

INTRO

Welcome – thank you. Took feedback from last mtg in January. New time and day of week. Rcvd input re: topics you'd like to hear about.

Board – reminder who board members are, all here tonight, thank them, find them to help with committee work

Agenda – 2 parts. Will move quickly. Will allow for Q&A at end of both sections.

Thank you VAHI – Thx you to APS, an important partner of ours. And to Harness partnership

AGENDA

VHCA Neighborhood Update

- Intro – Kim (3 min). – 7:03-7:06
- YTD success, Membership recruitment - Leah (5 min) 7:07-7:12
- Summerfest 2024 - Alex (5-7min) 7:12-7:19
- Budget Report - Jess (5min) 7:20-7:25
- FRIENDS OF VaHi - Leah (5min) 7:25-7:30
- Fall Events & Volunteer Opps - KJ, Lisl (7min) 7:31 – 7:38
- Transportation News - Amy (5min) 7:39-7:43
- Parks Update & John Howell Renovation - (15m) 7:43 – 7:58
- Ways to get involved incl Elections – Kim & Leah (2 min). 7:58 – 8:00
- Q&A - Board Members (5 min) 8:00 – 8:05

People Experiencing Homelessness in Virginia-Highland with Local Expert Panel

- Panel (45min) 8:05 – 8:35
- Q&A (15min) 8:35 – 8:50

observing

a rise in 'people experiencing homelessness' - in our Parks and most recently encampments on our streets. The same streets that we promote our young children to walk to school on every day.

conundrum we are facing

we want to respect and assist these individuals as best as we can but know that is not the ideal course of action. we are unsure of the resources available to assist.

questions we are asking

Why is this happening on our streets? What resources are available for these individuals to get help? What can we do to improve the situation? When we witness inappropriate/illegal behavior by these individuals, how do we address it?

Our intention

Can we work together to alleviate homelessness in our community?

Discussion Guide

- Kim with VHCA: introduce the intention of the panel, intro Alex
- Alex: Highlight the importance of this topic related to our district and our need to address it. Why these entities are critical to the discussion
- Each Panelist: Introduce themselves and describe their entity's role on the issue
- Q&A: Alex to intro questions and ask for panelists to contribute
 - Q: Have you seen a rise in the homeless population in 2023? In Virginia-Highland? What are you seeing?
 - Q: What is your organization doing to address this challenge? Is it working? If not, what is needed to address?
 - Q: How can we help/take action? What specific actions can we take as individuals? How about as a VHCA organization?
 - Q: Who do we call to address incidents/issues?
 - Q: What examples has your organization successfully done – what have you learned?
 - Example: Alex convened group to address GDOT encampments – results and learnings

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