

MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

January 14, 2010

In attendance:

Kenny Young, Alternate, City of North Las Vegas
Jodie Gerson, Alternate, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Annie Wilson, Alternate, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Adrienne Cox, Adrienne Cox Consulting
Nancy McLane, Clark County
Tara Ulmer, Alternate, City of Las Vegas
Gina Gavan, Nevada Homeless Alliance
Barbara Geach, Alternate, City of Henderson
Myra Berkovits, Clark County School District

Absent:

Maryann Ustick, Chair, City of North Las Vegas
Stuart Ghertner, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Gary Schofield, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Orlando Sanchez, City of Las Vegas
Skeet Fitzgerald, City of Henderson
Rose Ann Miele, City of Boulder City
Mark Smasal, Veterans Administration

Agenda Item 1. Call to order, notice of agenda compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.

The meeting of the Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition Committee on Homelessness was called to order by Kenny Young, Alternate, City of North Las Vegas, at 2:02 p.m., on Thursday, January 14, 2010, in Commission Chambers in the Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda for the January 14, 2010, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of the Agenda for January 14, 2010.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the January 14, 2010, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Barbara Geach, Alternate, City of Henderson, and Myra Berkovits, Clark County School District, had not arrived yet although quorum was met without them.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of Minutes from the December 10, 2009, Meeting.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes from the December 10, 2009, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Barbara Geach, Alternate, City of Henderson, and Myra Berkovits, Clark County School District, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 4. Receive an update from the Regional Homeless Services Coordinator. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Services Coordinator, gave a progress update including: Winter Inclement Weather Shelter reports including HMIS generated reports; and overflow shelter beds were available on 13 nights in December because of excessively low temperatures, but they were only used by a few individuals on two of those nights so this may be an area for potential funding reductions.

There was discussion by the Committee about whether there were any data indicators for why numbers have not increased as expected due to foreclosures; and increased programming is available and utilized instead of emergency shelter beds.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 5. Receive an update on the Continuum of Care. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, gave an update on approved Continuum of Care renewal contracts and award amounts from the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), and she reported that HUD awarded \$3,447,157 which was over \$58,000 more than what was requested.

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Services Coordinator, stated that new project funding would be announced at a future meeting.

There was no discussion by the Committee; and no motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 6. Receive an update on the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher program. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Marcia Evans, Veterans Affairs, gave an update on the HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (HUD-VASH) voucher program via a PowerPoint presentation titled “Health Care for Homeless Veterans (HCHV) – Ending Homelessness Among Veterans”.

There was no discussion by the Committee; and no motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 7. Discuss the 2010-2011 Regional Homeless Budget. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Services Coordinator, began discussion on the 2010-2011 Regional Homeless Budget via a PowerPoint presentation titled “Budget Reductions for FY 10/11”. She also presented the “Southern Nevada Regional Planning Coalition’s Committee on Homelessness Proposed Budget with 5% Reduction”, “...Reduction Scenarios for Inclement Weather Shelter based on FY 2009/2010”, and BitFocus’ “Southern Nevada HMIS – Budget Cut Analysis”.

There was lengthy discussion by the Committee about trends indicating reduced utilization of both winter shelter beds and year-round overflow beds; potential implications if one or more of the jurisdictions are unable to contribute anything to the regional budget; no direct services can be provided without staff and support; “...as a community, what are these people and the new people who aren’t seen yet supposed to do?”; whether there could be decreased licensing fees for software agreements via renegotiation especially with long-term contract renewals; and whether any portion of the private donations from the Homeless Trust Fund could be used.

A recommendation was made to look into a 5% reduction to BitFocus' HMIS services as well as researching a reduction in Inclement Weather funding, utilizing funds from the Homeless Trust Fund and evaluating implications of a complete loss of contribution funding by one or more of the jurisdictions.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

Agenda Item 8. Public Comment.

Annette Schmidt, Women's Development Center, commented on veteran assistance and voucher support.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.