

ALPES Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 14, 2014

In attendance: Monica Quechol- Bradley, Irene Gonzalez, Dora Alvarez Alvarado, Ricardo Perez, Valerie Branch, Jessie Sterner, Lourdes Parham, Carla Piedrahita, Lidia Muñoz, Josefina Peralta, Zandra Zschiemann, Gladys Bonilla, Diego Montegue, Jose Luis, Yvonne Torres, Gisela Krautz, Jenny Doyle, Petra Hager, Luke Keeler

1. The meeting was called to order by Aracelys at 5:15 p.m.

2. Welcome and Introductions

3. Aracelys asked the question the purpose of the meeting was to ask, “What can ALPES do to help the community?”

A. Feedback was shared by Yvonne from the meeting she attended with community members from the Brentwood area at the Brentwood Boys & Girls Club. (About 20 people attended)

- Many said to participate in these meetings, they should start at 6 p.m. or after because many people work and are not free until after 6 p.m.
- Many like the ESL classes, but they are in need of Childcare while they are in class.
- More sports programs are needed.
- They are fixing certain parts of the Brentwood neighborhood to have more recreational areas.

B. Pepe has worked with the Boys & Girls Club since 2006.

- 40-50% of the youth are from the Brentwood area.
- Because many people who use the B&G service are not from Brentwood area, they cause problems and many of the women and children in the area do not like it. The people are loud and leave trash in the area.

C. Some community programs don't work because:

- The people don't believe in the program
- The programs appear and disappear as quickly as they come. They are not permanent
- We help people fill out the form, but then they should do it for themselves, but this is very difficult making people take responsibility.
- It was suggested that programs must go to where the community is at. For example, programs must go to soccer fields after work and on the weekends to reach young men. They should also go to local churches.
- It was suggested that programs should have a truck that they are able to drive to community events and give important classes about any topic (English, computers)
- There is a language barrier to receiving services.
- One idea was to go to La Pulga (flea market) on Saturday and Sunday and offer services.
- Vans and busses are expensive to purchase for outreach events.
- It was suggested that we must find leaders in different parts of the community to help with programs and strategies to help educate the community.
- Many community members have fear of police checkpoints that are stationed in the same areas over and over again (drinking, racial profiling). One family paid \$2,000 in tickets to the City of Raleigh.

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D. Services and programs needed.

- More security is needed in community. More police in neighborhoods.
 - More youth programs (music, aerobic, beauty school, hair, makeup)
 - JobLink services for the community and especially for The Dreamers who some now have their papers.
 - It was suggested that Millbrook Regional Center can be opened afterhours for events, programs and activities.
 - All advertisements and materials for community programs must represent the community you are trying to reach.
- E. There has been a lot of crime in the north east area of Raleigh so the City of Raleigh has decided to build a community center in that neighborhood.
- F. Some youth have had bad influence from parents because parents are unaware of laws:
- Drinking alcohol with parents because parents don't understand the laws are different here in the United States, such as the age limit of 21 for the consumption of alcohol.
 - Some parents don't encourage their children to finish school, because it is not required in their native country.
 - There is a lack of education among women when they come into the hospital, therefore there needs to be presentations programs for women.
 - Domestic violence, mostly against women.
 - Abuse of minors (showing shows/films not made for children. Not feeding children)
 - Education should be provided at all levels to all immigrants to prevent problems. (Ex. The parents don't speak English and can't communicate with teachers)
 - Sometime the community doesn't notice the problem because that is just the way it is.
 - The mentality of the parent is that they don't need to learn anymore new information because it is already too late for them. They think they are too old.
- G. Suggestions for improvements:
- Petra suggested making a partnership with Crossroads Church
 - San Rafael Church has a program for adult's that cannot write.
 - Northeast Outreach Center has computer classes, ESL classes
 1. May 17th 2014 they will have an open house from 10a.m. to 12p.m.
 2. It is located at 4544 Captial Blvd
 3. They have youth programs and community events.

Announcements

1. Doras from the Mexican Consulate stated that Nora no longer works there.
2. Maribel – Health Education – La Ventanita de Salud
3. Mrs. Doyal is part of an organization that want to help at La Pulga to reach the Latino community.
4. Carla – Wake County has clinics for inexpensive rabies shots and microchips for animals.
5. Luke – OutRaleigh and National Youth HIV/AIDS Awareness Month
6. Pepe – Open position for Bilingual person at Boy & Girls Club – Full time with benefits.
7. Jessica Sterner – She can help with victims of sexual crimes and violence.
8. Ricardo – There are 3 teenagers coming from Mexico during July and August and need host families to stay with. They need a bed to sleep and dinner for the 10 days they will be here.
9. There will be a health fair in June or July at a church event in Knightdale.
10. City of Raleigh has English classes
11. Univision – Send information at least one month in advance so it can be placed onto the community calendar. Univision will have a festival on Sunday, September 14 so don't forget to sign up for it!
12. Petra – Mental Health Training – Saturday, May 3rd. She will send out flyer. It will be held at Dortathy Dix campus in Raleigh.

Reminder: Announcements should be limited to several minutes per person. If longer discussion is needed, please let **Aracelys** know so that she can add it to the agenda.

**The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 9, 2014 from 5-7 p.m.
at Millbrook Human Service Center**

Thank You!