

Palm Beach County Homeless Advisory Board Meeting

Human Services, North County Office, Conference Room
1440 Martin Luther King Boulevard, Riviera Beach

September 17, 2008

Board Members Present

Pastor Leo Abdella, Faith-Based Community Representative
Judith Aigen, Housing Authority
Thomas Bell, Formerly Homeless Representative
Perry Borman, FL Department of Children & Families
Michelle Carter, Formerly Homeless Representative
Don Chester, Hospital Executive Representative
Dr. Anne 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
Stephen Johnson, Formerly Homeless Community Representative
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
Jack Scarola, Business Community Representative
Tom Sheehan for Tana Ebbola, PBC Children's Services Council
Lillian Tomeu for Mayor Steve Wilson, City of Belle Glade

Board Members Not Represented

Bob Anis, PBC Emergency Shelter Board
Scott Badesch, United Way of Palm Beach County
Jorge Camejo for Steve Abrams, City of Boca Raton
Michelle Diffenderfer, Business Community Representative
Rita Ellis, City of Delray Beach
Lois Frankel, City of West Palm Beach
Paul Gionfriddo, Private Foundation Community Representative
David Gury, Business Community Representative
Shannon Sadler Hull, Private Foundation Community Representative
Robert Kellman for Jerry Taylor, City of Boynton Beach
Miriam Maldonado, Formerly Homeless Representative Nominee
Dr. Jean Malecki, PBC Health Department
Nancy Perez, Palm Beach County Judiciary
Andrew Sherman, General Representative
William Washington, Business Community Representative
Suzette Wexner, Private Foundation Community Representative

Dr. Ron Wiewora for Dwight Chenette, PBC Health Care District

County Staff Present

Georgiana Devine, PBC Community Services, Human Services Division
Marcela Carneiro Millett
Mary Quinlan, Court Administration
Claudia Tuck, PBC Community Services, Director, Human Services Division
Jon Van Arnam, PBC Community Services

Consultant Staff Present

Krysten Bennett, Langton Associates

Others in Attendance

Alexandria Douglas Barblae
Ronald Brummitt, Caring Place
Kathleen Chapman, Palm Beach Post
Sally Chester
Rita Clark, Homeless Coalition of PBC
Mark Essary, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Daniel Gibson, United Way of PBC
Chris Harris, CMIS
Jordan Hunt
Lela Jordan, City of West Palm Beach
Consuelo Jorgenson
Kevin Jorgenson
Dawn Krupa, Adopt-A-Family
Alan Levine
Fred Mascaro, Palm Beach Sheriff's Office
Michelle Padron, The Quantum Group
Daniel Ramos
Maite Reyes-Coles, CILO
Marilyn Sands, CILO
Diana Stanley, The Lord's Place
Shawn Wilson

Welcome

Meeting called to order at 2:09 pm by Commissioner Koons. No quorum was present so the meeting was opened with the report on the presentation to BCC.

Report on Presentation of Plan to BCC (23rd)

Jon Van Arnam discussed the upcoming meeting in front of the Board of County Commissioners scheduled for September 23rd at 11:30 am. He said that the intent is to provide the Board with a short presentation, allow for Q&A, a public comment time and hopefully wrap

up the meeting within thirty minutes. The goal is not to restate the plan as it is currently available on the County website, but to make points regarding the plan and to thank the BCC for their willingness to approve and undertake the plan.

Commissioner Koons stated that there would be hard copies of the plan available at the meeting. He mentioned that now is a difficult time to seek a new initiative. He stated that the BCC is interested in finding new solutions to old problems and that it's important that we reiterate that this is not a County initiative, rather a community initiative. We need to focus on how we can add more resources and foster collaboration to work on this.

Ezra Kreig spoke briefly on the meeting that he, Senator Lewis, and Kerry Gallagher had with Commissioner McCarty. The Commissioner expressed support of the plan as long as we weren't asking for money. Senator Lewis made it clear that though we were not asking now, it did not mean that we would not ask. The Commissioner also expressed the concern over the effect of sober houses in the Boynton Beach and Delray Beach areas as persons who were unsuccessful in completing these programs were being turned out. Commissioner Koons gave some background on the sober house program and stated that meetings had been/were being set with the individual cities to address their specific needs

Commissioner Koons also spoke about the unavailability of safe housing for persons who are living in substandard housing or homeless during times of inclement weather such as Tropical Storm Fay. He stated that they are working on a program targeting a specific population for care during such tropical events which will take a strategic look at these situations. They need to look at places and identify outreach efforts as flooding is a very dramatic problem.

Quorum reached at 2:26 pm. Krysten Bennett performed a roll call.

Dr. Ann Faraone mentioned the Town Hall meeting scheduled for 9:30 am on September 18th at the Kravis Center. She said that the title of the event is "Florida's People, Florida's Promise" and that eleven legislative members are scheduled to be there to discuss the cuts made to children in poverty.

