

Monthly Meeting Minutes 6/6/18
3:15 pm, 300 N. Ventura Ave, Ventura, CA 93001

Ventura Social Services Task Force

Attendees: Judy Alexandre, Jerry Breiner, Gane Brooking, Kevin Clerici, Dale & Patti Downs, Jim Duran, Sonja Flores, Jeffrey Lambert, Robert March, Miguel Marquez, Pam Marshall, Clyde Reynolds, Karol Schulkin, Silvia Simoes, Sandra Troxell, LeeAnn Wilkie, Dana Worsnop

- I. Call to order
- II. Introductions (Name, Organization, Brief Sentence about housing or homelessness)
 - A. Sandra Troxell - Salvation Army received VA grant for 5 more beds.
 1. Likely available in October or November.
 - B. LeeAnne Wilkie - Have 3 staff trained on HMIS (Homeless Information Management System).
 - C. Sonja Flores - Willett Ranch will have 5-10 units set aside for homeless people.
 - D. Karol Schulkin - Election may have helped get more funds for housing.
 - E. Dana Worsnop - Unitarian Universalist Church of Ventura (UUCV) hosting Tell Your Story Training (7/16-7/17) coordinating through Lift Up Your Voice (LUYV).
 1. Judy Alexandre - LUYV & Kate Mills spearheading effort.
 - a) Grant from McEwan Foundation to provide training for 10 people to tell their story in 3, 5 or 10 minute segments
 - F. Judy Alexandre - Coordinating with lots of new groups (Secretary's note - Indivisible Ventura, CAUSE, SURJ, DSA all seem to be getting into housing/homelessness advocacy)
 - G. Jim Duran - Introduced new directors for The City Center: Dale & Patti Downs.
 - H. Jeff Lambert - Thinks a year-round shelter could be bought by end of year.
 - I. Miguel Marquez - Housing 15(!) people last month.
 - J. More general comments about hope for progress.
- III. Approval of or changes to the agenda for 6/6/18 as emailed
 - A. Judy Alexandre proposed change to allow Jeff Lambert to report earlier. - MSC
- IV. Approval of or changes to the minutes for 5/2/18 as emailed - MSC
- V. Treasurer's Report - Balance is \$3,721.46 (no change)
 - A. Judy Alexandre - Need to refer people to Homeless Prevention Fund (HPF), as they just got infusion of ~\$9k.
- VI. July Meeting Schedule - NO MEETING ON 7/4
 - A. New proposed meeting time: 7/11 at 3:00 PM at City Hall - MSC**
 1. Will roll into Housing Subcommittee Meeting right after VSSTF.
- VII. Presentation by Whole Person Care (LeeAnn Wilkie) - Presentation materials available electronically.
 - A. Program helps people with homelessness, drug/alcohol issues.
 - B. Multidisciplinary care coordination.
 - C. Mobile Outreach Care Pods - 3 WPC personnel operate each pod.

1. Pods often partner with other organizations (e.g. El Buen Pastor United Methodist Church in Santa Paula)
2. Showers are important for client morale.
3. Need socks, underwear & t-shirts.
4. River Haven pod is intended for use by inhabitants of river bottom.
5. Planning Commission issues slowing efforts to set up pod in Oxnard.
6. Jerry Breiner - asked about cost of a pod.
 - a) LeeAnn Wilkie - estimates \$20k.
7. 2 in-service pods with 3rd already built.
 - a) Pod stays at location permanently.
 - b) Need staff/volunteers to be open more than once/week
 - c) Want them open when other service providers are present.
 - d) Dana - Are they still needed when a year-round shelter opens?
 - (1) LeeAnn Wilkie - Yes.
 - (2) Judy Alexandre - The shelter will only provide services for its clients.
8. Sandra Troxell - Pods are a great outreach tool.
9. Miguel Marquez - Santa Paula pod is help engage with local homeless population.
 - a) Pam Marshall - Santa Paula closes drop-in center when the pod is open, and moves hot meal service to the pod instead (for better engagement).
 - b) Kay Wilson-Bolton is providing sack lunches.
 - c) Sandra Troxell - Santa Paula pod affiliated with One Stop.
- D. Working with clients to create a unique case plan for best path forward.
 1. Adults only - need Medi-Cal. Will help potential clients get Medi-Cal if they are eligible.
- E. Kevin Clerici - Street-based outreach with some of the hardest cases.
- F. Judy Alexandre - Santa Paula outreach coordinator is held in high regard.
- G. Kevin Clerici - High success rate when housing is acquired, but therein lies the challenge.
- H. LeeAnn Wilkie - Working with Downtown Ambassadors & mobile teams who will go to clients.
- I. Karol Schulkin - How many on WPC team?
 1. LeeAnn Wilkie - 13-14 on staff currently; optimally want 21 personnel.
 - a) Partially funded by California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) and the City of Ventura.
 - (1) Currently in year 3 of 5-year grant for the pilot program.
 - (2) Hope for Ventura County funding when pilot program concludes.
- J. Medi-Cal want to save money, while WPC wants to get people the help they need.
- K. WPC can't provide funds for hotels or housing.
- L. Clyde Reynolds - Can limited services be offered more often (e.g. just showers)?

