

## MEETING MINUTES

### COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS

#### SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

October 9, 2008

**In attendance:**

Orlando Sanchez, Chair, City of Las Vegas  
Maryann Ustick, Vice Chair, City of North Las Vegas  
Annie Wilson, Alternate, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Nancy McLane, Alternate, Clark County  
Skeet Fitzgerald, City of Henderson  
Gina Jackson, Nevada Homeless Alliance  
Mark Smasal, Veterans Administration

**Absent:**

Gary Schofield, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department  
Darryl Martin, Clark County  
Rose Ann Miele, City of Boulder City  
Adrienne Cox, Focus Property Group  
Mike Darley, Fitzgeralds Casino and Hotel  
Richard Failla, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services  
Myra Berkovits, Clark County School District

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**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 Orlando Sanchez, Chair, City of Las Vegas, at 2:10 p.m., on Thursday, October 9, 2008, in Commission Chambers in the Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda for the October 9, 2008, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

**Agenda Item 2. Approval of the Agenda for October 9, 2008.**

A motion was made and seconded to remove agenda item 8 (HELP Las Vegas Presentation) and to approve the amended agenda for the October 9, 2008, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Agenda Item 3. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting on September 11, 2008.**

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the September 11, 2008, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

**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 stating that the 2009 Winter Homeless Census Count would be held statewide (in both the north and the south) on only the single night of January 29, 2009.

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

**Agenda Item 5. Receive a presentation on the October 8, 2008, Project Homeless Connect. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.**

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Management Analyst, gave a presentation on initial statistics of the October 8, 2008, Project Homeless Connect; and she stated that many records were broken with attendance and services provided.

There was discussion by the Committee on clients housed in transitional housing; comparisons to last year's event; and substantial increases to numbers of families served.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 6. Receive a presentation on HUD Housing Choice Vouchers for Veterans. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.**

Marcia Evans, Veterans Affairs, gave a presentation on the HUD Housing Choice Vouchers for Veterans and the criteria and procedures for the program.

There was discussion by the Committee on assistance to find housing as well as the vouchers themselves; money available per voucher is dependant on number of family members and income levels; which local Housing Authority was involved; and pensions for honorably discharged veterans.

Frank Perna, Homeless Advocate, commented on PSA's (Public Service Announcements) designed specifically for veterans; obstructions to admittance; utility assistance; the importance of mentorship development and involvement; and increasing partnerships and numbers of available vouchers.

No motion or action was required on this agenda item.

**Agenda Item 7. Receive an update on the Inclement Weather Shelter Program. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.**

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Management Analyst, gave an update on the Inclement Weather Shelter Program and the summary of the total numbers of beds used per provider; and she stated that the Day Shelter had not been maxed out to-date and no one had been turned away. She also stated that the Night Shelter would open in November.

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

**Agenda Item 8. Receive a presentation from HELP Las Vegas on agency services. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.**

This item was removed from the agenda.

**Agenda Item 9. Public Comment.**

Phillip Holloman, Catholic Charities, presented a flyer on Free Flu Shots being offered on October 23, 2008, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at Catholic Charities.

Frank Perna, Homeless Advocate, commented on the importance of preparing for a larger number of Iraqi-Afghanistan veterans who would be returning and who would require inpatient care. Mr. Perna submitted a letter dated October 9, 2008, addressed to the SNRPC Homeless Committee, as follows:

“I have made comments and requests, as have others, in past public comment, that citizens’ comments should influence future agenda items. This would encourage public cooperation. Last month I suggested that a liaison person be selected to interact with the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority in reaction to the suggestion made at your July workshop. This person may be able to identify possible contributions of excess items or recyclable items. You should contact, as soon as possible, Mr. Vince Alberta, Public Affairs Officer, to formally make this request since economic conditions are worsening daily.

Has there been any progress made on the suggestion to have mobile drop in centers with HMIS and fax access to provide timely and efficient services to the constantly moving homeless population? By using mobile drop in centers we would avoid the NIMBY syndrome, not in my back yard, which is triggered by proposals for homeless housing and at times social services.

I read this 3/28/2008 SNRPC Executive Board resolution into the record in previous meetings but I want to repeat it to ensure that our local veterans administration and veterans organizations are aware of it.

‘IN SUPPORT OF ACCELERATING THE COMPLETION DATE FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS’ MEDICAL CENTER HEALTH COMPLEX AT NORTH PECOS ROAD AND THE BRUCE WOODBURY BELTWAY; AND FURTHER IN SUPPORT OF THE IDENTIFICATION OF FUNDING FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF VETERANS’ HOUSING (DOMICILIARIES)’. The purpose for these are inpatient therapy programs for PTSD, TBI, alcoholism and legal and illegal drug addiction.”

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Management Analyst, gave an additional Project Homeless Connect update stating that 144 service resistant clients had been served at the October 8 event.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.