

Palm Beach County Homeless Advisory Board Meeting

Human Services, North County Office, Conference Room

1440 Martin Luther King Blvd., Rivera Beach

2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

February 27, 2008

Board Members Present

Judith Aigen, Housing Authority

Thomas Bell, Formerly Homeless Representative

Jorge Camejo for Steve Abrams, City of Boca Raton

Michelle Carter, Formerly Homeless Representative

Michelle Diffenderfer, Business Community Representative

Dr. Ann Faraone for Bill Graham, PBC School Board

Kerry Gallagher, Philanthropic Community Representative

John Green for Mayor Thomas Masters, City of Riviera Beach

Susan Guillama, Business Community Representative

David Gury, Business Community Representative

Stephen Johnson, Formerly Homeless Community Representative

Robert Kellman for Jerry Taylor, City of Boynton Beach

Jeff Koons, PBC Board of County Commissioners

Ezra Kreig, General Representative

Philip Lewis, Business Community Representative

Captain Jeff Lindskoog, PBC Sheriff's Department

Bill Oberlink, Business Community Representative

Nancy Perez, Palm Beach County Judiciary

Jack Scarola, Business Community Representative

Elivio Serrano for Scott Badesch, United Way of Palm Beach County

Tom Sheehan for Tana Ebbola, PBC Children's Services Council

Andrew Sherman, General Representative

Lillian Tomeu for Mayor Donald Garrett, City of Belle Glade

Suzette Wexner, Private Foundation Community Representative

Board Nominee Present

Doug Pugh, Private Foundation Community Representative

Board Members Not Represented

Pastor Leo Abdella, Faith-Based Community Representative

Perry Borman, FL Department of Children & Families

Rita Ellis, City of Delray Beach

Lois Frankel, City of West Palm Beach

Paul Gionfriddo, Private Foundation Community Representative

Miriam Maldonado, Formerly Homeless Representative Nominee
Dr. Jean Malecki, PBC Health Department
Bernard Shulman, PBC Emergency Shelter Board
William Washington, Business Community Representative
Dr. Ron Wiewora for Dwight Chenette, PBC Health Care District
David Zechman, Hospital Executive Representative

County Staff Present

Georgiana Devine, PBC Community Services, Human Services Division
Jenise Gibson, Criminal Justice Commission
Mary Quinlan, Court Administration
Claudia Tuck, PBC Community Services, Director, Human Services Division
Jon Van Arnam, PBC County Administration

Consultant Staff Present

Krysten Bennett, Langton Associates
Mike Langton, Langton Associates

Others in Attendance

Susan Boone, Florida Housing Corporation
Monica Caruso
Rita Clark, The Homeless Coalition of PBC
Matt Constantine, Adopt-A-Family of the Palm Beaches
Daniel Gibson, United Way of PBC
Juanita Bryant Goode
Chris Harris, 211/CMIS
Donna Lambert
Dorla Leslie, Center for Family Services
Michelle Leigh Jacobs, CARP, Inc.
Dawn Krupa, FEC
Missy Malaney, The Lord's Place
Art O'Brien
Matte Reyes-Coles, Center for Independent Living Options
Tomas Reyes-Coles, Stand Down
Marilyn Sands
Jamie Scheelk
Kathy Spencer, Gulfstream Goodwill
Diana Stanley, The Lord's Place
Charlotte Wright, City of West Palm Beach

Welcome

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm by Commissioner Jeff Koons.

Approval of Minutes

Motion made to approve the minutes of the February 6, 2008, meeting. Motion made by Senator Lewis and seconded. Motion carried.

Resignation of Shannon Sadler Hull as Private Foundation Representative and Nomination of Doug Pugh

There was a resignation of Shannon Sadler Hall and a nomination of Doug Pugh as Private Foundation Representative. Motion made to accept the resignation and nomination by Ezra Kreig and seconded by Tom Sheehan. Motion carried.

Discussion of Maite Reyes-Coles Letter, Potential Amendments to Goals and Action Steps

Discussion of Maite Reyes-Coles Letter to Board concerning some recommendations of changes to wording of specific action steps regarding individuals with disabilities. Motion made by Ezra Kreig and seconded by Lillian Tomeu (Donald Garret's office delegate). There was discussion. Motion failed to pass.

Review of Ten Year Plan Preliminary Outline

Krysten Bennett reviewed the outline and the reasoning behind the formatting of the 10 year plan. The items were pulled from the presentations. The underserved populations were discussed in detail in the narrative versus having them detailed in the action steps. There are many things that we need to do to include the signatures of Board members and we need to double check on how each Board member's signature is written. Commissioner Koons stated that he needed this 10 year plan to be a strong document and was putting it out for comment is very appropriate and he would prefer to keep the control under Krysten Bennett to do appropriate edits versus having a sheer document on Google that would track whoever's making edits and changes and it be an evolving document.

Senator Lewis had a question on demographics and the overall seriousness of the problem and how does it address the questions needed. He felt that we needed some outside comparisons. Commissioner Koons needs a pre-sale for the County Commissioners and the stronger we are as an advisory board, the more likely we will gain the Commissioners' support.

