

Minutes
HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
December 8th, 2008 – 11:30am
Siouxland Health & Human Services Building

Members present: Shirley Halleen, Carol Twedt, Randy Bartunek, Vernon Brown, Hugh Grogan, Judy Buseman and Tam Baker

Members absent: Wendy Giebink, Kerri DeGraff

Others present: Alan Graff, First Premier, Jeff Barth, Minnehaha County Commissioner, Shireen Ranschau, SF Housing, Kari Benz, County Human Services, and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Homeless Coordinator.

I. Approval of Minutes – 11/17/08 Minutes

Upon motion by Randy Bartunek, and seconded by Hugh Grogan, the HAB approved the minutes of the 11/17/08 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Site Committee

- County Commissioner Jeff Barth, as a member of the Site Committee, presented on the final recommendations that the Committee made and also that those properties were being pursued by the County to purchase and potentially be used as the Housing First location. He also shared that there are plans to hire an architect who will make designs based on a 24-unit and 32-unit complex. Judy Buseman stated that it is important to bring back the most accurate costs to the City and County so that decisions can be made in regards to financing. Carol Twedt reported that the County Commission will hold an executive session tomorrow to address both the property and the architect. Alan Graff reminded members that First Premier/PREMIER Bankcard has made \$35,000 available to this Housing First project once things are solidified. He also recommended keeping the other community partners informed. Discussed the second penny sales tax and the initiative that is out there to try and get it repealed. Judy Buseman asked about a timeline to get it to the City. Carol Twedt said they will hopefully know in about a week. Discussed putting together a subgroup of the HAB to work on the conceptual plan including costs, layout, any HUD or federal funds that maybe available. Discussed potential members of this subgroup would include Randy Bartunek, Hugh Grogan, Judy Buseman and Stacey Tieszen.

III. New Business

A. Annual Statewide Homeless Count

- The Statewide Homeless Count is January 29th. Goodwill Industries is unable to conduct the East River Count this year and Lisa Bondy of the SD Housing Development Authority and the SD Housing for the Homeless Consortium has asked that the Homeless Advisory Board conduct it. Discussion among HAB members was that it was too time-consuming and that the Housing First project was a priority. Shireen Ranschau from SF Housing stated that the numbers were very important for SD when it comes to determining federal funding. Hugh Grogan affirmed this. Grogan then made a motion that the Homeless Advisory Board will assume responsibility for the Count. Concern was brought forward

about it being the entire Eastern portion of the state and not just Sioux Falls. Carol Twedt asked that the motion be amended to reflect that it only be the Sioux Falls area. Stacey Tieszen shared that the majority of the outlying Counties would just involve mailing and email so the actual time commitment wouldn't be that intensive. Hugh Grogan again emphasized that this is part of Stacey and the Board taking a stronger role in the community. The Homeless Advisory Board will assume responsibility for the Count.

IV. Other

- Shirley Halleen mentioned that Charis Ministries continues to move forward. Stacey Tieszen provided handouts on the Genesis program thru Community Outreach and explained the highlights of the new, United Way funded, program.

- Program Committee recognizes the importance of getting the Housing First program moving forward, but also the increase in the number of homeless families and families at risk of becoming homeless. The timeline that the Program Committee established earlier this year has been re-worked to reflect these items. Program Committee meets on January 6th. Hugh Grogan discussed the need to focus on creating more units of affordable housing in Sioux Falls. He also discussed Housing Trust Funds and how that is a trend shaping up across the country.

V. Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 1pm.