellevue, Kirkland, Issaquah, Renton, and Redmond