



Kids' Council Meeting Minutes November 19, 2015

5:15 p.m. – 7:17 p.m.

Main Library, Curious George Room

Summary

Summary of Conversation Topics

- Update on the work of the Cambridge Youth Council
- Discussion of the Door 2 Door Expansion
- Update on the Book Bike Program
- Discussion of the work of the Community Engagement Team

Next Steps

The group identified the following next steps (or commitments) during the meeting:

What	Who	By When
Save the proposed meeting schedule for 2015-16 (3 rd Thursday of the month unless otherwise noted): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ January 21, 2016 ○ March 17, 2016 ○ May 19, 2016 ○ June 16, 2016 	All KC members and affiliates	
Create and send out Survey Monkey regarding new name: Family policy, kids policy, children and youth policy council, other	Nancy Tauber	



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Detailed Notes

Present:

Mayor David Maher, Neal Michaels, Rabeya Akther, Tina Alu, Griffin Andres, Jen Bailey, Sally Benbasset, Ron Benham, Lace Campbell, Marly Ciccolo, Louis DePasquale, Margaux Froute, Susan Flannery, Michelle Godfrey, Robert C. Haas, Liz Hill, Claude Jacob, Jack Kiryk, John Lindamood, Michelle Lower, Alanna Mallon, Laetitia Moubarak, Rosa Munson-Blatt, Matt Nelson, Rihana Oumer, Mike Payack, Geeta Pradhan, Monique Reyes, Bridget Rodriguez, Ellen Semonoff, Carole Sousa, Nancy Tauber, Miles Toussaint

Co-Chairs: *Mayor Maher and Neal Michaels*

Executive Director: *Nancy Tauber*

Content Manager: *Mike Payack*

Desired Outcomes:

- Shared understanding of the work of the Cambridge Youth Council
- Shared understanding of the Door 2 Door Expansion
- Shared understanding of the Book Bike Program
- Shared understanding of the work of the Community Engagement Team

Socialize, Network and Eat

5:15 pm – 5:36 pm

Call to Order:

5:36 pm – 5:47 pm

- Welcome & Introductions (Mayor Maher)
 - Mayor Maher announced that Griffin Andres is now a student member of the School Committee
 - Agenda Overview/Adoption of Minutes (September 17, 2015 meeting)
 - Ron Benham moved to adopt the minutes for the May 21, 2015 meeting
 - Michelle Godfrey seconded motion
 - Minutes adopted
 - Public Comment

- Announcements/Updates
 - Nancy Tauber announced:
 - Kids' Council and Youth Council are getting new logos
 - Designer working on Find It Cambridge logo offered to update logo so it is not shared with Center for Families logo
 - Kids' Council new name suggestion – Kids' Policy Council
 - Mayor Maher: Let's vote on this tonight and Mayor Maher will bring recommendation to the City Council to change ordinance to reflect new name
 - Michelle Lower: Should it be Kids' Policy Council or Family Policy Council?
 - John Lindamood: Council on Kids' Policy
 - Ron Benham: Is "kids" a marginalizing term?
 - Michelle Godfrey: Might be confusing to change name too drastically by removing "kids"
 - Nancy will create and send out Survey Monkey regarding new name: Family policy, kids policy, children and youth policy council, other
 - Kids' Council Transition
 - Neal announced:
 - Susan Flannery is retiring in the spring. Her replacement will be a member of the KC. Thank you for all you've done
 - Mayor chairs KC by ordinance. David will continue to be a City Councillor, but may not continue to chair the KC. Neal thanked Mayor Maher for great leadership as KC chair
 - Mayor Maher: KC is in great shape. Thanks to leadership of Nancy Tauber and Lace Campbell for making this Council very relevant
 - To young people, this is a place to have your voices heard
 - Seats held by elected officials will change
 - New Superintendent will join Council
 - Begins position July 1, will join KC after summer break
 - Jeff Young will serve through June
 - 2015-16 Kids' Council Meeting Schedule:
 - Thursday January 21, 2016 – *This meeting will probably be in the library computer classroom, looking at next iteration of Find It Cambridge*
 - Thursday February 25, 2016
 - Thursday March 17, 2016
 - Thursday May 19, 2016

