

## MINUTES

### HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING JULY 16, 2007 – 11:30 AM CARNEGIE TOWN HALL MEETING ROOM

**Members Present:** Alan Graff, Tam Baker, Shirley Halleen, Randy Bartunek, Judy Buseman, and Hugh Grogan.

**Members Absent:** Lori Blom, Carol Twedt, and Vernon Brown.

**Others Present:** Major Mills, Salvation Army; Shireen Ranschau, Sioux Falls Housing; Stacy Tieszen, Homeless Coordinator; Melanie Bliss, Sioux Empire Homeless Coalition; Kari Benz, Minnehaha County Human Services; Russ Sorenson, Planning Department; Nathan Herman, Steve Brende, and Alan Kingsley; Homeless Advocates of South Dakota; and Suzanne Schroeder, Community Development staff.

#### **I. Approval of Minutes – 6/25/07 Minutes**

Upon motion by Tam Baker, seconded by Shirley Halleen, the HAB approved the minutes of the 6/25/07 meeting as mailed. Carried unanimously.

#### **II. Majors Mike and Judy Mills – Salvation Army**

Alan Graff welcomed Major Mike Mills of the Salvation Army to Sioux Falls and wished him well in his new post as the head of the Sioux Falls Branch of the Salvation Army. Major Mills thanked the HAB and gave a brief overview of his career with the Salvation Army.

#### **III. Committee Reports – Review Accomplishments & Target Dates**

##### **A. Need Committee – Hugh Grogan.**

- **Homeless population prioritization and recommendations** – Hugh Grogan said the Committee is working to identify the different types of needs for each type of homeless population and are trying to come up with a basis for breakout of the different groups. He said the committee recommends completing work with the chronics as far as rehab and transitional housing before going on to address the needs of the next group, Transitional, who need supportive services. He said this group will need more research and assessment. Discussion was held on what should be the next focus of the Need Committee after the Chronics project is underway. Hugh Grogan suggested the next focus group should be families. Discussion was held on the shortage of affordable housing for families and Shireen Ranschau said Sioux Falls Housing has over 2,800 families on their waiting list for housing vouchers. Randy Bartunek said

the HAB should not lose sight of the first priority of the Homeless Advisory Board which is to address the needs of the chronic homeless. Discussion was held on the fact that many small towns in the Sioux Falls area have affordable housing units that remain vacant. Shireen Ranschau said lack of transportation into Sioux Falls and to work is a major factor in these units not being filled.

- Homeless Reporting Dashboard – Hugh Grogan said he was not able to print the most up-to-date counts. Stacy Tieszen will be managing this dashboard in the future and entering counts.

**B. Faith Based Community Committee – Tam Baker.**

- **Committee Mission/Objectives** – Tam Baker said she has not spoken to Sarah Holland recently so she does not know if Sarah and Angela have finished their list of 100 churches. The letter from the Faith Based Committee to churches is ready to go and Sarah should be delivering it soon.

**C. Implementation Committee**

- **Housing First Subcommittee** – Vernon Brown. In Vernon’s absence, Alan Graff said the Housing First Subcommittee will be looking at the Lutheran Social services property.
- **Case Management Subcommittee** – Hugh Grogan said in looking at the pilot project the conclusion was reached that this is a fluid population and this is a point-in-time picture. He said they have added one person to the group to take it to a total of 30 persons, and they have also been discussing the vaccination that is now available to make drinking unattractive to drinkers. He said the shots run approximately \$500 to \$600/month. He said they also have been talking about setting up a system of assessments for health, legal issues, psychological issues, and spiritual needs, etc. Discussion was held on the need to identify exactly what case management services are to be provided in the pilot project for the chronic homeless and then issue Requests for Proposals (RFPs) to providers.
- **Financing Subcommittee** – Randy Bartunek said the subcommittee met on July 9. Discussion was held on the limited sources of financing resources. When a project has been identified, the Financing Subcommittee will have a more concrete goal to work towards. Discussion was held on the concept of creating a housing trust fund to fund affordable housing.

**IV. Old Business**

- A. County Pilot Project Guidelines** – Handout – Hugh Grogan distributed a handout to the HAB describing the pilot project and said that at the end of the project, the successes and failures will be measured to give information on

what the HAB should do next. They are projecting a September 1, 2007, start for the program.

**V. New Business**

- A. **HAB Website** – There was no discussion on the HAB website.
- B. **Shireen Ranschau** – Sioux Falls Housing and Redevelopment Commission. Shireen Ranschau led discussion on the availability of a large house at 8<sup>th</sup> and Minnesota formerly operated as a group home by Southeastern Mental Health Assoc. for its clients. She said it could be the site of SRO housing operated in collaboration with the Veteran Administration and could provide transitional housing for up to 12 individuals.
- C. **Homeless Advocates of South Dakota** – Nathan Herman said their organization has reorganized and is in the process of applying for 501C3 status as a nonprofit organization. They are also in the process of looking at computers and software to assist in the operation of their organization.

VI. **Next Meetings** – August 6 and 27, 2007 – 11:30 a.m. Carnegie Town Hall.

VII: **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 p.m.