

HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

November 4, 2013 – 11:30am

Siouxland Health and Human Services Building (Classroom 2) – 521 N. Main Avenue, Second Floor

Members present: Jill Franken, Jim Meyer, Carol Muller, Cindy Heiberger, Michelle Erpenbach, Lesa Jarding, and Tom Wingert.

Members absent: Doug Morrison and Traci Jensen.

Others present: Maria Krell, Good Shepherd Center; Candice Cummings, VA; Melanie Bliss, Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition; Shireen Ranschau, Sioux Falls Housing; Julie Becker, St. Francis House; Tim Nicolai, Arena Motel, and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Coordinator.

I. Business

A. Approval of Minutes – 09/09/13

- Upon motion by Jill Franken, and seconded by Michelle Erpenbach, the Board approved the minutes of the 09/09/13 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

B. Public Input on Non-Agenda Items

- None.

II. Program

A. Public Policy Breakfast, Luncheon, and Afternoon Sessions on November 7

Discussed the upcoming event on Thursday. Linda Couch from the National Low Income Housing Coalition will be the featured speaker. Presently, 80 people have registered to attend. Emphasis for attendees was on our elected officials and other community leaders for the morning portion. It will be at the Falls Overlook Café beginning at 7:30am. Breakfast and lunch are both provided and the event is sponsored thru funding made available from Citibank. Linda Couch will also be meeting with non-profits for an afternoon session beginning at 3:00pm.

B. Statewide 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness

- On October 8th, a workgroup met to try and put some structure to a statewide 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. The group volunteered their time and spent approximately 6 hours together developing a vision statement, 3 primary goals, and determined what demographic information was relevant. A state plan is required by the Continuum of Care process. Discussed next steps and a plan to complete it as fully as possible. Emphasis will be on trying to reach the entire state for input (varying programs and leadership) so that it can be as inclusive as possible. South Dakota is unique and therefore a bit challenging to develop a statewide plan for as access to services and programs are not available equally (South Dakota has 9 tribes, and is primarily rural so what Sioux Falls and even Rapid City has, most other communities have nothing as extensive). This information will be presented at the next Statewide Consortium meeting that will be held in December.

C. Criminal Justice Initiative – Housing Workgroup

- Stacey Tieszen shared with the Board information related to a plan to potentially release parolees into local hotels, perhaps even 2-4 people to a room. There is a housing charter workgroup with the Department of Corrections and Stacey Tieszen serves on it. She attended her first conference call recently and discussed with the Board that they are trying to find the most effective way to secure housing and prevent recidivism. There is \$250,000 available through the Criminal Justice Initiative (Senate Bill 70) that may be used to pay for the hotel stay or what other options that have yet to be determined. Other non-profit members and hotel owners from the community shared their concerns with this plan. While nothing is yet determined, Commissioner Heiberger asked that Ed Lichtenberg, Director of the Parole Division for the Department of Corrections, be invited to share their plan with the Board, and even more so with the City and County. She asked that a letter be drafted outlining the concerns noted today.

D. Community Trends – Informational

- Reviewed local data, concerns, and issues related to homelessness and affordable housing in Sioux Falls. One topic

noted was the upcoming foreclosures of 29 Fluth-owned properties. These units are typically considered to be more affordable and their loss could greatly impact the stability of many families.

E. Other

- Darrin Smith shared about the City's Request for Proposal for a large Multi-Family project for up to \$500,000. Project submissions are due to the City on December 5.

Carol Muller also asked Darrin Smith about the Downtown 2025 plan development and whether input will be taken from members of the homeless community. Smith shared that they want it to be real and inclusive. It will be a 12-15 month process with many opportunities for input

III. Information

- Hunger and Homeless Awareness Week is November 16-24. Melanie Bliss shared upcoming activities for that week that the Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition is hosting

IV. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 12:45pm.