

Community Building Committee

April 7, 2016

Meeting notes/action items

Present: Ashley, Tami, Bob, Hannah, Nasra

Goal of the committee: bridging the cultural divide by reaching out to the East African communities (Somali, Oromo, etc. – languages and countries, both towers and neighborhood).

Reviewed Random Ideas with updates in blue:

- What does the community want? ~~Survey?~~ Understand cultural differences better – last-minute drop-outs, etc. Consult with NCR engagement specialist Abdi Rasheed. **Ashley - Community Connections Conference notes – hire a consultant? Identify community leaders? Volunteer opportunity**
 - Find ways to include different age groups, men also?
 - **Learn to say hi, Overcome government distrust, connect with restaurants, businesses, religious leaders,**
 - **food and entertainment attracts people**
- **Nasra** to check with Job Training program staff at Brian Coyle.
- SNG presence at East African events: Somali Independence Day (outside Seward) **Nasra research – July 18th? Table cost?, other events? Volunteer opportunities**
- Multi-cultural Cooking classes at Seward Coop – **Tami contact Coop, Bob F cooking, others? Volunteer opportunity**
- Continue/re-start Community Conversations pot lucks – **Fall/Winter activity Volunteer opportunity**
- Better use of SNG Facebook presence. ~~Possible special page for East African community?~~ **Kerry, Laura, Trish, Peter social media presence, bulletin board, newsletter, web page**
- Towers events inclusivity – some events can't be accommodated by towers due to construction, how can we help?
 - Possible ice cream social – at Mathews? Combine with Sunday movies in the park? **Kerry check.**
 - Towers night out table? - **Nasra Volunteer opportunity**
 - **Towers monthly newsletter - Nasra**
- Invite neighborhood textile crafters to come to East some Thursday afternoon during or after Sewing Circle and have weavers come as well. **Kerry and Diann Volunteer opportunity**
- **Leverage existing events** to draw a more diverse crowd – Open Streets, Garden Tour/Party, Winter **Frolic, Walks, Bike rides, 4/28 Somali singer 8am at Cedar Cultural Center Master schedule of events - Kerry Volunteer opportunities**
- Language lessons? **Integrate with/leverage existing events - Tie in with Community Conversations? Table at open streets? Volunteer opportunities**
- Seward Montessori spring event? **Kerry, Nasra check.**
- Improve/additional Franklin crossings? **Safety and connection CDC letter to Public Works, Bob follow up**

- **Nice Ride/Spokes activities coordination** – Tami work with Nasra to set up introductory ‘station demo’ rides/training sessions for 10 (sign up) in May. Spare bikes? Nice Ride Day May 18th, part of Bike week
- **Connect with Imams at Mosque on Cedar** – Nasra to set up for Friday 4/29 5:30 meet at East tower lobby

Reviewed Schedule something each month **with updates in blue:**

- **April/May** – multi-cultural tour of Somali museum – **May 18th, 5:45 there**, bus travel?, **carpool from SNG at 5:30** Lake St & 16th, \$9 charge. **Nasra work with Kerry. Volunteer opportunity**
- **June** – Ice Cream Social/**Movie?**, Somali Mall tour bus travel, **Nasra, Volunteer opportunities**
- **July** Neighborhood walks starting – start one at East/West tower? **Bob** could host River Walk **Volunteer opportunity**
 - **July 14 garden walk**
- **August** - Towers Night Out **Volunteer opportunity**
 - Aug 21 – Franklin Open Streets. Neighborhood inclusivity/solidarity march/parade/**bike rodeo/music/art/talent show?** Dancing. Use of kick off ceremony in Triangle Park to showcase cultural pride? **Tami work with bike coalition; Slow bike race Volunteer opportunities**
- **September/October Community Conversations Potluck#1?**
- **November- December – SNG annual meeting/potluck,**
- **January Community Conversations Potluck #2?**

Advertise in Profile, on Website

To remember: Ramadan June 6 – July 7, prayer time at 3:30 pm and sunset (varies)

Next meeting: **May 5**, 5:30 p.m. at Nasra’s. Potluck supper.