Community Relations Committee Meeting
January 21, 2020
12:30 Noon-2:00 PM
Kimbo Conference Room William Pitt Union
University of Pittsburgh

Minutes

Attendees: Victor Bench, Anne Hays, Marissa Arlet, Andrea Tempalski, Lina Dostilio, Jamie Ducar, Amanda Ritchie and Andrea Boykowycz

Regrets: Amani Attia, Judy Callan, Tim Coleman, Jennifer White, Dominic DiSanto, Jacob Kariuki, Kenneth Batista, Andrea Kriska, Georgia Petropoulos, Mavis Rainey, Mary Beth McGrew, Jennifer Jones, Wanda Wilson, James Williams III, Kenneth Thompson, Paul Supowitz, Hannah Green, David Salcido, Eric Macadangdang.

Presiding: Shenay Jeffery and Jennifer Cousins, co-chairs
Minutes by: Jennifer Cousins

Call to order: 12:06 PM

Welcome to everyone. Brief acknowledge of Barbara Como who passed away this past weekend on campus after being tragically struck by a bus.

Introductions from everyone.

Approved revised minutes from November 20, 2019.

Guest Presentation
Information on the Oakland Community Needs Assessment now Oakland Community Survey by Oakland Planning and Development Corp representative Andrea Boykowycz. The goal is to ask every resident to assess needs in Oakland. Needs would include issues such as “how do you get around, where do you get groceries, do you own a car, exercise, do you have a bike, etc.” This a way to gather empirical data to inform policy, programs (e.g. The Oakland Plan) to ensure that they are aligned with Oakland’s needs. The project is just beginning and currently there are 115 responses. Outreach includes going door to door, having an ‘office’ in WPU on Pitts campus. The survey can be found at OPC.org/survey.

Updates from Community Relations Liaisons and Engagement Officers at Pitt
CGR: Jamie Ducar: Christmas Day at Pitt – 180 volunteers and served 2, 546 meals on Christmas Day. And, partnering with Pitt Servs for Be A Good Neighbor day in March. For more information visit cgr@pitt.edu.
Other upcoming events include:

1. The Community Conversation Series in the spring, February, March, April and May.
2. PRIDE program out of Child Development office.
3. Pitt and Me, how to be a participant in Pitt research and what that might mean.
4. Health and Physical programs and
5. Legal Clinics in March, how do you become eligible for legal help.

The 2nd phase of Community Engagement Program will be opening soon, February 24th. Hill District starts STEAM program February 27th 2-4 PM HD CEC. If participate in Community and university planning committee may be eligible for up to $5000 in grants. This is strategic plan season: goal areas are remaining the same.

Community Engaged Scholarship: cesf.pitt.edu

SGB: resolution in support of Sami’s law, which would require additional protections around ride sharing.

Plant to Plate Program: A garden in South Oakland that consisted of community and student plots is set to move, although the location has not been determined.

Pitt Serves: MLK day of service. 931 volunteers. Most projects were indoor activities, used guided reflection exercises (beyond a service day)

Be My Neighbor Day: Mr. Rogers themes.
Community grants: $10,000 to support community projects. Awarded 3 organizations and have less than $4,000 left to give away. The focus of the grants is to support days of service.

OPDC by Andrea Boykowycz: Couple of community events that are upcoming. A pot luck in west Oakland on January 22, 2020 in Oakland Affordable Living. Home for sale in 223 Robinson. Looking for individuals who need assistance with home repair.

School to Career: Partner aspect and future makers: Provide youth engagement mostly from Hill District and Oakland with tutoring, etc. 100% graduation rate for those students who have been involved in the community. The outreach is to middle school and high school students. The educational areas are primarily STEM, but also include biology, culinary or other technology. Financial opportunity center, links between cohorts of people who are looking for work and the university. Find ways to build ‘on ramps’ for those who may have some barriers to employment.

Design Development review meetings: January 28, 2020 some are under review.

Peoples Oakland: Non-profit wellness holistic based approach for people with severe mental health issues. Help people with ongoing mental health needs. Close to 300 active members. In transition but continuing to work and have programing for people, such as going to the zoo, museum, etc.

Brief discussion about inviting Nathan Urban to speak with the committee about the Plan for Pitt 2025. Will contact Lori Molinaro.

Adjourn: 1:35

Next CRC Meeting: Tuesday February 18, 2020 12:30 -2:00pm in WPU Room 918