

## Monthly Meeting Minutes 7/6/2022

3:15 pm, via Zoom video chat

### Ventura Social Services Task Force

Attendees: Judy Alexandre, Kyler Carlson, Kevin Clerici, Sonja Flores, Peter Gilli, Jennifer Harkey, Mike Johnson, John Jones, Pam Kelley, Jacob Lesner-Buxton, Robert March, Edwin Martinez, Maria Navarro, Kristian Nunez, Debra Schreiber, Susan White Wood

- I. Call to order - Judy Alexandre
- II. Introductions - Judy Alexandre
- III. Approval of the agenda for 7/6/22 - MSC with a few changes
  - A. Moved a few discussion items earlier in the meeting.
- IV. Approval of the minutes for 6/1/22 - MSC
- V. Treasurer's Report - Judy Alexandre - no change - \$2,316.46
- VI. 4th of July Booth report - John Jones
  - A. VSSTF shared a booth with Downtown Ventura Organization (DVO) & the Ventura Homeless Prevention Fund (VHPF) at the 4th of July Street Fair in Ventura
  - B. Very successful event, thanks to all the volunteers.
  - C. Raised over \$450 (not technically a fundraiser)
  - D. Handed out all the flyers.
  - E. Debra Schreiber - Got good help prepping for the event on 7/3 from Pam Kelley, Sue Brinkmeyer, Maria Navarro and John Jones.
  - F. Maria Navarro - People expressed interest in volunteer opportunities.
- VII. Updates:
  - A. Candidates forum on Wed 9/28/22 - Judy Alexandre
    1. At the Church of the Foothills
    2. Need more help on the planning committee
    3. Judy Alexandre - Requested permission to spend up to \$300 for refreshments (likely much less) - MSC.
  - B. Combined VSSTF and Homes For All meeting re: General Plan and housing input - Kyler Carlson
    1. Moved meeting to September
    2. To discuss land use alternatives.
    3. Peter Gilli - Update coming to the City Council on General Plan
      - a) Proposing land use alternatives for 2-3 Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) cycles.
        - (1) <https://abag.ca.gov/our-work/housing/rhna-regional-housing-needs-allocation>
        - (2) Based on Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) numbers.
      - b) Judy Alexandre - asked for someone to attend this city council meeting.

(1) Kyler Carlson will attend.

C. GAP needs proposals - John Jones.

1. Judy Alexandre - One Stop has purchased 300+ battery chargers to allow people to use (not to be handed out).
  - a) Expanded hygiene capabilities for the mobile centers.
2. Dumping stations - no update presently
  - a) Brian Brennan & Matt Lavere
    - (1) 3 County-run treatment plans
      - (a) Moorpark would be only possible site to accept RV waste
      - (b) Ojai - trying to set up a dumping station
        - (i) Stuck in the permit process
      - (c) Lake Casitas is the only currently open-to-public dumping station - \$10/day.

D. City of Ventura updates - Peter Gilli

1. Ventura hired Leona Rollins (from the Housing Rights Center in LA) to be the new housing services manager.
  - a) Judy Alexandre and Sonja Flores were on the source selection board.
  - b) Top candidate, well-qualified, starting on 7/11/22.
2. Inclusionary Housing - no update at this time.
  - a) Consultant working to respond to the planning commission's request for additional work.
3. Housing Element
  - a) Consultant is still working on it.
  - b) Met with California Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD) about their comments & Ventura's plans to respond
    - (1) Hope for the City Council to re-adopt the updated housing element by the end of the calendar year.

