

MINUTES

HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MONDAY, MARCH 12, 2007 – 11:30 AM COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE ROOM

Members Present: Alan Graff, Judy Buseman, Shirley Halleen, Tam Baker, Hugh Grogan, Carol Twedt, Vernon Brown, and Randy Bartunek

Members Absent: Lori Blom

Others Present: Russ Sorenson, Planning Department; Travis Benson, Catholic Diocese; and Melanie Bliss, Homeless Coalition.

AGENDA

I. Approval of Minutes – 2/26/07 Meeting

Upon motion by Hugh Grogan, seconded by Shirley Halleen, the Homeless Advisory Board approved the minutes of the February 26, 2007, as mailed. Carried unanimously.

II. Committee Reports – Review Accomplishments & Target Dates

- A. **Need Committee – Hugh Grogan.** Hugh Grogan said the Need Committee will be reviewing the HAB progress report. Hugh Grogan said he is still working on the Dashboard which tracks the number of open beds at the St. Francis House, Union Gospel Mission, the Detox Center, and Motels on every day during the month. He said he is still waiting for counts from the Detox Center. He said so far in March there have open beds at the Mission every night, so it appears there are enough beds to meet the needs of the homeless during all types of weather. Discussion was held on whether to continue this reporting during warm weather seasons and the fact this report does not identify whether or not those persons identified as chronic homeless are in fact using the available beds. The need to identify the chronic homeless for a pilot project was also discussed.
- B. **Strategy Committee – Vernon Brown.** Vernon Brown reported the Strategy Committee has been meeting with the city and with several banks that have CRA funds and are interested in committing them to a bricks and mortar project to serve the homeless. It was discussed that personnel at these banks are very interested in assisting the Homeless Advisory Board in putting together a project.
- C. **Financing Committee–** Randy Bartunek reported the Financing Committee is on hold pending receipt of information from the Need and Strategy Committees.
- D. **Faith Based Community Committee – Tam Baker.** Tam Baker said the committee is starting to work on objectives.

- E. **Implementation Committee** – Alan Graff said that once a project has been identified, the Implementation Committee will be formed to work on making the project come to pass. Discussion was held on the membership and leadership of this committee. Carol Twedt said she thought a high-profile member of the community should serve on this committee

III. Old Business

- A. **Homeless Coordinator Position** – Carol Twedt reported that the process for approval of the Homeless Coordinator Position is going forward and it will be on the agenda of the March 19, 2007, Joint City/County Meeting. Alan Graff said he plans to attend this meeting and welcomed other HAB members to attend in support of this request.
- B. **County Pilot Project – Hugh Grogan.** Hugh Grogan said it appears an agreement has been reached on the bus pass program between all parties involved and the program will continue. He reported the County Pilot Project is slated to be up and running in April and would only run to the end of this year. He hopes to ultimately have eight people enrolled in the program and should have a report to the HAB on whether or not it was a successful program by January 2008. He asked the HAB to endorse this pilot project and the case management to be provided to its participants. Upon motion by Vernon Brown, seconded by Randy Bartunek, the Homeless Advisory Board voted to endorse the pilot project to provide housing with case management to eight homeless persons. Carried unanimously.
- C. **Homeless Survey Results** – Hugh Grogan said Human Services has a student intern who has been working on quantifying the number of long-term homeless and they hope to have the report finished soon.

IV. New Business

- A. The SDHDA 2nd Annual Homeless Summit will be held March 13 and 14, 2007, at Oacoma, SD.

V. Next meetings are March 26 and April 9 at 11:30 a.m.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 1:02 p.m.