Potrero Connect Meeting Notes

Attending: Emily Wilson, Daphne Magnawa, Mary Jane Mikuriya, Jean Bogiages, Steven Solomon

Absent: April Ellis, David Dumovsky, JR Eppler, Kate Eppler, Peter Belden, Briony Doyle, , Monisha Mustafa, Libby Dodd, Michael Priddy, Quint Kling, Tony Kelly

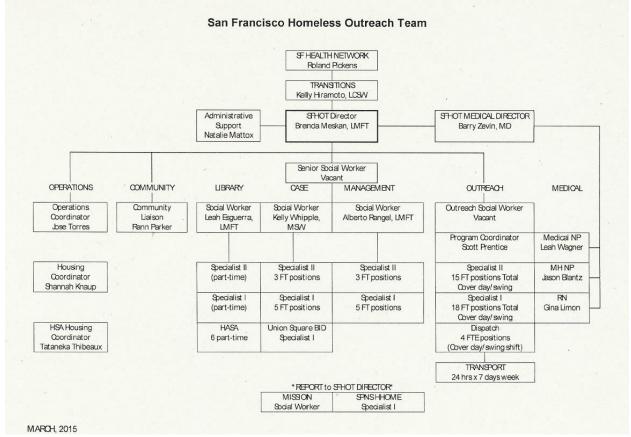
Guests: Rann Parker, SF HOT community liaison

The meeting opened at 6:05pm with Rann giving a short introduction of herself and her role.

Rann spoke about the Navigation Center. The opening has been postponed until the end of the month, but a few guests were brought in to shower and visit the site. Julie Ledbetter was chosen to manage the Navigation Center. From 2002-2009 she was the community programs manager at the Mission Neighborhood Resource Center. After that she worked for the Housing Authority in NY and for the 501c3, Public Architecture. The main contract for the Navigation Center was given to Episcopal Community Services. The contract was approved by the HSA (Human Services Agency) commission at its March 26 meeting.

Rann shared with us an org chart for the HOT team. The HOT team used to have beds to distribute but now only has around 30. They will help direct folks to the Navigation Center, but cannot force anyone to go there. They primarily are there to link people on the street to medical services.

The HOT team has put together a new program at the SF Public Library and is redirecting people who have been using the library for showers etc. The HOT team services are aimed at saving money for the city by providing care for the high risk homeless who are using the hospital's emergency services the most frequently.



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Daphne pointed out that with all the building that has been occurring and with the new train station and changes on Market Street, homeless people have moved in to the neighborhoods. Additionally, with housing evictions, the homeless population is increasing. What did the city put in place to prevent this from happening, as they must have known that it would happen.

City Services not connecting with Neighborhoods

We discussed the interactions that people in the neighborhood have with homeless people. Some interactions are very negative –crime related, drug related, needles and garbage left around. Police are called, people move on, but they come back. Another example was a neighbor seeing a guy with bleeding hands. She tried calling 311, but got the police instead of the HOT team. She did not know the outcome of her call.

We explained to Rann that we wanted a more direct relationship with the city services instead of the 311 contact where there is no real solution to a problem, as the relationship is impersonal. Jean mentioned that the Police send a rep to community meetings and when police and neighbors can interact on a more personal-human level, problems can be understood and solved.

Housing

We discussed the fact that there is not enough low income housing available. A person on SSI might get around \$846/month. Rann mentioned that there are a lot of vacant units owned/managed by the Housing Authority that need to be rehabilitated. This type of living arrangement, however, would put everyone with problems in the same place. Mary Ann gave the example of a European arrangement where an unemployed person would receive decent housing an live among the employed. The employed would let the unemployed person know when there were opportunities, thus helping each other.

Rann said that she would like to come back and talk to us after the Navigation Center is working. She reported that the center was aiming to serve people in the mission district and in the area from Cesar Chavez to Division. She said the HOT team has gone out and talked to the folks in these areas.

Rann had to leave around 7:15. The meeting ended around 7:30.

Notes submitted by Jean Bogiages