

NOTES/MINUTES of the Faith Subcommittee of the Ventura Social Services Task Force: December 14, 2016; 3 PM; Ventura Church of Christ

Present: Judy Alexandre, Lynn Geller, Robin Lerner, Pam Marshall, Dave Schulze

Welcome and opened in prayer: Dave Schulze

1. In view of recent events – our response and commitment as a body of faith to stand by others in need: We will continue to do outreach to all houses of faith in hopes of positive engagement in line with the Mission Statement of the Faith Subcommittee with the goal of ending homelessness in Ventura. Pam will send out an email blast to as many houses of faith as possible in February to remind everyone of City's meeting in March regarding zoning changes for a shelter/bridge housing with services, plus an additional reminder in March.
2. Winter Warming Shelter updates – using Oxnard National Guard Armory. Need training dates (Steve Karnazes) and online link for donations (Kevin Clerici) – Judy will contact.
3. Regarding zoning changes in Ventura and year-round shelter with services updates: City's Task Force meeting: Beginning a list of guidelines and a list of possible locations. The Chamber of Commerce is on board with this. There is a need to identify possible operators, locations, and funding information to give to Council in March.
4. Point-in-Time count: in addition to usual count, there will be a Youth Count on Friday of that week. More information is posted at www.venturacoc.org.
5. VSSTF – Next meeting will be focused on Mentally Ill Homeless Persons and best practices for helping.
6. Newsletter – November's was completed and sent out. Next newsletter, for January 2017: include: From Rabbi Lisa – Faith Leaders' Sabbath Afternoon coming in February; Need letters from Clergy regarding efforts to end homelessness in their congregations; reminder of upcoming March meeting of City Council regarding rezoning for shelter with services – important to attend; Winter Warming shelter information; short paragraph regarding VC Cook Bikes, Family Promise, Lights at River Haven (Bullet Points). Need everything by end of December to get it out by January.
7. Miscellaneous/Updates:
 - a. Family Promise – 2 congregations so far; outreach continuing.
 - b. Showers of Blessing – VIMA has decided NOT to pursue support of this program at this time, in light of costs involved and that homeless people can currently shower at Ventura Community Park for \$3/month.
 - c. Reminder: Homeless Memorial: Sunday, December 18th at Plaza Park

Meeting closed in prayer by Dave Schulze. **Next Meeting January 25th, 3 pm, Ventura Church of Christ**

Submitted by Pam Marshall