Find It Cambridge:

5:47 pm – 6:52 pm

- Nancy Tauber provided updates on Find It Cambridge
 - Find It Cambridge has a logo
 - Nancy and Leo Burd presented website at AFC Symposium
 - Got great feedback from providers



Cambridge Youth Council:

5:52 pm – 6:20 pm

- Created FB page: Cambridge Raw Perspectives
 - Interviewing Cambridge citizens to raise awareness about problems in the city and think about solutions
 - Integrating Find It may bring awareness to FB campaign and make it more dynamic
 - Interview students, family members, other citizens
 - Question of the Week will be posted on FB page
 - Facilitating workshops for incoming HS students to encourage them to advocate for course selection. Education on course selection, self-advocacy
 - Ice cream social
 - Aim and purpose of workshops is to raise awareness of issues of achievement gap
 - Middle school workshop goal: motivate students for higher academic achievement. Bring awareness to opportunities at CRLS
- Mayor Maher: Are your fellow students aware of some of the tech companies who are the biggest employers in the city?
 - There is a general awareness, without specific knowledge of the companies
- Matt Nelson: RE: Raw Perspectives: NPR story about Story Corps. Could Raw Perspectives be combined with Story Corps somehow? Maybe you could reach out to Story Corps
- Matt Nelson: It is Police Officer Appreciation Week
 - Youth Council sent video to CPD thanking them for their service
 - Area 4 Youth Center sent video
 - Public Health Dept sent video
 - Mayor sent video
- Jen Baily: How are you deciding who to interview?
 - Right now it's people we know, trying to expand our reach
- Ellen Semonoff: Anything about this project that has surprised you?
 - The amount of "likes" we received was surprising (over 300 in 3 days)
- Nancy Tauber: Please share or invite people to like this page
 - Youth Council will email a link to the page
- Nancy Tauber: Today was Be All Right Day at CRLS

- Youth Council did instructional presentation about stress and strategies to control your stress
 - Ellen Semonoff: Any tips for this group about managing stress?
 - Get enough sleep!
 - Claude Jacob: This is second time we're doing it. We didn't know it was going to be so successful. Already hearing requests to repeat next year. Students came up with title from Bob Marley lyrics
- Activity: Small group discussion looking for your input on new questions we can ask, how to spread word about Cambridge Raw Perspectives project

Door 2 Door Expansion:

6:20 pm – 6:31 pm

- Matt Nelson provided updates (see Attachment A: Door 2 Door Expansion PowerPoint)
 - Last fall we presented Families at the Center (info hub, website portal, and Door 2 Door Expansion)
 - Expanding Door 2 Door Campaign
 - Partnership between CPD and DHSP to spread word about summer program
 - Cambridge Connects
 - Pilot in specific neighborhood/housing development
 - Building capacity among residents
 - Survey results showed that people desire more connection with police
 - These events take place in every neighborhood, but with an increased focus in the Port
 - Next Door 2 Door event will be at 808-812 Memorial Drive on December 16 or 17
 - Trying to create dialogue and breakdown barriers
 - Have met with tenant council
 - Tenant council helping revise survey to make it more relevant to 808-812 Memorial Drive
 - Looking for volunteers to help on this night (especially young people and people who speak multiple languages)

Book Bike:

6:31 pm – 6:47 pm

- Jen Baily presented on the Book Bike (See Attachment B for Book Bike PowerPoint)
 - Common theme to all three of tonight's presentation is connection, different ways to engage with children and families
- Liz Phipps-Soeiro came up with idea

