

**HYDE PARK CLUSTER MEETING
INTERFAITH OPEN COMMUNITIES
Minutes: June 14, 2004**

Present: Allan Lindrup, Marlene Vellinga, Brenda and John Murphy, Gene Krell, Don Coleman, Pat Wilcoxon, Melody Geraci, Mark Granfors, Joe Marlin; Will White.

1. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 P.M. by P. Wilcoxon.
D. Coleman was asked to provide the Faith Reflection.
2. **Faith Reflection** - Don, drawing from Scripture, reflects on the relative importance of each of the Commandments. The greatest Commandment, Love of God and by extension, Love of Neighbor, is at the center of faith traditions and provides the opportunity for man/woman to become God-like. Don Concludes with a prayer that those who are homeless or at risk and those desiring a home be blessed with such.
3. **Home Sharing** - Melody distributed and summarized a 5-Month Home Sharing Program Report. The report outlines intakes, referrals, participants, and matches, both proposed and actual.
 - Funding is in place for the year.
 - On going efforts to introduce the program to the community, promote the idea of home sharing, and solicit participants continues.
 - The need for various cluster representatives to facilitate **making contact and connecting with each faith community** was expressed.
4. **Transitional Housing** - Don reports that the First Annual Meeting of the THP was a great success and saluted Anne Holcomb's presentation on Homelessness at the meeting.
 - a. Case Manager reports that the client family is working well with mentors and that Linda, the head of household, is currently enrolled in a ceramic tile apprenticeship program. A speech therapist for the child has been identified and engaged.
 - b. Lease on client family apartment is concluding and a new lease will be re-signed without incidence.

- c. New publicity brochure is being drafted with few changes/ additions/deletions.
 - d. Raising funds this year from local businesses will be a high priority.
5. **Legislative Update** - The following is a sketch of proposed housing legislation that is being tracked by affordable housing advocates:
- a. Amendment to Criminal Expungement Act - This act has passed the House and anticipates Senate concurrence.
 - b. Amendment to the Affordable Housing Planning and Appeal Act - This bill awaits the Governor's signature.
 - c. Source of Income Protection from Housing Voucher Tenants - This bill has been extended until the Fall veto session when it will receive House attention.
 - d. Federally Assisted Housing Preservation Act - This act awaits the Governor's signature.
 - e. The Rental Housing Support Program Act - This bill is stalled, but has support from Protestants for the Common Good and the Chicago Coalition for the Homeless.
 - e. Locally - Inclusionary Housing with 15% affordable set-asides, while receiving strong support from a wide and diverse group of aldermen, does not yet have the support of the Mayor.
6. Juneteenth Celebration scheduled for June 19th, 11:00 A.M., at Cabrini-Green (Clybourn and Division).
7. The next meeting is scheduled for August 9th/July 12th if some pressing issue arises. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

Submitted by,
W. White, Recorder