Commissioner Koons offered a brief recap for the members and other guests who recently arrived.

Approval of July 16, 2008 Minutes

Motion made to approve the minutes of the July 16, 2008, meeting pending addition of Leo Abdella's name as the person who seconded the motion to approve the 10 year plan. Motion made by Senator Phil Lewis and seconded by Leo Abdella. Motion carried.

Discussion of Signature Addendum to Ten Year Plan

Krysten Bennett discussed signature addendum and what they would like to see done. Though the plan was already adopted and signed off on by all of the members of the Committee, interest had been expressed in drafting an addendum to include the signatures of the people

who supported the plan from the beginning as well as some of the providers who helped author the plan.

Diana Stanley stated that she supported an addendum on behalf of the providers. Commissioner Koons asked if she had any specific language and she said no, we could look at other plans to get that.

Motion made to approve the inclusion of a signature addendum made by Ezra Kreig and seconded by Captain Jeff Lindskoog. Motion carried.

Committee Structure and Responsibilities

Krysten discussed the committee structure and responsibilities and how she and Mike Langton assigned the action steps to each committee. They also proposed that an additional committee be created titled "Program Planning & Evaluation Committee" to assist in taking care of the action items which don't fall under a specific sub-committee.

Senator Lewis suggested that the sub-committees begin to meet within the next 30 days. Commissioner Koons thought this was a great idea and then he can bring the updates before the BCC every 3-4 months.

Leo Abdella suggested that Krysten put together a form to help guide the sub-committees so that the work being done is more focused and the BCC gets what they need.

Krysten stated that they hoped to meet again in October, approve the new member slate and then schedule the first meetings of the sub-committees to begin to meet and prioritize the actions steps each sub-committee is tasked with. She said that the overall consensus was that a PBCHAB member chair the sub-committee but be open to adding non-PBCHAB members. She asked that any nominees be asked and once they accept, their name and contact information be forwarded to her so that there is not an overwhelming number of people showing up to the October meeting.

Commissioner Koons suggested that if there were other committees scheduled to meet that might affect future funding, we get in front of them.

Jon Van Arnam suggested that the plan was workable outside of the PBCHAB Committee and that each member start a dialogue amongst other committees to see how the two can cooperate.

Krysten Bennett walked through the Committee and Action steps. Commissioner Koons said that as we go through them we should keep in mind any people or skill sets that might be missing so that they can be added later. The decision was made to establish a contact person for each sub-committee.

Lengthy discussion took place regarding why certain action items were included under specific sub-committees and not others, why not all of the PBCHAB members were represented on sub-

committees, if non-provider members of the PBCHAB should be integrated into PP&E sub-committee whether or not the name of the PP&E sub-committee is correct or if the word "evaluation" should be stricken.

Motion made to move action items 6C, 6I and 6J from to Funding. Motion made by Jack Scarola and seconded by Phil Lewis. Motion carried.

Motion made to move action items 3F and 5S to the new PP&E sub-committee. Motion made by Tom Sheehan and seconded by Ezra Kreig. Motion carried

Motion made to move action items 2E, 5A, 5B, 5C, 5K, 5Q and 6E to Housing sub-committee. Motion made by Judith Aigen and seconded by Lillian Tomeu. Motion carried

Motion made to move action items 3F and 5S BACK to Strategic Development sub-committee. Motion made by Jack Scarola and seconded by Tom Sheehan. Motion carried

Motion made to move action item 5L to Policy sub-committee. Motion made by Ezra Kreig and seconded by Judith Aigen. Motion carried.

Motion made to move action item 1E to Facilities sub-committee. Motion made by Susan Guillama and seconded by Judith Aigen. Motion carried.

Request was made that a contact list go out enclosing all of the members contact information. Krysten Bennett will provide.

Public Comment Period

Rita Clark from the Homeless Coalition of Palm Beach County spoke and made the Board aware of the updates on the Speakers Bureau. There are now 12 speakers who will present at FAU next week. The Coalition is working with providers on public service announcements. Additionally there are several events coming up. She requested the PBCHAB's blessing on the Vista project which is a collaborative effort with 10 service providers similar to the Peace Corp.

Commissioner Koons mentioned that forfeiture funds may be a possible funding source.

Consuelo Jorgenson and Jordan Hunt spoke and wanted to make sure that the homeless and or previously homeless were adequately represented on the Board. Two members spoke up as to being formerly homeless. Commissioner Koons stated that we are always trying to make sure that they are represented. He asked them to leave their name and contact info so that they can help.

Tom Sheehan reminded everyone of the Sunshine Laws with regard to all conversations. Commissioner Koons said to get the date of the meetings to the City and they'll get the notice out.

Upcoming Meetings

- October 15, 2008 at 2:00 pm
- Sub-Committee Meetings – October 16th & 17th
- November 19, 2008 at 2:00 pm

Meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm