

DRAFT Minutes - Safe Takoma, Inc. Board
January 8, 2009, 4 pm
City of Takoma Park, Maryland Community Center

Present:

Seth Grimes, President
Faith Wheeler, Vice President
Andy Kelemen, Treasurer
Sara Green, Secretary
Clemonce DuVall, Board Member
Ronnie Miller, Operations Manager

Actions

1. Ms. Wheeler discussed dates for the next conflict resolution workshops, and reported that Kathryn Liss requests dates in the spring. Monika Megyesi does not feel comfortable leading a workshop without Ms. Liss, but will join her, Ms. Wheeler said.

The Board agreed to contact Kathryn Liss to set up dates for the spring.

Discussions and Reports

1. Mr. Grimes, Ms. Miller and Ms. DuVall met with Fay Wright and Debra Hedovin, of the City of Takoma Park, Maryland Recreation Department to talk about setting up a Rites of Passage Program that is similar to the one Ms. Miller is running at the Takoma, D.C. Recreation Center. A Spring 2009 program is anticipated.

2. The group discussed applying for the Governor's Office of Crime Control and Prevention Grant.

3. Ms. Miller discussed the Carpenters' Union Pre Apprenticeship Training Program.

STI's 6- week "feeder" training program would give candidates the skills to enter that Union's Pre-Apprenticeship program. STI can help because too many applicants come to the Union without the basic skills or acceptable behavior to enter the workforce, Ms. Miller said. The basic qualifications are a high-school diploma and a clean drug screening.

The goal would be to have a minimum of 10 Takoma Park, Maryland and 10 District of Columbia participants. The STI graduates could enter the Carpenters' Union program. The Union's program costs \$16,000 for 20 students or \$9,000 for 10 students.

Everyone agreed STI needs to do considerable outreach to make the program a success. Ms. Green said she would contact churches, CASA, the Ethiopian

community, and others. She also said she would write a press release or brief piece for the TP City Newsletter and the Voice.

Mr. Grimes said that transportation is an issue that will have to be resolved.

4. Mr. Kelemen suggested having a dinner to bring together Takoma, D.C. and Takoma Park, Maryland police chiefs and supervisory people. This gathering could improve cross-jurisdictional relationships. Ms. Green suggested that STI should also sponsor a gathering for the beat cops in both jurisdictions. Several board members questioned whether the dinner for beat cops would work.

No decision was made. The group agreed that the idea would be discussed again.

-- Submitted by Sara Green, Secretary