**Draft Minutes for Ventura Social Service Task Force April 6, 2016**

Present: Jerry Breiner, Steven Karnazes, Arlene Martinez, Carie Bristow, Jane Lambert, Neal Andrews, Holly Whitmore, David Deutsch, Jan Schmutte, Pam Marshall, Monica Vergara, Tim Hockett, Miguel Marquez, Randy Brown, Peter Brown, Mary Haffner, Manuel Minjares, Rena Sepulveda, Brian Brennan, Kathy Powell, Deborah Schreiber, John Jones, Judy Alexandre, Kate Mills

**Meeting called to order by Judy Alexandre**

1. All present introduced themselves, and shared one thing they would like to see as an outcome from the 4/18 workshop
   * Thoughts shared included: Site settled upon the city; recognition and understanding of the homelessness problem, change in problematic zoning laws; commitment to a year round shelter facility with services; collaboration and commitment for action, clear/defined direction; identification of innovative funding sources
2. Motion, changes to and approval of the agenda: Changes to order of agenda (Approved)
3. Motion, changes to and approval of the minutes for February and March meeting (Approved)
4. Agenda Changes:
   * April 18, 2016 city council workshop/meeting: Discussion on city council’s agenda for workshop to be an open/free discussion (not agenda, no distribution of material), which will include group exercises in round tables. Discussion/planning of what materials to have available for reference at the workshop. Suggestions for reference material include:

* Cost of homelessness in some format to bring to meeting (approved)
* Summary list of talking points for reference (approved)
* Approach with primary concern: zoning change to allow for shelter with services and very affordable and extremely affordable housing (approved)
* Motion to and approval for VSSSTF to write OPED before workshop (approved)

1. Old Business:

* Report on Laura’s law hearing (Mary Haffner)- Laura’s Law passed and planning implementation
* Web committee report (Stacie Galang)- has not forgotten about web
* Cost of homelessness report (Jerry Briener)- no report
* Business group follow- up (Kevin Clereci)- no report

1. New Business:

* Granting update (Peter Brown)- $70,000 were allocated for homeless services. $30,000 held back by city council (utilized to backfill six-thousand lost each year). The $70,000 social services grant program has been combined with another grant program and are now in one money pot. Next spring the money will be presented to the community for proposals and distributed in the same process. The winter warming shelter funds comes from a separate a pot of money.
* Letter in support of SB 1053 prohibiting landlords from rejecting tenant applications based in the tenant’s source of income, including housing choice vouchers (approved)
* Housing rights Report (Camilla Lettini, Miguel Marques)- What are the rights that people have? Flyers for housing rights handouts were distributed by Miguel. Landlords cannot discriminate on race, gender, or disability. Landlords have to find something illegal to evict tenant
* Announcement for future meetings beginning in June 2016: special focus each month (youth, mentally ill, veterans, families, etc.)

1. Oral Reports:

* City of Ventura (Peter Brown)- City Council Subcommittee meeting moved to second Thursday of every month and first meeting will be scheduled in May 12th.
* Winter Warming Shelter (Steven Karnazes)- WWS in Ventura running from March 30 thru April 15. 634 individual users have checked into the winter warming shelter. Total number of nights sheltered as of April 5th is 11,026.

Numbers dropped after the move to Ventura:

April 1st - 46

April 2nd- 50

April 3rd- 58

April 4th- 71

April 5th- 56

We are at max at 80 at the location, but have not reached max. After running the pie chart, 47 percent of the shelter have gone to Oxnard residents, 18 percent are from Ventura, and 35 percent for other city.

* Homeless Prevention Fund (Brian Brennan)- Took in $2200 in march and spent $2100 in housing 7adults and 3 children (approx. $525 per household). Since fund started 391 households have been kept from going homeless
* H2H Report:
  + Turning Point- From January to March they have housed 24 people
  + Salvation Army- 6 housed
  + Project Understanding- 4 intakes, total housed 5
* Continuum of Care (Tara Carruth)-no report
* Family Promise (Sue Brinkmeyer)- a group of Oxnard and Ventura clergy are exploring a nation-wide program that attempts to house 5 families at a time four weeks out of the year. Next meeting April 7th at 7pm at United Oxnard Methodist Church in Oxnard. Has a budget of $150,000/yr
* Letter writing effort (Pam Marshall)- Working on extensive letter writing, taking talking points, monitoring and working on what needs responses

1. Treasurers report (Dave Schmutte): $3995.77
2. Agency reports/sharing and updates: “Going Up The Road” party Invitation for Doug Stanton, April 22nd from 4-7pm
3. Upcoming Meetings:

* Housing People Can Afford, Unitarian Church (Ralston), Ventura. Contact: Camilla Lettini [clettini@projectunderstanding.org](mailto:clettini@projectunderstanding.org). April 25, 2016 3pm
* Crisis/ Bridge Housing Orchard Community Church, Telephone and Placid, Ventura. Contact Judy Alexandre [judyalexandre@gmail.com](mailto:judyalexandre@gmail.com). April 19, 2016 2pm.
* Faith Subcommittee, Church of Christ (Bryn Mawr and Telegraph), Ventura. Contact Pam Marshall, [pojcat@verizon.net](mailto:pojcat@verizon.net). April 27,2016, 3pm
* Continuum of Care 4001 Mission Oaks Blvd, VCCF building, Camarillo, April 21, 10-12am.
* Homelessness workshop and council meeting April 18, 2016, Pacific View Room, Derby Club, Fairgrounds. Begins at 6pm.

1. Meeting Adjourn. Next Meeting is May 4, 2016, 3:15-5pm at the Family to Family Building, 300N Ventura Ave.#E,93001

Melissa Ramirez will bring agendas and attachments for our guests for May meeting.

Thank you Brian Brennen, supervisor Bennet’s office for bringing the materials this month (April)