

Minutes
HOMELESS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
October 6th, 2008 – 11:30am
Siouxland Health & Human Services Building

Members present: Shirley Halleen, Judy Buseman, Carol Twedt, Wendy Giebink, and Kerri DeGraff

Members absent: Alan Graff, Vernon Brown, Randy Bartunek, Hugh Grogan, Tam Baker

Others present: Russ Sorenson, Planning Department and Stacey Tieszen, HAB Homeless Coordinator.

I. Approval of Minutes – 09/15/08 Minutes

Upon motion by Shirley, and seconded by Kerri DeGraff, the HAB approved the minutes of the 09/15/08 meeting as provided. Carried unanimously.

II. Old Business

A. Site Committee

- The Site Committee met on September 25th and discussed additional property options. More information was requested. An additional meeting was scheduled for October 22. The HAB talked about having the Site Committee rank a couple of the sites and bring them before the Board. Would like to get moving forward with additional information on the properties so that the appropriate staff can make contact in pursuing a possible option to buy. Carol Twedt made a motion that Russ Sorenson, City Planning, get together with Ken McFarland, Jeff Barth and De Knudson, all members of the Site Committee, to start making inquiries about the properties discussed to see if they will sell and for how much before the next Site Committee meeting. Kerri DeGraff seconded the motion.

III. New Business

A. Arena Motel – Tim Nicolai – Postponed until 10/27/08 HAB meeting

B. Inter-Faith Taskforce

- Faith Committee members developed a potential Inter-Faith Taskforce to address the need to further involve the Faith Community in the goal to end homelessness. A handout was provided that discussed the need, how it could work and who potentially could be involved. Discussion focused on the current Soul Connections workgroup and how to involve them in moving this forward. Shirley Halleen will work with Stacey Tieszen, HAB Homeless Coordinator and members of the Faith Committee to further develop this concept and report back soon.

C. 2008 Winter Shelter/Dashboard

- With winter soon approaching, discussion focused on the perceived need in the community for additional shelter beds. Reviewed the Dashboard data from January to present. The Dashboard includes numbers from St. Francis House and

De-tox, but not from Union Gospel Mission at present. Without the data from UGM, it is impossible to know how full the available shelters are. Would ask Hugh Grogan to talk with Fran at UGM again to see if he will share his numbers with us, along with how his occupancy rate may have changed in the past several months.

IV. Homeless Coordinator Progress Report

- Stacey Tieszen provided an update of the accomplishments and activities since the last HAB meeting. Additionally, discussion focused on the increased numbers of identified homeless children from the Office of Homeless Education with the SF School District. Hawthorne has seen a large increase in turnover of students (a transition in and out of the school). From this same time last year, there has been a 94% increase in the number of homeless students identified. These students could be living doubled-up, in motels, in transitional housing programs and at shelters. Efforts are being made to refer families to the necessary service agencies. Discussed the upcoming Homeless in Sioux Falls video and showed a 3 minute rough draft version. Plans would be to have it completed in mid-November and to see about getting it broadcast on the SF City Channel 16.

V. Committee Reports

A. Program Committee – No report.

B. Faith-Based Community Committee

- See above discussion in regards to the Inter-Faith Taskforce.

C. Finance Committee

- No report.

VI. Adjournment – the meeting adjourned at 12:50pm.