

Ventura Social Services Task Force

Minutes of Meeting June 2, 2010

Attending - total of 23 (Neal Andrews, Paul Bramson, Jerry Breiner, Peter Brown, Cathy Brudnicki, Cindy Cante, David Deutsch, Bill Finley, Ken Finning, Jill Forman, Todd L. Goehner, John Jones, Shelli Locklear, Donna Mason, Loretta McCarty, Mike Merewether, Kate Mills, Rob Orth, Revis Robinson, Debora Schreiber, Mary Stewart, Beth Sutherland, Daniel Zapata)

Meeting called to order by chair John Jones

Self-introductions performed.

I. Report on City Activity by Peter Brown

1. City Council Homeless sub committee will meet first Thursday of each month at 4PM in Council office. These are now open meetings. If there are not items on the agenda, meeting is cancelled so check before attending (with Debora Schreiber, Peter Brown, or Neal Andrews).
2. Planning Commission will be discussing SB2 on June 15, 6PM.
3. Peter is moving into Community Development Dept under Jeff Lambert. He will still have responsibility over "all things homeless". Office is now one floor down.
4. Thousand Oaks is looking into the Safe Sleep plan. There have been NO calls for service in Ventura. It is hoped the success of the program will encourage other sites to join up.

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

A. Faith Communities

1. Homeless Awareness Month will be in November. Letter is going out under letterheads of various orgs. & churches.
2. Planning for Thanksgiving ongoing. This year VSSTF will be more involved with publicity and trying to spread the word that sharing a meal together IS helping (don't need to be a food server). Message: Dine with your Neighbors. Probably will pursue a plan of table hosts assigned to socialize.

B. Homeless Prevention by Cindy Cante

1. May beginning balance was \$4,964. Project Understanding helped one family. Catholic Charities helped 6 families. 135 families assisted.
2. Working with Beth so Lift Up Your Voice is a partner with VHPF, especially for outreach.
3. There was a case workers meeting in May on using Federal money most effectively. Thank you to Karol Schulkin for her help.
4. New meeting date: second Wednesday at **one PM** (time change) at Catholic Charities.

C. Housing Options

No May meeting.

D. Gateway Report by Jerry Breiner

1. Needs are being refined and plans moving forward

E. Community Education by John Jones

1. Meeting held with IT person from H.A. about the website. Website will be coalesced into one...probably VSSTF.org

F. Steering Committee by John Jones

1. The Planning Commission meeting is June 15 re SB2. Attend if you are able.
2. Steering Committee will pursue possibility of forming 501(3) C. Preference of group is to have meeting following regular July meeting. Debora will pursue.
3. Work continues on formalizing grant submission process for the future and on ongoing monitoring of grants.
4. Steering Committee will meet at Starbucks every 3rd Wednesday of the month at 3:30 but not in June, John will be out of town. Call for date

V. Old Business

A. One Stop by Kate Mills

1. Now held on Tuesday and Thursday with Thurs for returning medical patients. Last Tuesday around 22 people received services, 14 were new clients.
2. Homeless Medical Clinic opened today in Oxnard at the Community Action of Ventura Center on Richmond using a mobile van. There is also a job club at the location.

B. Homeless and Housing Coalition by Cathy Brudnicki

1. Community Meeting on June 15, 1-3 PM at the Star in Camarillo. There will be an important discussion of fund allocation, attempting to pin down who is applying for what. Cathy predicts only one EHAP award will be granted in the County. Also to be discussed is "what data would you like to have that isn't available". Homeless Survey has 101 questions on it.
2. Grand Jury released a report addressing the 10 year plan. The allocation of needed housing units by Cities was not addressed. There is a time period to respond.
3. Santa Paula had a community meeting last night sponsored by the SP Task Force. It was very well attended and went two hours past scheduled! Chaired by Doug Green, they addressed the question "How should we approach solving the problem (of homelessness)?" with values clarification and planning. Several groups that are sometimes less than supportive were represented. The future plans that were identified :
 - a) create a drop in center
 - b) more community education is needed
 - c) the long term solution is housing

The next meeting of the SP Task Force is Wednesday, June 16, 5 PM

They are also planning to create a shelter or transitional housing, a 6 bed unit.

C. Kingdom Center

California Pizza Kitchen fundraiser on June 21-22. You must bring the flyer.

D. River Haven update by David Deutsch

River Haven is at an ideal state, very stable residents. Some people have moved on and gotten housing; they are looking at forming an alumni group so such people can act as role models. David believes having an on-site manager is the single largest contributing factor to the success there now. The domes will be painted very soon.

VI. Announcements

1. El Patio will complete the first phase in July.
2. The Mission, Leewood and the Hamilton Hotels have new site managers and new coordination. It sounds like they are doing very good things. The HP committee will be hearing from Vickie Cummings.
3. Mary Stewart gave us an update on Foster Library. With Wright closed, there are 3x the number of patrons as before. Adults can access the children's material but not linger there. Everyone is welcome in the library and is treated with dignity.

Respectfully submitted,
Debora Schreiber
secretary

Next VSSTF Meeting July 7, 3-4:15 followed by info on 501(3) C at 4:30PM

Upcoming events:

Regular Meeting Schedules

The **Faith Community** Subcommittee meets every 1st Tuesday, 4:00-5:00 PM, at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 5654 Ralston, Ventura 93003, July 6

The **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 (note change)**, Catholic Charities, 303 N Ventura Ave July 14

The **Housing Options** Subcommittee meets every 2nd Wednesday, 4:30 PM, Housing Authority, Snapdragon Lane, Saticoy. July 14

Gateway meets third Friday at Salvation Army on Oak Street, at 2 PM,
July 16

Contact John Jones for Education committee information

Other Events

June 14 VCHomeless and Housing Coalition Community meeting. 1-3 PM,
VC Star, Camarillo, info Cathy@vchhc.org

June 15 Planning Commission meeting re SB2, City Hall 6PM

June 21 and 22 Kingdom Center California Pizza Kitchen fundraiser, must
bring in flyer, 20% donated to Kingdom Center

<http://www.onecityventura.org>

JOIN US *for an* EVENT WHERE
**GIVING WON'T JUST FEEL GOOD,
IT'LL TASTE GOOD.**

THE KINGDOM CENTER

United to Rebuild Lives

■ A Christ-Centered Transitional
Living Center for the Homeless ■

643-7675

We're having a fundraiser at California Pizza Kitchen. Just bring in this flyer on the date listed below, present it to your server when ordering, and 20% of your check will be donated to our organization.

Monday 6/21/10 and Tuesday 6/22/10
California Pizza Kitchen
Pacific View Mall
Ventura
805.639.5060



Eligible groups include non-profit schools and 501c3 charitable organizations. Donation amount excludes proceeds from tax, gratuity, gift card and retail purchases. Valid for dine-in, take-out and curbside service. Not valid on delivery. Manager, please attach this flyer to the guest check. Event proceeds void if flyers are distributed in or near the restaurant.