

TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS

Thursday, November 9, 2017

3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

City Hall Community Room

2929 Tapo Canyon Road, Simi Valley, CA 93063

AGENDA

1. Call to Order/Welcome/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call
2. Agenda Review
3. Approval of Minutes
4. Public Statements/Comments
This is the time allotted for statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Task Force on Homelessness. Statements and comments are limited to no more than five (5) minutes per speaker.
5. Informational Presentations
 - a. Overview of the Simi Valley Community Garden's Social Feed Project
 - b. Overview of the Revised Structure of the Task Force on Homelessness
 - c. Distribution of 2018 Meeting Dates
6. New Business
 - a. Overview/Discussion of Ventura County Health Care Agency's Whole Person Care program
7. Task Force Member Comments
This is the time allotted for Task Force member statements or comments on matters within the subject matter and jurisdiction of the Task Force on Homelessness, to request a future agenda item, or to give an Ad Hoc Committee Report. This is also the time to make any announcements related to community events and other items of interest.
8. Task Force on Homelessness Coordinator's Report
9. Adjournment: Thursday, February 8, 2018, 3:30 p.m.

/s/

Sommer Barwick
Community Services Director

If any interested individual has a disability that may require accommodation to participate in this meeting, please contact Jennifer Santos at (805) 583-6759. Upon advance notification, reasonable arrangements will be made to provide accessibility to the meeting.

TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS
DRAFT MINUTES

1. Call To Order/Pledge of Allegiance/Roll Call

Mayor Pro Tem Judge called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. and Jennifer Santos noted that a quorum was present. The attendance detail is available on the last page of the minutes.

2. Agenda Review

The agenda was accepted as presented.

3. Approval of Minutes

By the consensus of the Task Force, the November 10, 2016 minutes were approved as presented. Notes from March 16, 2017 were provided for information only.

4. Public Statements/Comments:

A member of the public inquired if individuals who reside in transitional housing facilities were counted in the 2017 Ventura County Homeless Count and Subpopulation Survey (Count). It was clarified that individuals in transitional housing were included in the Count. However, since the Count is a sampling of the homeless population, not every facility and individual is counted.

5. Informational Presentation

a. Results of the 2017 Ventura County Homeless Count and Survey

Tara Carruth, from the Ventura County Executive Office and Ventura County Continuum of Care, provided an overview on the results for the Count. Countywide, 1,152 people were counted as being homeless during the point-in-time count, resulting in a nine percent decrease from 2016 that showed that 1,271 people were counted. In Simi Valley there were 105 people counted, a slight increase from 2016 which had 99 people counted. The Count only includes people who meet the Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) definition as homeless. HUD considers a person homeless only when he/she lives in places not meant for human habitation such as cars, parks, sidewalks, abandoned buildings, emergency shelters, and in transitional housing, including safe havens.

The Count only provides a snapshot of the number of people experiencing homelessness. The Ventura County Healthcare for the Homeless reported that 13,415 persons were enrolled in the County of Ventura's Healthcare for the Homeless program, and only 604 of those persons met the HUD definition of homeless. Additionally, 3,286 students were

identified as homeless in Ventura County and 297 of those met the HUD definition as being homeless.

The Survey shows the following recommendations to continue to reduce homelessness in Ventura County: address Veteran Homelessness by utilizing Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) vouchers and Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program assistance; zero tolerance policy for children living on the streets; continue implementing and expanding Pathways to Home; Housing First approach; increase supportive housing units for persons with disabilities that meet the chronic homeless definition; rapid re-housing resources for families; and utilize unsheltered numbers as baseline data to measure progress. Additional information about the Count can be found online by visiting <http://www.venturacoc.org/reports>.

6. New Business

a. Overview and Discussion/Potential Recommendations on the Real Change Movement, a Coordinated Effort to Reduce Panhandling

Kurt Fredrickson provided an update about the Real Change Movement program that started in the City of Pasadena and currently operates in a few other communities throughout the nation. The program helps to raise awareness and understanding about homelessness and provides alternatives for people to give to organizations that serve the homeless through the installation of donation parking meters.

