

Restore Rundberg Public Meeting

Location: Austin Revival Center – Austin North East

Date: February 27, 2014

Start: 1810 (6:10pm)

End: 1930 (7:30pm)

Attendees Present:

Erica Saenz (Place 6) - Chairman

Roberto Perez Jr. (Place 14) – Co Chair

Linda Krueger (Place 2)

Don Shepard (Place 3)

Brian Alemon(Place 4)

Ann Teich (Place 5)

Roberto Martinez (Place 7)

Patricia Zavala (Place 8)

Rick Randall (Place 9)

Michael Willard (Place 10)

Donald Baker (Place 11)

Cary Roberts (Place 12)

Laura Pressley (Place 13) – Designee

Katie Casstevens – University of Texas

Kyle Pitzer – University of Texas

Allen McClure (Lieutenant – APD)

Adam Soliz (Officer – APD)

Phillip Tripp (Officer – APD)

Taber White (Officer – APD)

Frank Wilson (Officer – APD)

Michelle Menchaca (APD) – Recording Secretary

Meeting called to order at 6:10pm

1. **Introduction of Katie Casstevens and Kyle Pitzer** team members who are working with Dr. David Springer of The University of Texas in assistance to the Restoring Rundberg Project.
 - a. *Katie Casstevens has been working with the research initiative* including the mobile walking beat and youth gang intervention. She is presently collaborating on a collective efficacy survey that will be used to establish the understanding of the mutual trust in the community. In March focus groups will be conducted in English and Spanish to review the survey. Once results are known and revisions to the survey are complete it is projected to launch in May or late this summer to the community.
 - b. *Kyle Pitzer is organizing the revitalization* efforts by meeting and working alongside community members to identify assets and resources within the area and how they align with community based initiatives.

2. **Update on the Technical Assistance Team Discussion** - Susan Shah (Vera Institute) and Bill Traynor (Trusted Space Partners) met with personnel from APD, UT, Worker’s Defense, Restore a Voice, Motel 6, Launchpad, Multicultural Refugee Center, Refugee Services of

Austin, Runnymede Apartments, Asian American Resource Center, and RRT Team Members. The technical assistance team came up with 3 immediate recommendations for enhanced community involvement and will later provide a detailed comprehensive report.

- a. *Small Group Meetings* would allow for intimate conversations between team members and the community. This would open up roads of dialog not possible in large settings.
 - b. *Focus on Immigration Issues* because a large section of the population in the area is transitory in nature. Rundberg is popular as a home for new arrivals, however many relocate to other areas once they become accustomed to America or return to their homelands.
 - c. *Work with Local Apartment Managers* focusing on how to build a healthy environment for the people living in these complexes. A high number of apartment complexes in the Restore Rundberg are being neglected by management and owners.
3. **Reports** – The Implementation Plan and Research Report was sent to the Department of Justice. The response is expected to be received soon. The report will be updated to the Restore Rundberg Website.
4. **Community Events and Clean-up** -The District Representatives are hosting a meeting Tuesday 4th, 6:30pm at the YMCA 1000 W. Rundberg Lane. Everyone is invited to attend.
- a. *A Neighborhood Clean-Up* was conducted Saturday, February 22nd on North Meadows. It started with a handful of participants and lead to 40 volunteers that provided their time.
 - b. *Every 4th Saturday of the month* neighborhood clean-ups will be coordinated in different areas.
5. **The Austin Hispanic Leadership Group** from The Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce wants to partner with the area middle schools to establish “CEO for a Day.”
- a. “CEO for a Day” is a work mentorship program that provides youth a look into a business leader’s day on the job.
 - b. The program is geared to give the child an access to other opportunities that are available and help develop career goals.
6. **Code Enforcement** worked to resolve the issue of an unsound property on 201 Applegate. The result was the property being demolished mid-February.
7. **Street Level Drug and Prostitution Operations** are being conducted.
- a. Intervention is being incorporated into the street level operations.
 - b. Officers and detectives work diligently to establish if people are being trafficked and assist them with help and resources.

8. **Presented by Brian Almon the Top 4 Priorities** that was established to distinguish what is important to improve within the Rundberg community.
 - a. *Revitalization of 4 Key Properties*-Sam Rayburn/John Garner, Brownie Dr/Behind Bowling Alley, Northgate/Galewood, Lamar/Behind Thomas Buffet
 - b. *Development of Central Hybrid Community Center for Neighbors of All Ages*-Healthcare Clinic
 - c. *After School Programs for those 10yrs and older*-Sports, Arts, Vocational
 - d. *Accountability for Housing and Property Code Violations*- improving properties and working with landowners.

9. **Meeting Participants** broke into groups to discuss priorities and network with other community members to discuss collaborative ideas.

Meeting adjourned: Next meeting will be on the 4th Thursday of the month. Location TBD