

**MINUTES
HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2006 – 11:30 AM
COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ROOM**

Members Present: Alan Graff, Judy Buseman, Tam Baker, Lori Blom, Carol Twedt, Hugh Grogan, Vernon Brown and Randy Bartunek.

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Betty Durfee, Goodwill--2006 Homeless Count; Tom Keller, Chairperson of Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition. and Melanie Bliss, Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition.

AGENDA

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – DECEMBER 4, 2006, MEETING

Upon motion by Tam Baker, seconded by Lori Blom, the Homeless Advisory Board voted to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2006, meeting as mailed. Carried unanimously.

II. BETTY DURFEE – 2006 HOMELESS COUNT

Betty Durfee said the South Dakota Housing Development Authority has put together a comparison of the 2006 results with the 2005 results and this was a state-wide comparison, also. She said the state needs these statistics for the Continuum of Care. She said the most recent count found that more people are living on the streets during the summer months, with an increase of 31 percent over the January 2006 count. In January 2006, there were 11 counted; and in August 2006, there were 35 identified. She said that overall, the number of homeless decreased from January 2006 from 575 to 401. The number of children decreased from 157 in 2005 to 85 in 2006. She said there were more people in shelters in this count. She said the survey showed the two main reasons given for homelessness were alcoholism and release from the penitentiary or the county jail. The number one service need for these people is housing and the top four needs listed were housing, medical/dental services, transportation, and job training. The latest homeless count was held on August 22, 2006, from 7 to 10 p.m. and was a mail-in survey-type of count. She said the January 2007 count is a National HUD count.

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS – REVIEW ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND TARGET DATES

- A. **Need Committee** – Hugh Grogan distributed an update of the homeless survey along with a homeless shelter count report and reported on the number and types beds available at St. Francis House and the Union Gospel Mission today. He said that Dennis Nelson of the South Dakota Homeless Advocacy

spoke to the Needs Committee on the needs of the homeless. He reported the next meeting of the Needs Committee is next meeting on January 4, 2007.

- B. **Strategy Committee** – Vernon Brown reported that Ken McFarland and Russ Sorenson are working on an inventory of apartments such as SROS and that Committee members have met with a local contractor to get input on the housing market. Work is still being done on a sample RFP template for supportive services.
- C. **Financing Committee** – Randy Bartunek said the Financing Committee is ready to act on projects identified by the Needs and Strategy Committees.
- D. **Faith Based Community Committee** – Tam Baker said the committee has nothing new to report but should become more active after the 1st of the year.

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. **Wendy Giebink** – Asked for questions from HAB. The HAB discussed questions addressing the key issues they would like Wendy Giebink to cover when she visits with the HAB at their January 22, 2007, meeting.
- B. **Homeless Coordinator Position** – Randy Bartunek and Alan Graff have been working on a draft position description which will be sent to HAB members prior to the January 8, 2007, special meeting.
- C. **New HAB member** – Randy Bartunek announced that Shirley Halleen will join the HAB in January 2007.
- D. **Letter from Tom Keller** – Alan Graff shared correspondence received from Tom Keller regarding the importance of maintaining the housing stock of affordable housing.

V. **NEXT MEETING** - The HAB decided their next regular meeting will be January 22, 2007.

VI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 p.m.