The program is funded through corporate and business association sponsorships to cover operating costs (installation, repairs/replacement, coin collection, communications, and donation processing). In one community, six of the nine meters are sponsored at \$1,500 per meter, and all proceeds are donated to assist in homeless services, with United Way matching. Unfortunately, there isn't any data available at this time to determine if the meters have helped to reduce panhandling. The City of Pasadena raised \$8,000 for the program in 2014-15 (\$4,000 through meters and \$4,000 in matching funds from United Way), and had a goal to double the funding to \$16,000 during 2015-16. The meters accept coin and credit card donations. There haven't been any security issues with making donations. Other communities have taken an interest in the program. The City of Los Angeles is in the process of installing donation parking meters.

Due to concerns about the amount of resources to start, and the effectiveness of the program, it was the consensus of the Task Force not to make any recommendations to continue with pursuing the program.

b. Discussion and Possible Action on Proposed Restructuring of the Task Force on Homelessness

Jennifer Santos, Management Analyst, provided an overview and history of the Task Force, including its growth from 19 to 31 representatives. At the November 10, 2016 meeting, a request was made to evaluate the current structure of the Task Force. Recommendations were developed by the Alliance to House the Homeless to enhance the ability to address homelessness. Targeted groups are recommended to be utilized to address the issue of homelessness in the community including the Task Force, Resource Coordination (gathering of service providers and community members), Case Manager Collaboration, and expanding community input through the City's various Advisory Boards and Commissions. These groups would continue to address the broad scope of homelessness through discussions and the sharing of resources, which is currently coordinated at the Task Force meetings. The proposed structure will allow for progressive discussions to be channeled up to the Task Force for the development of recommendations to the City Council for action.

Upon conclusion of the discussion, Fred Bauermeister made a motion and Betty Eskey seconded to recommend that the City Council restructure the Task Force to consist of 13 members. The motion passed with a vote of 17 in favor and one opposed.

7. Task Force Member Comments

Betty Eskey announced that the Samaritan Center's "One Love Fashion Show" will be held on May 21, 2017, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more information about the event, please call (805) 579-9166.

8. Task Force on Homelessness Coordinator's Report: None

9. Adjournment: Thursday, August 10, 2017, 3:30 p.m., City Hall Community Room

The meeting was adjourned at 4:25 p.m.

| Organization | Representative | Attendance P = Present; A = Absent |
|---|--|---|
| Area Housing Authority | Michael Nigh | P |
| Chamber of Commerce | Rana Ghadban | A |
| City Council | Mayor Pro Tem Mike Judge | P |
| City Council | Council Member Keith Mashburn | P |
| Council On Aging | June-Marie von Osinski | P |
| County of Ventura Behavioral Health Department | Bob Gross | A |
| County of Ventura Homeless Services | Melissa Perezchica Ramirez | P |
| County of Ventura Human Services Agency | Latrell Herbert | A |
| County of Ventura Public Health Department | Michele Surber | A |
| County of Ventura Supervisor Peter Foy's Office | Brian Miller | P |
| Dinner Site | Toni Freeland | P |
| Faith Community | Kurt Fredrickson | P |
| Faith Community | Andy Mattick | A |
| Free Clinic of Simi Valley | Fred Bauermeister | P |
| Lutheran Social Services | Denise Cortes | A |
| Many Mansions | Rick Schroeder | P |
| Neighborhood Council # 1 | Dan Kirk | A |
| Neighborhood Council # 2 | Lesley Greenfield | P |
| Neighborhood Council # 3 | Vacant | V |
| Neighborhood Council # 4 | Pete Stong | P |
| PADS | Rosie Moreno | A |
| Rancho Simi Recreation and Park District | Theresa Pennington | P |
| Representative who has Experienced Homelessness | Colleen Abbinanti | P |
| Rotary Club of Simi Valley | Kate O'Brien | P |
| Salvation Army | Mary Flandez | A |
| Samaritan Center | Betty Eskey | P |
| Simi Valley Hospital | Carla Orieta | A |
| Simi Valley Police Department | Sgt. Steve Shorts for Cmdr. Stephanie Shannon | P |
| Simi Valley Unified School District | Trustee Bill Daniels | A |
| State Senator or Assemblyman | Marie Lakin | A |
| Youth Council | Nick Judge | P |