

# Neighborhood Advisory Group

July 29th, 2020

4-530pm

## **PRESENT**

### **Mediator**

Susan Kertzner

### **Staff**

Fiona Bartell, Elly Johnson, Kristine Edwards, Chris Nelson, Ashley Brooks, Cidnee Ray

### **Board**

Peggy Jessel, Amy Helling, Andrew Burwick, Mike Moran, Ed Victor

### **City Council**

Aaron Brockett

### **Residents**

Myami and Gianna

### **BPD**

Kerry Yamaguchi

### **HHS**

Kristin Hyser, Tricia Rood

### **Neighbors**

Melody Lyle, Sarah Silver, Susan Dawson, Nate Fristoe, Bill Spencer, Anne Schwarting, Judy Nogg, Leslie Pinkham, Nate Fristoe, 7203014617

## **NOTES:**

- We can't discuss specifics about the incident due to legalities
- Susan - Why overdose, assault, murder? Why are we here? Trust is beyond frayed. Permit and funding of 1440 is affordable housing in perpetuity. Feels monthly meeting is a pep rally.
  - Gianna and Myami spoke about their experience at 1440 being really positive. Don't want to be vilified.
  - Judy - had a group home for teenage foster kids - did it for 13 years
- Bill - concerned about the group becoming toxic
  - Assess rules

- Nate - Not adequate communication of events that occurred at AH. Toxic situation. What happened to three friends of Brian that were a part of the assault? Frustrated with the “off-site” language.
  - He mentioned Caprio was involved somewhere? That he is a drug dealer
  - Consequences are going to be dire for your organization
  - Need to see changes within the organization or consider not bringing in people over 21. Are staff qualified to service these people? Reconsider the criminal background check
  - He has a need for safety need
- Chris - very aware of the seriousness of this murder
  - Kristine - we don't want sirens and lights coming in all the time either. Traumatizing for all.
- Susan: First 4 months, 70 calls, 17 were welfare. Why so many calls?
  - Brooke: We are concerned too, we are invested in this issue. Trying to find a happy medium of what we can share and not share.
  - Chris: We have been limited in community building due to COVID and staffing shortages due to COVID. It's been hard for us as an organization to pivot.
- Sarah: If the program is successful, it is successful for us. There is the chaos we can see and the chaos we learn about (assault from Brian and murder from Brian)..we're concerned for your safety. What are Attention Homes' ideas? We want to hear from you before we share our ideas.
  - Elly: Safety of residents is top of mind. Tenants and staff are meeting to brainstorm how to have better communication and a better crisis management response.
  - Brooke: Everyone in the building goes through background checks and passed. DOH manages our fair housing. Evictions are a very serious matter. You lose federal housing for 8 years. Evictions are very hard in CO right now. Judges are pro-tenant. It is very hard to evict. Doing a lot of work to document and verify cause for eviction
  - Bill: He had a felony on his record in August for a \$500 theft. Shouldn't that have disqualified him? Stole a CC from a woman.
    - Peggy: He was not convicted. Deferred charges do not disqualify.
  - Chris: working on answers for how to make this safer. Talking with Ross, DOH, etc. to find solutions
  - Sarah: John and Carol Driver - Fort Wayne where they have a set of rules that are very specific: rules include some things that Attention Homes has said they “can't do”. Fort Wayne holds tenants responsible for crimes on or off campus. We have not been transparent nor quickly enough.
    - Judy: Other places have similar programs and criminal activity disallows residency or allows eviction. More direct consequences for wrongdoings.
    - Property management can give bullet points once every week of any police calls, etc.
- Make it easier to find Good Neighbor Agreement and add a dashboard

- Gianna - Would love a NARcan, would like it to be sober too, they are adults and can't be grounded. We deserve some privacy.
  - Aaron: create some agreements of what needs to be shared
  - Nate: We can look up what happened in our neighborhood. It's illusionary that we have privacy. We don't need to know internal minutia. We want transparency from AH facility on operations: KPI, key performance failures, context, footprint has a larger impact on the community. People are barely aware that the murder had anything to do with AH. There should have been a letter that went out. A letter that goes out more regularly.

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- There is a Town Hall on Friday at 3pm, another neighborhood meeting next week, talking with DOH and Ross for ways we can tighten this process. Come up with boundaries and agreements of communications.
- Send documents from Fort Wayne to Peggy Jessel and suggestions from neighborhood. What is applicable? They will get it to you by the end of the week.