

MEETING SUMMARY

Hunters View Community Partners and Hunters View Tenants Association
Meeting with Hunters View Residents
August 19, 2010 - 5:30pm-7:00pm
Hunters View Community Center
125 West Point Road, San Francisco, CA

The meeting commenced at 5:35 with a welcome by Tessie Ester, the President of the Hunters View Tenants Association (HVTA). Tessie said the meeting would follow the agenda on the flyer that was distributed and asked Margaret Campbell with John Stewart Company to provide an overview.

Margaret stated that the agenda included three topics. 1) A presentation by the youth on their planning for the Phase I park; 2) an update on the construction schedule by John Stewart Company; and 3) an update on services and activities at the Community Building by September Jarrett from the City and Kelly Dearman from Urban Strategies.

Margaret then handed the meeting to September to provide a brief overview of the HOPE SF Youth Leadership program that started in the spring and continued through the summer. September indicated that 20 youth from the four HOPE SF sites (Hunters View, Potrero, Westside Courts, and Sunnydale) participated in the summer program that just culminated in a presentation by all the youth last week. September indicated that a fall Youth Leadership Program will also be starting soon.

September then handed the meeting to Evelyn Smith to introduce the Hunters View youth and to provide an overview of their work over the summer. Evelyn indicated that the summer program built off the work that the youth did during the spring, and that the youth met on Mondays and Thursdays at the San Francisco Housing Authority with the other HOPE SF youth. Those sessions focused on skill building and team building. The Hunters View youth then also met on Tuesdays and Wednesdays at Hunters View to work specifically on their vision for the Phase I park. Throughout the summer, the youth worked with Shirl Buss, a consultant with Hunters View Community Partners, to work on their park vision, to build their portfolio, develop business cards, and to gain exposure to the different facets of the revitalization project. They went on a variety of field trips, met members of the project team, and even went on a tour of SF State to see what a college campus is like. Evelyn then asked the youth to introduce themselves and to say what they liked about the summer program.

Unique Bennett introduced herself and said her favorite part of the summer session was the college tour and the field trips.

Javon Bennett introduced himself and said his favorite part of the summer session was meeting new people and working on fun projects

Shanice introduced herself and said her favorite part of the summer sessions was learning about architecture.

Jessie introduced himself and said his favorite part of the summer session was the field trips and learning about new things.

The youth then presented their work on the park. They showed pictures of park benches made to look like fruit. They said the theme was a "Healthy SITUation" and that they also had developed a vision for a fruit orchard and a water element in the park. They indicated that they developed these ideas through going on many field trips. For example they went to North Ridge and saw a recording studio there. They went to Shirl's architecture office where she was able to help them design the benches. They went and saw murals around the city which gave them some ideas for a tile art wall in the park. They chose fruit for the benches because it is healthy and they heard

from the community that there needs to be more of an emphasis on healthy eating. The youth explained that they are now working with September and the development team to pursue grants for the benches.

Margaret then provided an overview of where the park is located in the Phase I area and indicated that residents should feel free to give their feedback on the presentation and youths' ideas to them (either at this meeting or at a later date) or to the development team. The intent of the park is to serve as a community amenity and so it is important that it be what residents will use.

A resident indicated that there are already some fruit trees at Hunters View and that she likes the idea of a fruit orchard. Another resident indicated that the orchard is a great idea and that the youth did a great job with their presentation.

A resident asked how the youth engagement at Hunters View was coordinated with the youth planning charrette that was held earlier this year, and with all of the youth engagement at Malcolm X. Margaret indicated that the same consultant, Shirl Buss, has worked on all of these efforts and so that she is the glue that holds them all together. Margaret added that Shirl intends to try to have the older youth interact with some of the younger youth at Malcolm X this fall so that they can share their ideas.

The meeting then transitioned to the next meeting topic; the construction schedule. Margaret indicated that there is some utility work that will be starting in a few weeks that Dan Levine, SVP of Construction at John Stewart Company, would talk about in a few minutes.

