

^Ventura Social Services Task Force

Minutes of Meeting November 3, 2010

Attending - (25 - Neal Andrews, Jerry Breiner, Peter Brown, Cathy Brudnicki, Brenda Byers, Cindy Cantle, David Deutsch, Michelle Dent, Adele Fergusson, Bill Finley, Ken Finning, Jill Forman, John Jones, Shelli Locklear, Jill Martinez, Donna Mason, Loretta McCarty, Eileen McCarthy, Mike Merewether, Kate Mills, Debora Schreiber, Karol Schulkin, Mark Stadler, Mary Stewart, Beth Sutherland)

Meeting called to order by Chair John Jones

NOVEMBER IS HOMELESS AND POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH

Self-introductions performed.

I. Report on City Activity by Peter Brown

1. Winter Warming Shelter to be in Oxnard this year. Opening Dec 6, clients to use public transportation, vouchers will be available.
2. City Council Homeless Committee usually meets first Thursday of each month at 4PM in Council office. However, in November the meeting will be 11/18/10 at 4 PM. (note: meeting rescheduled) On the agenda the beginning of the 6 month strategy to set priorities among objectives in the 10 year strategy, define action plans and tasks; also SB2 status report.
3. Homeless Count to be on January 25. Need volunteers
4. November 15 City Council considering SB2 . Other alternatives to the Planning Commission report are being prepared
5. Teen Leadership program doing Teens for Jeans. If you want to distribute jeans contact Peter. Only agencies that control clothing distribution will be allowed to give out jeans.
6. Other hot items are pan handling, shopping carts, and parking meters.

II. Subcommittee reports (meeting times / locations at end)

A. Faith Communities by Bill Finley

1. Request from the meeting to **vote on Task Force support for the Planning Commission's recommendation re SB2**. This is consistent with allowing the widest possible site choice. Motion made by Debora Schreiber seconded by Beth Sutherland. Motion passed. Abstentions: Neal Andrews, Peter Brown, Cindy Cantle, Mike Merewether, Mark Stadler. Voting no representing DVP was Jerry Breiner.
2. Thanksgiving plans. Different format this year with teams a) sponsoring a table either to decorate and host and b) volunteering to provide food. Traditional family style serving. Salvation Army will coordinate volunteers. Call Nola. Half the food is lined up already.

3.Safe Sleep Program. No police calls have been logged. All participants receive case management. Most people have some income. It would be helpful to have resources to help keep cars road ready and insured

B. Homeless Prevention Cindy Cattle

1. Project Understanding helped 6 households/20 people in October. In November so far they have assisted 2 households/5 people, assistance for another household is coming soon. So far 157 households helped, still averaging around \$700 for each family.

2. Beth continues to help with materials and branding. Thank you to UU Church for letting her spend time on this project. We are looking into using a local printer. The message phone number is 654-7701. The web site is VHPF.net. It is now possible to donate on line to VHPF through the United Way web site.

3.Cindy is on the cover of Ventana this month. The article is about VHPF and there is a full page ad also which we bought along with the 2 ads in Reporter.

C. Housing Options by Loretta McCarthy

1. HomeShare has made 4 successful matches. In the 9 months of its operation there have been 43 seekers and 17 providers identified. Hardest part is finding home providers

2. Encanto del Mar on Thompson and Oak housing will start construction soon. 37 units 1-3 bedroom. SoHo on North Ventura scheduled to open next summer.

3. River Haven: a community “mother dome” is being erected.

D. Gateway

Meeting to happen with Council members for City to give feedback on specific sites. 4 sites are considered more viable out of the 9. Because of possible land acquisition by city, meeting would be a closed session. Gateway is not covered by SB2. There is further info on the VSSTF.org website under committees: Gateway.

1. Plans to have an event where folks stand at street corners with signs saying “I’m not homeless but 601 persons in Ventura are. Please help: OneCityVentura.org. Committee of Donna Mason, Cindy Cattle, Haroldale Carlidge, Peter Brown, and Debora Schreiber doing the planning

2. Event on Saturday morning Nov 13 put on by League of Women voters on Myths and solutions to Homelessness. Agenda planning by VSSTF.

F. Steering Committee by John Jones

Still looking at firming up grant application procedure. Working on November event planning

V. Old Business

A. One Stop by Kate Mills

1. One Stop keeps growing. 2389 unduplicated clients since 1/08. Need volunteers including to perform data entry, lawyers and case managers.

In Oxnard One Stop is at CAP on Richmond Ave.

VI. New Business

VII Announcements

1. Turning Point reports their current population is more amenable to mental health treatment. They need volunteers for transportation. There is mileage reimbursement. Liability is covered by T.P.
2. El Patio is accepting applications. There are 27 single units. Rent \$650.
3. EP Foster is collecting food in a Move for Hunger drive. Moving companies help transport the food.

They had a very successful staff training session on de-escalation training for crisis management.

4. January 29, 2011, Jody Farr will be in town to do a Bridges Out of Poverty workshop.
5. Salvation Army again doing Christmas events and donations. Contact Bill to help, contact Salvation Army if you need help.

3rd annual One City One Meal Thanksgiving Event. Call Nola at Salvation Army to volunteer. Seatings at 11 AM, 12 and 1PM

Respectfully submitted,
Debora Schreiber
Secretary

Next VSSTF Meeting December 1, 3 PM

Regular Meeting Schedules

Faith Community Subcommittee meets every 1st Tuesday, 4:00-5:00 PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 5654 Ralston, Ventura 93003, Dec. 7

Ventura Social Services Task Force meets every 1st Wednesday, 3:00-5:00 PM, at Family to Family, 303 N Ventura Ave # E, Ventura

Homeless Prevention Subcommittee meets every 2nd Wednesday, 1PM Catholic Charities, 303 N Ventura Ave. Dec. 8

Housing Options Subcommittee meets every 2nd Wednesday, 4:30

PM, Housing Authority, Snapdragon Lane, Saticoy. Dec 8 **Gateway** meets third
Friday at Salvation Army on Oak Street, at 2 PM,
Dec 8
Contact John Jones for Education committee information

Other Events

<http://www.onecityventura.org>