

Agenda 11/6/19

Ventura Social Service Task Force 3:15; 303 N Ventura Ave; Family to Family room

- I. Call to order and welcome (Kevin Clerici)
- II. Introductions (Kevin Clerici) Attendees: Judy Alexandre, Jerry Breiner, Nancy Broadhead, Kevin Clerici, Jennifer Harkey, Meredith Hart, John Jones, Miguel Marquez, Alexa Martin, Marianne Norton, Jan & Dave Schmutte, Kappy Paulson, Kristen Cressy, Veronica James, Mark Stadler, Elizabeth Stone, Jim Duran, Betsy Erickson, Cappi Patterson, Jill Surmont, Jerry Breiner
- III. Approval of or changes to the agenda for 11/6/19 (Kevin Clerici) Motion to approve Jan; Second Jerry; Approved
- IV. Approval of or changes to the minutes of 10/2/19 (Kevin Clerici), Motion to approve Judy; Second Jerry; Approved
- V. Treasurers report (Jan Schmutte) \$2356.46
- VI. Update from the City of Ventura Safe and Clean, Housing and Homelessness (Meredith Hart)
 1. Shelter
 - i. Shelter is on track for Grand Opening 1/9/2020
 - ii. First clients 1/10/2020 – Can process 5-6/day approx. 1.5 hrs /person
 - iii. Public Open house – 11/20/2019 after 3PM three groups.
 - iv. NAME!!!! – the Arch; Tag line - All Roads Connect to Housing, Still needs City Council approval.
 2. Foul Weather Shelter – no Churches stepped up, the Armory needs 2 weeks' notice to ensure that two military personnel are onsite. Fairgrounds said no; Getting large DRMO/surplus military tents & using in the parking lot of Knoll Road. Remember it is not a walk in shelter. NOAA Says it should be a drier winter, no El Nina or El Nino. City Funding \$40k/year & expect \$40k from County

VOLUNTEER (church, community, etc) HELP NEEDED For food, and other assistance, Clothing
Mercy House will do intake
Will have security on hand
 3. Wind event & River Bottom folks- Proactive evacuation is not allowed by law; Sheriff did fly overs announcing wind event and prepared, Signboards at the access points about wind & Fire; Task Force walked the camps and asked residents not to use fires. Irene, our Homeless Liaison, got on the phone to her friends and asked them to spread the word about fires. Embers can fly 3 miles. Insert
 4. New Outreach Worker – Christina Cabral – Social Worker starts 12/2
 5. Resource Fair – 11/2, 11/9 & 11/16 from 9AM – 1PM - Designed to help people find job in Plaza Park in Oxnard. As an aside, Whole Person Care will be on the Avenue on Thursday afternoons.
 6. Conversation about Getting the word out about the good stuff the City is doing. Arlene from the Star is reassigned and will not be doing articles on housing and homelessness. Kathleen Cressy volunteered to help Meredith with publicity. Contact info is sent off line.

7. Oxnard has a shelter site to be announced after the City council approves. It will have a 5-year lease. The Oxnard Armory site is in a flight path and can-not be used for a permanent shelter per FAA.

VII. Agency update report from City Center and Tenderlife (Rev Jim Duran)

1. Citycenter - 30 room Motel – 26 rooms with residents (100% full) , 1 with on-site case manager, 2 rooms are accessible rooms. 3 rooms still need to be renovated at a cost of \$150k. Need room sponsors @ \$7,500/yr. Current sponsors even split btwn churches, business & individuals.
2. Volunteer opportunities – Workdays (paint, repairs, etc) Provide Meals, etc.
3. 1/3 residents had a domestic violence issue at arrival, parent (incl males) must have child/children under 12 years old to participate,
 - i. Phase 1 - must be clean & Sober for 6 months, willing to work 40 hr workweek & 30 days to find a job. By end of program have transportation. Curfew 9PM & 10 on weekends
 - ii. Program is 6-24 months; Residents get therapy, financial counseling, Resume prep, YMCA donates memberships. Meet with case mgr weekly.
 - iii. Income Distribution: 20%-savings (returned upon leaving), 30%- Program fees, 50% for use by resident. City Center Goal for residents - get off ALL government support.
 - iv. Graduate Program – Up to 24 months; Flat rate program Year 1 = \$500/month? & Year 2 - \$600/month? No curfew
 - v. 100% of grads have not returned to homelessness; 58 families graduated from the program since January 2014. In 2019, 16 families went into permanent housing.
4. Tender Life – 6 beds for pregnant mothers, can have another child with them; can stay up to 1 year; many go to city center. In last 26 months- 18 babies, 13 continued to City Center, 3 to permanent housing. Entry - Must be sober for 90 days before acceptance. They are tested.

