



Stratford C.A.R.E Committee

Minutes August 5th, 2015

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Stratford Community Services
468 Birdseye St.
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In attendance:

Donald Goodson, John Fahan, Stephanie Phillips, Ann Stockman, PoliceChief Patrick Ridenhour, William, Boyd, Sybil Friedman, Terry Masters, Karen Edwards, Sylvia Martin

Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve agenda – Stephanie Phillips, Second –Sylvia Martin. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion to approve minutes – Terry Masters, Second –Patrick Ridenhour. Passed unanimously.

Approval of Treasury Report: Olga Pena was not able to attend the meeting. No report.

Recent Information – Everyday Democracy/Gloria Mengual: The CARE Committee received correspondence from Matthew Walker of Everyday Democracy. Everyday Democracy has restructured its functions in order to carry out its mission due to limits of its endowment. CARE will no longer be provided one-on-one direct assistance by their in house staff as the Program Officer position and function are eliminated which means we will no longer receive any official correspondence from Gloria Mengual. CARE will be assigned a non-staff person to provide the trainings and support we need to meet our goals.

In addition to this, Gloria Mengual had sent us an email about their conversations with us on Communities Creating Racial Equity (CCRE) over the last several months and Everyday Democracy's plans for assessing how they can be best supportive of the work CARE is doing. A learning exchange will convene in the fall of 2016 to focus on community/police relations, education and health. Everyday Democracy is also seeking to conduct a follow-up evaluation of the CCRE work. There is a modest stipend in the amount of \$2,500.00 that would be offered to CARE for our time and participation in the evaluation which is not labor intensive and would consist of collecting data through interviews with members of the community. Terry Masters

recommended and all CARE members in attendance agreed to move forward and apply for the survey and stipend.

Old Business:

Police/Community Relations:

June 16th Racial Profiling Forum at HCC: Chief Ridenhour gave CARE a report on the forum he attended at HCC in June. He was there with Police Chief Joseph Gaudett of the Bridgeport Police Department, community activists, and one of the authors of the recent report released by the Institute for Municipal and Regional Policy (IMRP). The Chief stated the forum was respectfully and professionally run and the panel fielded a variety of questions from the audience. The IMRP was granted access to the Stratford Police Departments traffic stop data base in order to reevaluate its findings as the Chief feels the data from the report does not accurately account for our current population. Much of the report was based on 2010 statistics however the Chief stated that the minority population in Stratford has grown higher since 2010 based on school system statistics. In addition, a higher driving population from into Stratford from surrounding communities has to be taken into account.

The public safety camp went well. 31 children participated. Unfortunately not as many children from the south end attended. They went to UNH and met Dr. Henry Lee. Also, they went to the police and fire academy.

The First Annual Motorcycle Ride for PAL is Saturday, September 12 at 9:00am. The event helps support youth programs in Stratford. The ride starts at the Elks Club in Milford and ends at Booth Park in Stratford.

Education Report: Chairman Goodson urged CARE members to attend the next BOE meeting on Monday, August 24th. The board cut the budget by reducing 3 ½ secretaries and early teacher retirements.

Leadership Committee Report: Terry Masters provided an update on the WPCA Referendum slated for November, the For Stratford Candidate Seal of Approval Initiative, and seminars on how to win a municipal election.

Stephanie Phillips said there is still an opening for qualified candidates on the library board.

New Business:

Fund Raising Ideas: CARE will be looking into new sources to raise funds.

Community Ideas: CARE will be perhaps looking into recognizing a police/fire/ems person of the year for next Sept 2016 and maybe an awards dinner.

Adjournment: 8:55pm. Motion by William Boyd. Second by Sylvia Martin.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Fahan". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and "F".

John Fahan