Margaret first provided an overview of the overall project schedule and indicated that the team is still targeting a start date of mid-October for the infrastructure work. She said it is still dependent on getting access to the \$30M in state funds that have been awarded to the job, and that all of the permits are in the process of being secured and the legal documents are being drafted with all of the partners. A resident indicated that she had heard that work would not start until the New Year. Margaret indicated that while there is always risk associated with start dates, the October start date looks feasible given the progress that has been achieved to date. Margaret agreed to keep the residents updated on the schedule.

Dan Levine then proceeded to share more detail around the utility back tie work that is about to start. He indicated that this is a pre-phase of work that is necessary because it is important to ensure that all residents in the Phase II and III areas do not lose power, cable or phone when the Phase I construction begins. Some of these utility lines currently go through the Phase I area so alternative connections need to be made before those utility lines are torn out. While there may be some inconveniences with the construction, residents should not lose any services. The work is anticipated to start in about one week and will take a few months. Dan offered that the development team could bring its General Contractor and Environmental Consultant for a site walk with residents if there was interest in hearing more about the exact work that would be taking place. Residents agreed that this was a good idea and it was agreed that the site walk would be on Friday August 27th at 10:00 AM and that it would start at the Community Building at 125 West Point Road. Margaret agreed to send out flyers so that those residents not at the meeting could be notified. A resident suggested that representatives from DPH and the Bay Area Air Quality Management District be invited to attend the site walk as well and Margaret agreed to invite them.

Residents also asked questions about jobs and indicated that it is very important that residents get first priority for the construction jobs. September Jarrett from the City suggested that the next resident meeting on September 16th focus on this topic. Margaret indicated that the development team recently received bids from those sub-contractors interested in working on the infrastructure component of the Hunters View project and that the team was reviewing those bids so that selections could be made. Once the sub-contractor selections are made, the team can get more specific information about hiring projections and start to work in detail with the City and Urban Strategies to ensure that residents are prepared for those jobs. A resident pointed out that residents

also need to do their part to ensure that they are ready to work and that they can take advantage of the opportunity.

A resident asked if the hiring goals had changed and Margaret indicated that the hiring goals are the same as they have always been; that is that residents that meet the qualification requirement get first priority for the jobs.

Kelly Dearman from Urban Strategies then stood up and explained the role that Urban Strategies is playing. She said that any resident who is interested in working on the Hunters View project should come to the Community Center and talk with Juana Pascubello who is the Vocational Service Connector with Urban Strategies. Juana stood up to introduce herself. Kelly also said that Lonnie Webb has joined the Urban Strategies team as the Children Youth and Family Service Connector. Kelly said that they have an open door policy and want to help all residents get connected to the jobs and services that they need. Kelly said they are also working with a third party organization called Positive Directions who can help residents who have barriers to employment. Kelly said they will have computers at the Community Center so that residents can work online on their resumes and such.

Kelly went on to describe all of the activities taking place at the Community Center. She said the Community Center is open every day from 8:30 to 5:30 Monday through Friday and that residents should come by any time. She said there is a calendar of activities on the wall but some of the highlights include: resume workshops; senior lunch; job postings; a resource library; arts and crafts; and more. Cynthia who runs the Senior Lunch program introduced herself and asked that folks get the word out about the Senior Lunch program. It's Tuesday and Thursday at 11:30 and for a \$2 donation seniors get a full meal.

Kelly indicated that in addition to Lonnie, Juana and herself, the Human Services Agency was also supplying two case managers every week on Tuesday and Thursdays from 10:30 to 1:30 to help residents access the services and resources they need. They will be working from the Community Center as well.

Kelly closed her remarks by sharing with residents that they should try to get more of their neighbors to the revitalization meetings. She said that since Hunters View is their community they should participate and learn as much as they can about what is going on so that they can provide input into their new community.

The meeting then adjourned at 6:40 with HVTA thanking everyone for their attendance. Gail awarded the raffle prizes and dinner was served.