



Stratford C.A.R.E Committee

Minutes November 5th 2014

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Stratford Community Services
468 Birdseye St.
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In attendance:

Donald Goodson, Olga Pena, John Fahan, Ann Stockman, Elene M. Crosby, William Boyd, Terry Masters, Patrick Ridenhour, Joyce Minter, Tamia Livingston, Carrie Satta, Pat Naylor, Lucretia Duwel, Karen Edwards, Marilyn Gardner,

Meeting called to order at 7:11 PM

Approval of Agenda: Terry Masters, Second- Elene Crosby.

Approval of Minutes: Terry Masters, Second – Elene Crosby.

Treasurer's Report: There is a balance of \$549.64 after purchases made for library events.

Special Guest: Pat Naylor, Grants Manager for the Board of Education.

Pat Naylor of the B.O.E., Carrie Satta of Parents Place & Tamia Livingston a Stratford Resident and Mother of a child in the school system gave a presentation for *Parents Supporting School Excellence*. It is a civic leadership initiative providing strategies and tools to prepare parents, grandparents, and guardians to partner with schools to improve the education of all children. Its goal is to have parental involvement in order to close the achievement gap. A design team plans to have 20 or more parents from different backgrounds from each school participate.

It is a 5 hour retreat and 12 evenings course starting January 31st. Application are being accepted through November 26th. A few of the topics include addressing a citizen's/parents role in how the school district functions and the parent's role in children's learning and school improvement.

Old Business: Chief Ridenhour spoke about the *Color of Justice Forum*. The session focused on racial disparities in the criminal justice system. The Chief said police officers are taught to use discretion whenever possible but he stated procedure must be followed by police officers if it

is clear someone broke the law. The next viewing of the film is on November 18th at 11pm on CPTV.

Cultural Competency Report: Donald Goodson stated that he and Sylvia Martin attended the last Cultural Competency Meeting in Bridgeport which this time focused on Latin Cultural Activities.

SECC Focus Group: Ann Stockman and Marilyn Gardner spoke about the importance and value to the community of the *South End Community Center*. It is involved with after school programs, sports, community food pantry, and help with filing income tax reports. Some issues concern a lack of transportation and community outreach. A discussion took place concerning possible ways to help it raise money. It was suggested it ideally would be a public/private partnership to raise funds for the center.

Education Report/Lucretia Duwel: Back in June Everyday Democracy spoke to the Superintendent of Schools about a commitment to do study circles in the schools about racism and diversity. Those who did training to perform study circles left energized and are ready to moderate.

Letter to Mayor Update: We will be following up with the Mayor's Office about a letter sent to his office requesting funds for this year after the great success we had with these funds last year.

Letter to the Newspaper: The Chairman will follow up with Stephanie Philips and Olga Pena on their draft letter to the media outlining the goals, vision, and aspirations of C.A.R.E. for the community.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Terry Masters. Second –William Boyd.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Fahan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

John Fahan