- Summer 2014: First year: 3 parks
- Summer 2015: Expanded to 2 parks in North Cambridge (now 5 total), with support from KC
 - Book Bike visits parks hosting DHSP's Summer Food Program
 - Partnership
- Book Bike staff help connect parents to resources
- Incredible partnership makes this happen
 - Agenda for children, police, DHSP (Let's Move), Public Health Dept, Libraries, etc.
- Questions:
 - Geeta Pradhan: Where do you get books?
 - We buy them. Get a library discount
 - Through Participatory Budgeting, one of the items selected by public vote was the purchase of bilingual books. Expanded the variety of bilingual books
 - Claude Jacob: Any plans to add additional parks?
 - Probably not. A lot of staff time and energy
 - Claude Jacob: Consider free Flu Clinics for families as an event to hand out books

Community Engagement Team:

6:47 pm – 7:15 pm

- Carole Sousa and Michelle Godfrey presented on the Community Engagement Team (See Attachment C for Community Engagement Team PowerPoint)
 - Hire people to do outreach in their own communities/neighborhoods
 - Educate these outreach workers about programs available
 - Educate providers on culturally appropriate practices
 - Supervisory Team: Meets to make sure practices are working well for staff
 - Outreach Worker Team: Provide opportunity for OWs to provide feedback
 - Networking Event Team
 - Training Planning Team
 - ABBOT (American-Born Black Outreach Team)
 - When CET started, seeing lots of success with OWs in immigrant communities, but not in American-born black families
 - Dispel myth that African Americans left the city with rent control
 - Issues aren't about understanding US culture (like with immigrants)
 - Providing forums for discussion on race
 - CET values feedback. Great when we can change/improve practices based on community feedback
 - Parent/Teacher Conference support:
 - Got call from a school requesting support from Haitian OW for parent/teacher conference

- When dad heard that school scheduled a parent/teacher conference, he bought child plane ticket to Haiti because he thought they wanted to take his child away
 - OW's job was to educate the parent on what a parent/teacher conference is
- CET provides support and training to trainers, supervisors
- Alumni group of last year's training participants
 - CET supports this group by continuing professional development
 - One alum is now a trainer
- Next steps:
 - Evaluating network events—how can we improve? Who isn't coming and why aren't they coming
 - ABBOT—Looking at putting reflective report together to share with other providers (get many requests to share strategy)
 - Proactive technical assistance—How can we craft this to help you meet the need of your programs

Evaluation and Next Steps:

7:15 pm – 7:17 pm

- Mayor Maher thanked everyone for coming and encouraged new members to feel free to share issues or concerns relevant to the Cambridge community with the KC

Adjourn:

7:17 pm

- Meeting adjourned

Attachment A: Door 2 Door Expansion PowerPoint



Door 2 Door Expansion Timeline

- Fall 2014
 - Presented proposal to the Kids Council
- Winter/Spring 2015
 - Met with potential partners
 - Developed survey
- May 20, 2015
 - Newtowne Court / Washington Elms D2D
- Summer 2015
 - Follow up
- Fall 2015
 - Plan next steps for NTC/WE
 - New Project – 808 Memorial Drive

Door 2 Door Campaign



Door 2 Door Campaign

- Partnership between CPD, DHSP, and local non-profit and community based organizations.
- Focus on Cambridge Housing and other large scale affordable housing developments.
- Information is neighborhood specific (e.g. Soccer Night in North Cambridge and Mission13 in Riverside).
- Visited over 3,000 homes in 2013.
- Average around 20 volunteers per night.

Door-2-Door Expansion Cambridge Connects

Go from here to...



Door-2-Door Expansion Cambridge Connects



Door-2-Door Expansion

Cambridge Connects

- Pilot program in a specific neighborhood or housing development.
- An “all of the above” approach collecting information.
 - Community conversation, surveys, tabling at existing neighborhood event, etc.
- Hear directly from residents.
 - What are their barriers, their needs, their wants?
- Use Door2Door model as an organizing tool for neighborhood events.
- Build capacity and relationships among our disconnected residents and families.

