

Ventura Social Services Task Force Minutes
November 2, 2016

Attending-Judy Alexandre, Neal Andrews, Karyn Bates, Ken Belden, Jerry Breiner, Brian Brennan, Sue Brinkmeyer, Peter Brown, David Deutch, Dee Cox, Olga Hamra, Mary Haffner, Pam Marshall, Arlene Martinez, Kate Mills, Kathy Powell, Melissa Rameriz, Dave Schmutte, Jan chmutte, Tony Serrano, Debora Schreiber, Karol Schulkin, Robin Lerner, Ashley Flores, Madeline Rameriz, Miguel Marquez, Cheryl Heitman

Opening intro and question on Veteran's homelessness:

Why can't veterans get showers?

Is ending vet homelessness on the horizon?

Thrilled we don't have many homeless vets

Reintegration into community plans

Will the VA step p?

How many vets can the facilities hold?How many services are available?

What will we do with the people w/PTSD that don't want to be housed?

Know the scope of the plans with the 10 acres at Wells/Telephone

How accessible are vouchers?

Any funding for formerly homeless?

Who will answer these questions?

Will the VA step up and how many homeless vets do we have?

What about less than honorable discharge, murky?

How many have we housed?

Uniquely disenfranchised-more formal for unique needs

What % are mentally ill and are the city council candidates cued in to this?

What services does the city provide-difficult to access services

Agenda approved no changes

Minutes of 10/5/16 approved

I. Treasurer Dave Schmutte reports \$3837.51 in account

Homeless Prevention Fund received \$7500.00 from a Ventura County Credit Union grant They also help people with banking issues that were homeless

Send a thank you for the grant

II. Scenario presented for ideas for resolving an issue

Issue: mentally ill homeless woman has scabies and will not get treatment. Tried 5150 and 1368 conservatorship-motel stay failed

What do we as a community do?Laura's law not in force yet

Behavioral health and public health involved

More than one time of treatment -need to maintain a site to stay and treat
Best case permanent housing
New policies are in place that even with a lower list of points they may be bumped up
faster to get referral
People in our community present harm to others, what are our options
Her inability to receive care affects all of us
We do not take care of the mentally ill as a county

III. City Council member Cheryl Heitman reported on the Wells/Telephone property for Veterans-getting the deed back on the property, almost done. Meeting with some RFQ Monday for possibilities. 10 buildable acres, may be done in phases. Near the bus line and will access Prop 41 funds, other funds available/ Developers will present options.

IV. Peter Brown-homeless count Jan 24 trainings on January 17&18 12 and 5:30count will be 7am until 11:30-12, one shift this year will cover unincorporated Saticoy and Oakview, VCMC, Library and Family to Family on Wednesday. To volunteer go to volunteerventuracounty.org About 50 people needed

V. Pam Marshall Faith Sub Committee Newsletters will be coming out to highlight the Faith community activities, there will be comment section, action items, speaking to issues. Will distribute by email outreach including all 90 faith houses

VI. VSSTF Candidate Forum-8 out of 10 candidates there. Have link w audio 115 people attended

VII. Tiny Homes @ county government, will have info in next newsletter-all the requirements were discussed

VIII. Laura's Law Mary Haffner David Deutch
Contracted agencies now meeting every 6 weeks-will roll out in mid January
Discussing how this will be implemented and opportunities for people to ask questions of Dr Shifter, stakeholders involved November 30

Assessing work flow, per David, how do probation, law enforcement, screening all interface. RISE team to be first responders? Do the people meet all 9 criteria-they will then be sent to an agency and admitted there, not all will meet all 9 requirements.

November 30-family members to be represented in the meetings with concerns
Feb 1 should be up and running
Is housing addressed? A small amount

People w housing do better

Biggest concern-initial contact and receiving services, may be a lag time, may lose track of folks

IX. Winter Shelter-Peter Brown Construction project at Ventura Armory, not sure if it can be hosted there No conclusive things to report, Operator and Fiscal Agent in place will have volunteer training. Not sure if able to open December 1 \$99,000 committed for running it hoping after Tuesday will be at \$129,000

Request sent to the county for financial assistance. This will be a big ask
No funding will come from Saint Vincent de Paul, have invested in staff

X. City Task Force

Blue ribbon committee with law enforcement, city advocacy, business represented to advise on zoning changes for possible shelter. No new zoning finalized and council will vote in March, they have had 3 meetings. A liaison with the Chamber of Commerce to make a consistent plan with focus to address housing not just a shelter. The work of the group will go to council in March.

XI. Bridge housing sub committee has a new chair Ron Mulvihill Will be ready to give council operators, locations and financing

XII. Survey presented Need a public relations plan in the community in order to write letter, clear speaking points The survey will be available in the Breeze and Reporter newspapers. This will be presented by Survey Monkey

XIII. Officers for VSSTF Carolyn Briggs may co chair with Judy Alexandre
Need a secretary to take notes and attend a steering committee meeting

Oral Reports

Homeless prevention fund Brian Brennan 3 households assisted 5 people 3 adults 2 children total cost \$482 to keep 3 households intact. To date 412 households assisted 1077 people 431 children over 90% continue to stay housed.

City Homeless subcommittee meeting will be November 15 2 pm Opened Community Grant Program for \$70,000 grant.

Thanksgiving restaurant sponsor Aloha Steakhouse
Christmas Day Santinos

Invites will come from HSA, Food Share, Project Understanding, Salvation Army, Saint Vincent de Paul and City Center

Is there any education for landlords on accepting Section 8, will make agenda item

City Center-graduate program, 2 years with very affordable housing will allow more people to start the entry program

Family Promise now a 501c3 2 host churches need more

Showers of Blessing VIMA is discussing

Community Christmas Shoppe will give invites to specific folks 400-500 families assisted