VIII. Consensus approval of the 3 part VSSTF Housing Advocacy Goals (Kevin Clerici)

- a) Inclusionary plan
- b) Overlay zone for mixed use and other zoning and possible ordinances
- c) Support for plans for very low and extremely low housing plans, developed by low income housing developers after a review by VSSTF
- d) After a short discussion, Judy moved to accept Goals A, B and C as outlined with the caveat that it may be modified when circumstances arise. Veronica seconded; All Approved

IX. Discussion of housing strategy implementation. Actions that we can take, what, when (Kevin Clerici)

- a) Over all discussion (Kevin Clerici)
- b) Judy, Jerry and others Met with school and district to discuss housing ideas for surplus property. For school staff and general public housing
- c) 11/12/19 school board meeting to announce who will be on the 7-11 Commission Judy Alexandre, Jerry Breiner will be speakers advocating for housing. Would like real estate and other biz folks to speak in favor.

- d) Other – General Plan does not have the same sense of urgency it has last year. Due to the turnover in city Hall Dept Head and staff the plan will probably not be released until 2023. That said, the state is pressuring cities to have more inclusionary housing.

X. Reports

- a) Homeless Prevention Fund (John Jones) – Assisted 2 households consisting of 3 adults for a cost of \$2,525. Last week of November will be sending out year end donation requests and report
- b) Continuum of Care (Jennifer Harkey) – Board meeting 11/13 at 1PM. See CoC info below for more details. RFPs for state grants “Housing Homelessness Assistance & Prevention (HHAP) will be released in the next week. HHAP grants are for rental assistance, shelter funding, housing development & motel conversions
- c) Faith Sub Committee of VSSTF (Marianne Norton) Meet 11/13 1PM at Church of the Foothill. Topic – Set 2020 Goals; How to get Shelter help from Congregations; Stimulate employment training
- d) Thanksgiving ant Community Presbyterian Church planning meeting on 11/9, 10:30am (Judy Alexandre). Call Gerry Bonet to arrange cooked food donations for the community dinner
 - a. Jim Duran mentioned that if someone needs a Thanksgiving dinner to cook at home Call him at 805-302-7711
- e) Interdenominational Homeless Memorial (Kappy Paulson, Rev.Dana Worsnop) – Saturday December 14 at 3PM Plaza Park. Rev Dana will be arranging the service with local clergy.
- f) Christmas Shoppe, Dec. 14, 2019 (Judy Alexandre) – Orchard church is hosting ACTION VC. Christmas gifts for 400 families by invitation from agencies. Need Donations of NEW unwrapped toys. Also volunteers for child care and kids games while adults shop.
- g) Census update (Judy Alexandre) – Sign up today U tomorrow.
- h) Agency information, updates - Ventura’s Safe & Clean and Affordable Housing Subcommittee meeting is cancelled for December. Time and or date may change from current first Tuesday.
- i) Housing Issues Forum – Tuesday 12/3/ 1-4:00PM. Camarillo Library Guest Speaker Charles Marohn, President, Strong Towns
- j) Other

XI. Other (Kevin Clerici)

XII. Adjourn, Next meeting is 12/4/19, 3:15, 303 N Ventura Ave

Upcoming Meetings

Homeless Prevention Fund, (VSSTF, Inc.) Unitarian Universalist Church, Ralston Ave, 4pm., 11/20/19, Sue Brinkmeyer (suebrinkmeyer@earthlink.net)

City of Ventura Safe and Clean, Housing and Homeless subcommittee, ~~4pm, 12/3/19~~ Cancelled
Meredith Hart mhart@cityofventura.ca.gov

Faith subcommittee of VSSTF, Church of the Foothills, 3pm, Dec. 11, Marianne Norton
(ma4mail@gmail.com)

Homes for all contact John Jones (johnsandersjones@gmail.com) or Sonja Flores
(sflores@hacityofventura.org)

Continuum of Care; TBA Jennifer Harkey (Jennifer.harkey@ventura.org) or check the COC website

Vulnerable Populations Housing Advocacy Network contact Clyde Reynolds,
(cbrreynolds@roadrunner.com) meeting on 11/21/19 9am