

Safe Takoma board meeting

January 20, 2010 at My Little Bistro

Attending: Faith Wheeler, Seth Grimes, Rasheda Abney, Holly Maassarani, and guest Stacy Mills, Safe Takoma advisor and local activist

### ***Washington DC funding***

So far as we know, all Washington DC paperwork has been completed as required – December 14 submission and DC requested revisions to clear up address mismatches – but it is unclear when money will be released. Faith will follow up. We will proceed on program development once the funding situation is clearer.

Holly noted that much of the programming is tied to the school years. We could spend money from the original Washington DC grant on programming now. We currently have until March 31, per an extension granted by Cmdr. Brown, to spend that money.

### ***Coolidge High School***

Faith reported that Coolidge has been pursuing certain programming. Court Pearman, a teacher who did the November CR training who lives in Takoma Park, reported that they did a 12-hour training, involving Laura Mackenzie, a teacher; Josh Dyson, a student; and Daniel West, student. Terry Goings dropped in. Faith discussed a follow-up, refresher training with them. Terry Goings would be the conduit.

Holly noted the desirability of establishing an institutionalized culture – regarding community conferencing and dialogue circles. Need to have a critical mass, numbers of participants. Holly has been doing research and has noted that the need is to focus on classrooms, training teachers. So far as Holly knows, no school in the District is doing community conferencing.

Holly suggests meeting with Coolidge ASAP, to discuss restorative practices, ways to work together. Per Faith, meet with teachers Subrina Bradley, Laura Mackenzie, and Court Pearman, assistant principal Erica Johnson, the principal, and Terry Goings.

### ***Coolidge-Neighborhood Involvement***

Stacy suggested working with Coolidge and the police and community on a neighborhood clean-up and on classroom intervention.

She had suggested this to the MPD 4D community advisory council and to Ron Austin, who is a Fenty outreach person. (Terry Goings is vice president of the council.)

Holly stressed the need, in classroom work, to listen and engage, and also talked about the benefits of community conferencing.

Conclusion: We will bring this up when meeting with Coolidge folks per above. Faith suggested including Andre Carley as well. We would emphasize collaboration, that the police voice isn't the only voice. Stacy said she can be involved to some extent.

### ***Community Conferencing***

Holly: Renee Burgos, who lives in Takoma Park, used to work in community conferencing in Baltimore and is looking to get into part-time work.

### ***Metropolitan Police Department***

Seth will arrange an introductory meeting with A/Commander Kimberly Chisley-Missouri, aiming for this Friday or next. Faith, Rasheda, and Seth would attend.

We ask her about a community meeting in a couple of weeks to introduce her, to be held at the Rec Center or Promised Land Baptist Church or a similar location.

### ***Takoma Park Small Grant Funding***

Seth: Would pick up again approaching the Takoma Park Middle School PTA about a funding request to Takoma Park, MD.

### ***Takoma Education Center***

Faith will set up a meeting with Rikki Taylor to discuss programming.

### ***Administrative***

Rasheda will find out if SunTrust has issued a 2009 W2 form for Ronnie Miller and will ensure that the payroll-processing account has been cancelled.

Meeting adjourned