Developing Survey

- Kids Council (Nancy)
- Door-to-Door Team (CPD & DHSP)
- Neighborhood & Community Partners
- Police Chaplains
- Agenda for Children Literacy Outreach Workers
- Internal (CPD & Kids Council) Circulation
- 5 drafts – ended up with ten question survey

Partners for Door 2 Door

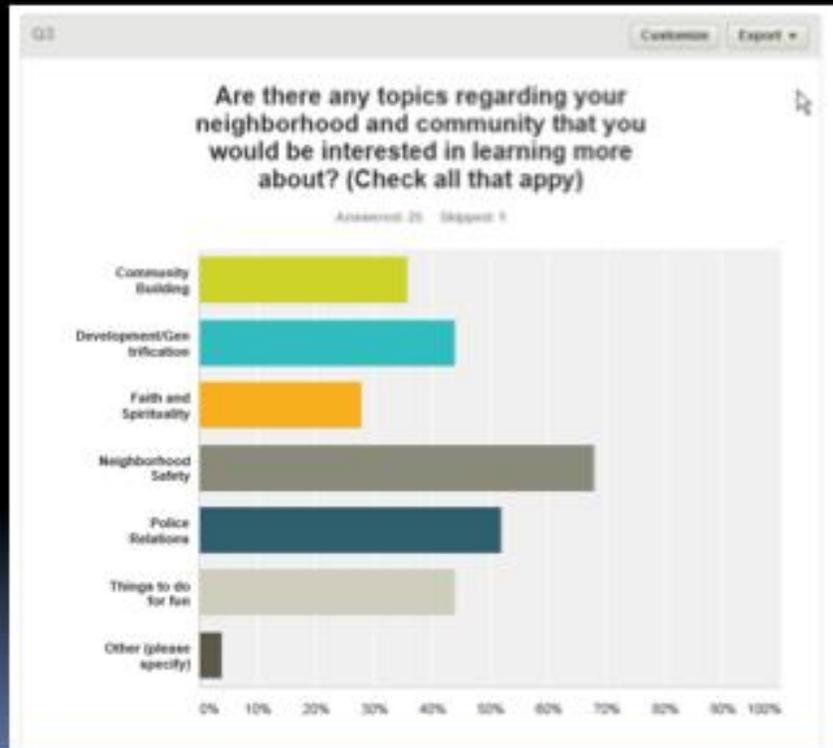
- Cambridge Police
- DHSP
- Cambridge Housing
- Cambridge Youth Programs
- Agenda for Children Literacy Workers
- The Workforce
- Margaret Fuller House
- Community Art Center
- Pentecostal Tabernacle
- Community Engagement Team
- Department of Public Health
- Department of Public works
- Area IV Youth Center
- Fletcher Maynard
- Walking officers

May 20, 2015



May 20, 2015





What can we do to better serve the Port, Newtowne Court, Washing Elms communities?

- “to be more involved in the neighborhood and have more meetings to let us know what is going on.”
- “keep staying in touch”
- “let us know what is going on in the community”
- “get more involved, develop connection with families, provide more free programs for high school students, high school to college transition assistance”

What happened next?

- Staffed summer programs in the neighborhood
- Pup up events
 - July 4th
 - Slush in the summer
 - Picnics
- Still trying to get buy in with Tenant Council
- More to do...



Partners for Door 2 Door

- Cambridge Police
- DHSP
- Cambridge Housing
- Cambridge Youth Programs
- Agenda for Children Literacy Workers
- The Workforce
- Margaret Fuller House
- Community Art Center
- Pentecostal Tabernacle
- Community Engagement Team
- Department of Public Health
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- Area IV Youth Center
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Door 2 Door Expansion on the move...

- 808-812 Memorial Drive
- Date: Evening of December 16 or 17
- Partners
 - Tenant council
 - Youth council
 - Homeowners Rehab Inc.
 - Winn Residential
 - Imam Ismail Fenni – Islamic Society of Boston

Door 2 Door Expansion on the move... 808 Mem. Drive

- 300 Units
- 64 Languages/Dialects
- Active Tenant Association
- Active Youth Council
- Community Garden
- A desire to connect with the young people and families who may feel isolated or underserved.
- Strengthen our relationships and build trust



Two ways you can help (again)

- Door 2 Door volunteers
- Help with follow up community conversations

Cambridge Book Bike



BOOKS BEAT SUMMER SLIDE

Children who are given access to books over the summer perform 35-40% better on reading achievement tests than those without access to books.



