

HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 2, 2012 – 11:30am

County Commission Chambers – 415 N. Dakota Avenue, Second Floor

Members present: Michelle Erpenbach, Jill Franken, Jim Meyer, Carol Muller, Kerri DeGraff, Jeff Barth, Shirley Halleen, Doug Morrison, Jesse Vavreck, and Matt Astleford.

Members absent: Darrin Smith, Jeff Barth.

Others present: Gary Helder, Community Outreach; Melanie Bliss, Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition; Julie Becker, St. Francis House; Tim Nicolai, Arena Motel; Robert Wilson, Minnehaha County Commission Administrative Office, and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Coordinator.

I. Business

A. Approval of Minutes – 03/05/12

- Upon motion by Jill Franken, and seconded by Michelle Erpenbach, the HAB approved the minutes of the 03/05/12 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

B. Board Member Update

- Shared with Board members that Shirley Halleen had requested an alternative be found for her on the Homeless Advisory Board before her term expires in August 2012, if possible. Lesa Jarding of Wells Fargo Bank had expressed interest, attended a previous HAB meeting, and submitted an application for review by the Board. Doug Morrison made a motion to accept Shirley Halleen's resignation and to accept Lesa Jarding's as a new Board member. Michelle Erpenbach seconded the motion which was carried unanimously. Stacey Tieszen, HAB Coordinator, will request that a new resolution be drawn up by the City Attorney's office approving Lesa Jarding as a new member which will then be presented at the next available Joint City/County meeting for final approval.

C. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

- None.

II. Program

A. Winter Plan 2012 – 2013

- Discussed changes in a potential location to be used as the Warming Site for the upcoming winter. The official approval has not yet been received and some general repairs and work will need to be done on the facility if it should be the choice that is pursued. Once the official location is selected, there is a timeline that will go into effect so that it will be ready to open in mid October (if necessary based on weather). St. Francis House has agreed and is willing to be the lead agency for the warming site. There will be grants and other donation funding requests that will potentially be needed. Requested that the Board make a motion to consider this location as the primary option and to continue pursuing it to fruition. Carol Muller made the motion which was seconded by Shirley Halleen. This motion was carried unanimously. Concern exists if expensive remodeling is done and the building is only allowed to be used for one year. The committee will work to address this issue. There is also technical assistance in regards to creating a successful new warming site available through the National Healthcare for the Homeless that Jill Franken with the City Health Department may be able to access.

B. Housing Trust Fund

- Shared what the logo (Build Up Sioux Falls) looks like for the Housing Trust Fund. More will unfold soon with the Insight Marketing team. Discussed areas of the Housing Trust Fund that we are focused on including determining the dedicated revenue source and how to secure it. Mary Brooks, National Expert from the Center for Community Change, will be here on April 12 to help us work through some general items. The team will meet and create a timeline for the next several months as we work to roll out the marketing campaign.

C. Safe Home

- Carol Muller provided an update on Safe Home. She stated that things were going well. Two new residents will be moving in this week. There are currently 4 females staying in the program. Two individuals are focused on sobriety. Residents have expressed appreciation for the program. There has been one eviction. They are adding one additional camera at the front for a wider view. It is active at night so two staff are on duty. Shirley Halleen said she has heard really good things about the program in the community. Gary Helder of The Community Outreach has also said that two individuals he has seen regularly are looking healthier and their demeanors have improved.

D. Community Trends Dashboard

- Reviewed data from the dashboard. Food needs continue to remain high. Housing wait lists for Section 8 (Housing Choice) vouchers have increased. Homeless Count Surveys are being reworked by a statewide committee. There is also a taskforce looking to create a statewide plan to end homelessness.

III. Information

- None.

IV. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 12:30pm. Next Board meeting is Monday, May 7, 2012.