VIII. Concerns, needs, discussion, potential action

A. Continuum of Care - Jennifer Harkey

1. New funding - bringing to the board on 7/13 at 1530
  - a) Emergency Solutions Grants (ESG)
    - (1) We are seeking proposals for
      - (a) Emergency Shelter,
      - (b) Rapid Re-Housing,
      - (c) Street Outreach and
      - (d) Homeless Prevention.
  - b) Request for Proposals (RFP)
    - (1) To engage people with lived experience
    - (2) To provide training, offer stipends, provide mentoring and participate in VC CoC committee meetings

- c) HUD - funding opportunities for addressing unsheltered homelessness.
        - (1) New \$4.3 million RFP coming soon for the acquisition, new construction or rehabilitation for permanent housing projects
          - (a) Acquiring and refurbishing structures for new shelter spaces.
          - (b) Cities and nonprofits can apply for funding
            - (i) Need to include operator expenses.
            - (ii) Recommends partnering with an operator.
            - (iii) Judy Alexandre - Could this be used to expand The ARCH?
              - (a) Jennifer Harkey - For the 2nd and 3rd floors, yes.
  - 2. Project Roomkey
    - a) Approved for FEMA funding through November.
    - b) State (California Dept. of Social Services - CDSS) funding through January
    - c) Need to look for transitions
      - (1) Senior placement.
      - (2) Vouchers.
      - (3) Rapid rehousing.
  - 3. The ARCH - Can now return to full capacity (55 beds)
  - 4. Oxnard shelters are still holding at 80 beds due to COVID outbreaks.
- B. City of Ventura - Mike Johnson
  - 1. Encourages attendance at 7/11 city council meeting
    - a) Will hear community satisfaction survey results.
      - (1) Still hoping that the budget might get updated.
        - (a) Currently spending less on homelessness.
  - 2. HOPE & Solutions subcommittee - meeting on 7/12/22
    - a) Jeannette Sánchez-Palacios is joining the subcommittee.
    - b) Leona Rollins will run the meeting.
  - 3. 7/25 City Council meeting - Presentation on homelessness in Ventura.
  - 4. 8/11 City Council meeting - Judy Alexandre requests that VSSTF have a representative present.
  - 5. Peter Gilli - Safe & Clean
    - a) With Meredith Hart and Rebecca Kofman, it was one person leading the program.
    - b) Moving forward, a team will manage the program.

## IX. Legislative Update

- A. Mike Johnson - AB2011 - Affordable Housing and High Road Jobs Act of 2022
  - 1. Allows residential by-right use in commercial corridor zones.
    - a) Not a huge impact in Ventura, but good for the state.
  - 2. Ventura is now just following the lead of Cal Cities, which tends to be reactionary

- a) Mike Johnson wants the city to study legislation more closely, so Ventura doesn't always follow Cal Cities' lead.
      - b) City Council now just adopts vague legislative platforms.
    - B. Judy Alexandre - It may be good for VSSTF to consider advocating for various pieces of legislation.
      - 1. Peter Gilli - It would be good for VSSTF to comment on the legislative documents.
  - X. Faith subcommittee update on the 8/30/22 gathering - Pamela Kelley
    - A. Gathering on 8/30/22 from 5:30pm - 7:30pm - at Temple Beth Torah
      - 1. Outreach Opportunities For Our Unsheltered.
      - 2. Agenda:
        - a) What's being done?
        - b) What are the needs?
        - c) Sharing information.
          - (1) Purple Book
          - (2) Immediate needs (Gap needs)
            - (a) Laundry Love
          - (3) Winter Warming Shelter Volunteering.
          - (4) Letter writing campaigns.
        - d) Highlight volunteering opportunities.
      - 3. Asking VSSTF for permission to spend money on sandwiches.
        - a) Judy proposes spending no more than \$400 for food for the event - MSC
      - 4. Judy Alexandre - gathering is intended to re-energize the faith community.
        - a) Not a general meeting open to the public.
- XI. Agency Updates - None this month.

Meetings:

City Council HOPES & Solutions Subcommittee (addressing issues regarding homelessness).

Faith sub committee 3rd Friday of each month, 3pm Pam Kelley ([pamjk3@msn.com](mailto:pamjk3@msn.com)) patio of Judy Alexandre

Continuum of Care Alliance.