1. LeeAnn Wilkie - WPC feels that it is important to engage people by having services available.

VIII. Updates From:

- A. Inclusionary Housing - Jeff Lambert presenting.
 1. Study underway - preliminary results in July.
 2. Nexus Study - Looks at what kind of demand for affordable housing based on other development.
- B. City of Ventura report - Jeff Lambert presenting.
 1. Have a potential site for year-round shelter.
 - a) Might be able to open shelter by end of year.
 2. County put out Request For Quotation (RFQ) for operator to run both Oxnard & Ventura shelters.
 - a) Oxnard is making progress on their own year-round shelter.
 3. City Council Subcommittee On Homelessness & Affordable Housing meeting on 6/13 - VSSTF wants them to approve following 4 point plan to city council:
 - a) \$600k from Measure O funds for purchasing shelter.
 - b) \$250k-300k from Measure O funds for operating shelter.
 - c) Acquire site for year-round shelter this calendar year.
 - d) The city needs to prioritize affordable housing units.
 - e) Kevin Clerici moved to approve for the VSSTF to endorse to above 4 points - MSC.
 4. Ventura County Housing Trust Fund received large contribution.
 - a) \$250k over next 5 years.
 5. Lots of new housing under construction, some by the Housing Authority.
 - a) With inclusionary program.
 6. Redevelopment funds from redevelopment agency (now defunct) is available.
 - a) Ventura should still use the funds for a similar purpose.
- C. Measure O Budget Meeting - Judy Alexandre presenting.
 1. \$600k for the shelter because the committee forcefully engaged with city staff.
 - a) Thanks to Stephanie Caldwell from Chamber of Commerce, and the Ventura Police Department.
 - b) This amount is expected to be in the city budget and should be matched by Ventura County.
- D. City Council Subcommittee On Homelessness & Affordable Housing - 6/13
 1. Action item to approve the 4 point plan (see VIII. B. 3. above) to present to Ventura City Council.
 2. Judy Alexandre - We need heavy attendance of the City Council budget meeting on 6/18 (Secretary's note - good attendance with much support for the budget including funds for the year-round shelter; the council approved this budget)
- E. Stakeholders group - Karol Schulkin presenting
 1. Continuing to work on linking housing to shelter & services.

IX. Agency Reports

- A. The City Center / Tender Life - Jim Duran presenting.
 - 1. Tender Life is full, as is The City Center (which has a waitlist).
 - 2. People are graduating from each.
 - 3. Currently interviewing a new case manager.
- B. Behavioral Health Advisory Board - Gane Brooking
 - 1. AB 1971 Update - Mental health services: involuntary detention: gravely disabled.
 - a) Judy Alexandre - We need more information before we can take action.
 - b) Gane Brooking - Bill to change definition because people aren't getting help.
- C. Salvation Army - Sandra Troxell presenting.
 - 1. 5 more shelter beds on Oak Street.
 - 2. Beds are consistently full with occupancy from 30 days up to 6 months.
- D. Independent Living Resource Center - Miguel Marquez presenting.
 - 1. Personal Assistant Program - would have clients directly hire their own caregivers.
- E. Downtown Ventura Organization - Kevin Clerici presenting.
 - 1. Ventura City Council is looking to expand Downtown Ambassadors.
- X. Report from Faith Subcommittee of VSSTF - Pam Marshall presenting.
 - A. Partners For Change event
 - 1. 9/6 at Poinsettia Pavilion from 530-830 pm.
 - 2. Asking people who RSVP to send a list of questions/concerns to be addressed.
 - 3. Inviting faith community.
 - 4. Table staffed by various public & private social service agencies.
- XI. Other Items
 - A. None.
- XII. Adjourn: Next meeting is **July 11, 2018, 3:00 pm, Ventura City Hall**. we need a volunteer to bring a few copies of the agenda and minutes
- XIII. Meetings:
 - A. Shelter and Housing VSSTF Sub-Committee 7/19, 3pm Orchard Community Church library (Ron Mulvilhill) ron@housinginnovationsandsolutions.com)
 - B. Faith VSSTF subcommittee 7/25, 3pm Seventh Day Adventist Church conference room Pam Marshall pam@pojcat@verizon.net
 - C. Homeless Prevention fund, VSSTF Inc. 7/18, 4pm.; location TBD (Roland Barrio rbarrio100@msn.com)
 - D. City of Ventura housing and Shelter subcommittee, probably 7/12, 3:30 pm city hall Mayor Andrews is chair.
 - E. Homes For All, by invitation John Jones johnsandersjones@gmail.com
 - F. Continuum of Care Housing & Services Committee 7/19 10am-12pm Tara Carruth (tara.carruth@ventura.org). location to be decided
 - G. Open mic, city hall 1st Monday of the Month 7/2/18