Mike Langton reminded everyone of the next March meeting and that its purpose would be to include final edits and vote to approve the overriding goals and action steps.

Commissioner Koons suggested a cancellation of the April 16th meeting and in its stead on April 15th have the advisory board present the goals and action steps to the County Commissioners on the work that has been done to date. This would not be a final plan. This meeting is estimated

to be less than one hour with a 15-20 minute presentation and a Q&A afterwards of approximately one hour. Commissioner Koons said that with the amount of time the County Commissioners spent on the safety and security of dogs and cats, they should also spend an equal amount or more on the issue of homelessness.

May 21st is the next meeting to review and edit and do a final approval of the final document. There will be a subsequent meeting to submit this document to the County Commissioners. Once this has been submitted to the County Commissioners, the advisory board will appoint committees. We will then look for funders to come in and outline the needs and look at ways to combine efforts through the various current programs, a collaborative effort will be much stronger. Asking questions of each other such as "What are you working on?" "What do you need to work on?" "Are there other grants or systems that we need to tap into?" and overall getting independent groups to talk and work together.

Prioritization of Goals and Action Steps

This is a three part process, the first of which is determining if the seven goals are in the right order. The second is the need to label the action steps as: a) emergent, b) urgent, or c) semi-urgent. (These terms were later relabeled. See motion below.) The third step in the process is homework to be done to rank each of the 1-63 action steps.

There were some discussion on the goals and a forced ranking (1-7) to put them in the order of importance. The result of all discussion was as follows:

1. Develop a universal system for intake/assessment and enhance client information management system.
2. Provide interim housing services for homeless individuals/families.
3. To coordinate partnerships and development of resources for homeless services.
4. Improve access to homeless services with outreach and education.
5. Prevent individuals and families from being homeless.
6. Secure a stable stock of affordable/accessible housing.
7. Provide system oversight and evaluation of the 10 year plan.

The action steps were then ranked and voted on as: a) emergent, b) urgent, or c) semi-urgent. Since there was quite a bit of confusion over these terms, Susan Guillama suggested the change of terminology of the action steps to: a) critical, b) urgent, or c) important. Jeff Lindskoog made a motion to accept the change in terminology which was seconded by Ezra Kreig. Motion carried.

The result of all discussion regarding the action steps was as follows:

GOAL 1: Develop a universal system for intake/assessment and enhance client information management system.

| Action Item: | New Ranking: |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Critical |
| B | Critical |
| C | Important |
| D | Urgent |
| E | Important |

GOAL 2: Provide interim housing services for homeless individuals/families.

| Action Item: | New Ranking: |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Critical |
| B | Urgent |
| C | Critical |
| D | Critical |
| E | Critical |
| F | Critical |

GOAL 3: To coordinate partnerships and development of resources for homeless services.

| Action Item: | New Ranking: |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Critical |
| B | Urgent |
| C | Critical |
| D | Critical |
| E | Critical/Urgent |
| F | Urgent |
| G | Urgent |
| H | Critical |
| I | Important |
| J | Important |

GOAL 4: Improve access to homeless services with outreach and education.

| Action Item: | New Ranking: |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Urgent |
| B | Important |
| C | Urgent |
| D | Critical |

GOAL 5: Prevent individuals and families from being homeless.

| Action Item: | New Ranking: |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Important |
| B | Important |
| C | Urgent |
| D | Critical |
| E | Urgent |
| F | Critical |
| G | Critical |
| H | Urgent |
| I | Important |
| J | Important |
| K | Important |
| L | Urgent |
| M | Urgent |
| N | Urgent |
| O | Critical |
| P | Urgent/Important |
| Q | Important |
| R | Important |
| S | Critical |

GOAL 6: Secure a stable stock of affordable/accessibile housing.

| Action Item: | New Ranking: |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Urgent |
| B | Critical |
| C | Critical |
| D | Important |
| E | Urgent |
| F | Urgent |
| G | Critical |
| H | Urgent |
| I | Urgent |
| J | Urgent |
| K | Important |

GOAL 7: Provide system oversight and evaluation of the 10 year plan.

| Action Item: | New Ranking: |
|---------------------|---------------------|
| A | Urgent |
| B | Urgent |
| C | Critical |
| D | Important |
| E | Urgent |
| F | Urgent |
| G | Critical |
| H | Critical |

On the new Goal 3 (Secure a Stable Stock of Affordable/Accessible Housing) there was quite a bit of discussion on items C, D and I being similar in nature and possibly combining them. There was also discussion over whether J was a needed action step. After much discussion it was determined that it should remain in place with the recommendation to change the wording to include "effective use."

A reminder of the homework that the Board was to force rank the action items 1-63 without consideration as to which goal they belong to was made.

It was estimated that the committees would break out into their sessions beginning June/July.

Public Comment

The public was asked if they had any comments.

Michelle Jacobs requested that the 10 year plan include sub categories specific to substance abusers and those sub categories be integrated directly into plan.

Rita Clark announced that May 23rd is the local symposium for the homeless and that advocacy and education are important.

Upcoming Meeting

- Next meeting is March 19, 2008 at 2pm

Meeting adjourned at 4pm