

HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 7, 2012 – 11:30am

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

Members present: Jeff Barth, Jill Franken, Jim Meyer, Carol Muller, Shirley Halleen, Traci Jensen, and Jesse Vavreck.

Members absent: Kerri DeGraff, Michelle Erpenbach, Matt Astleford, Doug Morrison, and Darrin Smith.

Others present: Lesa Jarding, Wells Fargo; Gary Helder, Community Outreach; Tim Nicolai, Arena Motel; Julie Becker, St. Francis House; Maria Krell, Good Shepherd Center; and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Coordinator.

I. Business

A. Approval of Minutes – 04/02/12

- Upon motion by Jeff Barth, and seconded by Carol Muller, the HAB approved the minutes of the 04/02/12 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

B. Board Member Appreciation

- Shirley Halleen was thanked for her years of service to the Homeless Advisory Board and to those in need in the community. Shirley Halleen in turn thanked the Board for the opportunities to learn about issues in the community and praised the work that is currently being done to meet the needs. Lesa Jarding will join the Homeless Advisory Board as an official member following approval of the resolution at the Joint City/County meeting on May 21, 2012.

C. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

- Discussed the recent killing of a homeless individual who had been living outdoors and the community's response thus far. Discussed campsites in the community and ways to promote safety. Commissioner Barth mentioned the costs associated with alcohol and discussed raising the tax on it to cover some of those expenses.
- Cathy Brechtelsbauer from Bread for the World asked that information be shared with the Board about potential cuts to federal food programs and their impact.

II. Program

A. Winter Plan 2012 – 2013

- Discussed the meetings and progress that has been made in a potential new warming site with St. Francis House as the lead agency. Costs to remodel the existing structure were shared with the Board. There are estimated costs necessary to meet City Code and to provide the necessary heat based on the age of the boiler system. Julie Becker was thanked for her willingness to take on the warming center as an additional responsibility as the Executive Director of the St. Francis House. Final approval is still needed from her Board, as well as from the owners of the facility. Opening of the Warming Site is anticipated to happen in late October 2012.

B. Housing Trust Fund

- Shared what was discussed when Mary Brooks was here on April 12, 2012. Also discussed next steps and the need to make sure each element is very clear in regards to how the whole Housing Trust Fund (from beginning to end) will work including a roll out campaign. Shared with the Board the Timeline that the Taskforce created.

C. Community Trends Dashboard

- Reviewed data from the dashboard.

III. Information

- Project Connect is May 7, 2012 (today) at the Salvation Army.
- Homeless Consortium Conference is in Chamberlain, SD on June 18th and 19th, 2012.

IV. Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned into Executive Session at 12:15pm. Next Board meeting is Monday, June 4, 2012.