SOURCE: Kallgren, Richard L., Anne Magill-Frawley, Gregory Condit, Lizabeth Williams, Jennifer Graf, Jacqueline Day, Courtney Chouk, and Elizabeth Rouse. "Reducing Summer Reading Losses Among Economically Disadvantaged Elementary Students." *Reading Psychology* 37 (2012): 491-507. Web.

2014:



- First year of program
- 3 parks – Greene Rose, Gore, Hoyt
- 789 books given away

2015: Expansion (2nd bike, parks & partners)



Thanks
Kids
Council!!



The program empowers children of all ages to choose their own free book, selected by literacy professionals to encourage reading in summer months. Books include a wide variety of titles, topics and languages.



The Book Bike connects families to other programs that support summer reading in Cambridge including the local public library.



Thank you for your support!!



Attachment C: Community Engagement Team PowerPoint







Implementation

- **Nine CET Outreach Workers**
(African-American, Bangladesh, China, Dominican Republic, Ethiopia (2), Haiti (2), and Morocco)

- **Networking Events**

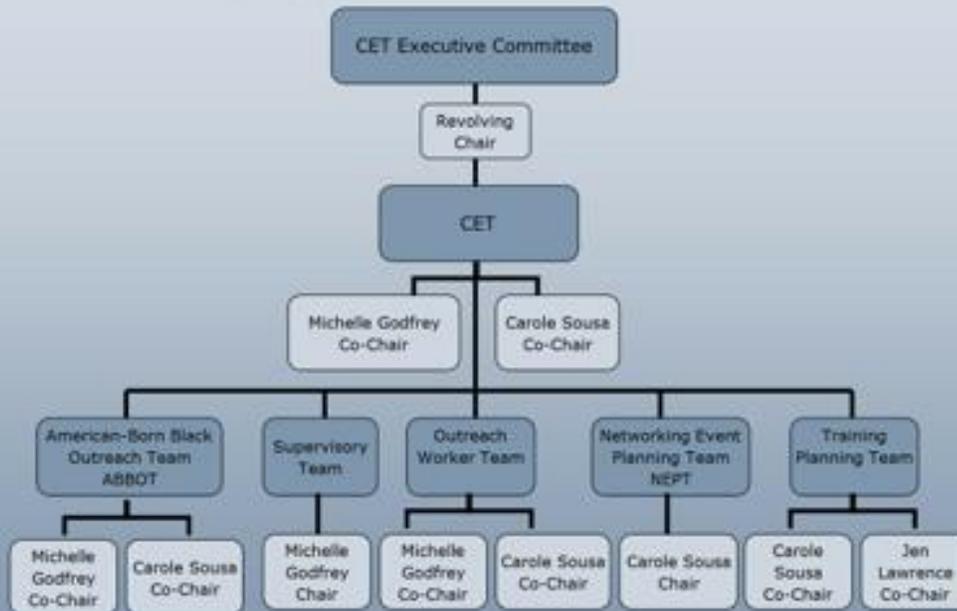
- *Making Connections: A Community Engagement Training Program for Cambridge*

- **Technical Assistance**

The Community Engagement Team 2015

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Community Engagement Team Organizational Chart



Support for the Community Engagement Team is provided by the City of Cambridge through the Department of Human Service Programs and the Cambridge Public School Department.



American-Born Black Outreach Team

- Dispelling the myth
- Looking to the community for leadership
- Providing forums for discussions about racism

The Community Engagement Team 2015

5



Performance Measures FY15

# of parents contacted	843
# of parents who attended an event for the first time	323
# of providers attending networking events	196
# of participants in <i>Making Connections</i> training program	16









