

ACI General Network Meeting

March 12, 2013 Minutes

Indy Parks and Recreation – Kuntz Stadium

10:30 – noon

In Attendances: Tasha Marshall, Tonya Jenkins, Joenne Pope, Indy Parks & Recreations; Sara Beanblossom, Indiana Afterschool Network; Keith Monfreda, Beryl Cohen, AYS; Sam Wendel, Mad Science; Lynne Burns, Westminster Neighborhood Ministries; Ophelia Wellington, Freetown Village; NaShaunee Short, Devin Hines, AMCDC; Cathy Burton, Olivia MacIsaac, Eiteljong Museum; Brandon Brown, Urban Mission YMCA; Michael Coleman, Boys and Girls Clubs of Indianapolis; Renie Lester, Steve Benway, Indianapolis Public Schools; Janice Hicks-Slaughter, Marian University; Mary Klinkose, David Klinkose, ACI.

Welcome and Introductions

Minutes reported of Jan 8, 2013

President's Report David Klinkose

David has been meeting with Children's Coalition of Indiana and is following bills and children's issues. Also working with YouthPro as part of the local committee for the National Afterschool Association convention April 7-10, 2013. The Talent Alliance of IUPUI is sponsoring a community effort to encourage and support an Early Childhood to College & Career Initiative; ACI is involved with the Out-of-School Time effort to expand after school programs in central Indiana. David is a member of the Urban Mission YMCA Board; the Urban Mission is in the process of moving its program to a new center in the Meadows. The ACI website is being updated with completion expected soon.

ACI Board Report David

Board Report will be sent out.

Media/Events Committee Joenne Pope

Asked for ideas on guest speakers for future ACI members. Check out ACI on Face Book. Encouraged people to tell others to come to ACI meetings; the committee is working to increase attendance at General ACI Networking Meetings.

Discussion Topic:

Need for more afterschool programs in Indy David

Why aren't we developing more afterschool programs? Statistics indicate that 10% of students are in afterschool programs. This statistic has not changed in the past ten years. We need to explore why this number has not increased.

Comments:

Biggest problem on the near-eastside is transportation and transient populations.

Parents are unable to pay for the programs and organizations cannot "give them away."

Maybe increase State dollars to support afterschool programs; find other resources

GUEST PRESENTATIONS:

Freetown Village Ophelia Wellington, Executive Director

The mission of Freetown Village is to educate the public about African American lives and culture in Indiana. Each year over 20,000 people experience a Freetown Village program that offers a perspective into the daily lives of Indiana's African American communities. Twenty-plus Black settlements in Indiana along the southern segment of the State; Freetown essentially tells the story of these settlers "Old Ward Four" from 1870. Freetown Village teaches history through 15 different programs; they "make history fun", e.g., summer day camp (they come to you); touring (have been to 80 or the 92 counties); workshops (heritage, traditions, etc.); etc. Still have 1870 programs but have expanded to other time periods. For example, they tell the story of Madame Walker, "The Madame Walker Story." Some of the programs are in character/costume and some are not. Freetown Village Singers sing and explain the meaning of the songs. They can develop series or one-time programs. The educational outreach programs include craft/heritage workshops, character vignettes, Freetown Village Singers, and Summer Camp.

For more information, contact 317-631-1870 or freetown@freetownvillage.org; www.freetownvillage.org.

Eiteljorg Museum Cathy Burton, Director of Education

A new exhibit opened this week. Free admission for IPS students K-12th grade. Many opportunities for young to older students. Free parking when visiting the museum. \$3 per student for youth groups. The cost will increase in July.

There are hands on activities, storytellers, many exhibits, and much to do for all ages. A storyteller can also go to schools – a free program for two years. Students who participate will receive a card that will entitle them to free admission to the Museum for their family.

Free transportation might be possible. For discounted admission prices, logistics and a menu of available tours, visit the "Learn" section of Eiteljorg.org or call 317-275-1350 and press "1" at the prompt.

AYS Special Needs Inclusion Beryl Cohen, Special Needs Coordinator

Inclusion is the right thing to do. Ms. Cohen shared the AYS Intake Policy and forms they use – Plan of Care for Diabetes, Plan of Care for ADD or ADHD, Plan of Care for Autism, and medication form. She said organizations should feel free to use the forms if they will be helpful. Inclusion is: being with one another and caring for one another; inviting those who have been left out to come in; inviting people to be included and involved; inclusion is about our abilities – our gifts and how to share them; treasures diversity and builds community. She also shared a Modification Planning Form, an Accommodations List, and an Asperger's Syndrome Guide for Teachers.

For more information, contact Ms. Cohen at bcohen@ayskids.org.

Next ACI General Meeting: May 14th at WFYI

ACI Board Meeting – April 18th