

MEETING MINUTES

COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS

SOUTHERN NEVADA REGIONAL PLANNING COALITION

August 14, 2008

In attendance:

Maryann Ustick, Vice Chair, City of North Las Vegas
Nancy McLane, Alternate, Clark County
Mark Smasal, Veterans Administration
Gary Schofield, Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Richard Failla, Southern Nevada Adult Mental Health Services
Mike Darley, Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce
Danielle Turner, Alternate, City of Henderson
Myra Berkovits, Clark County School District
Gina Jackson, Nevada Homeless Alliance

Absent:

Orlando Sanchez, Chair, City of Las Vegas
Darryl Martin, Clark County
Skeet Fitzgerald, City of Henderson
Rose Ann Miele, City of Boulder City
Adrienne Cox, Focus Property Group

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 Maryann Ustick, Vice Chair, City of North Las Vegas, at 2:03 p.m., on Thursday, August 14, 2008, in Commission Chambers in the Clark County Government Center, 500 S. Grand Central Parkway, Las Vegas, Nevada.

The agenda for the August 14, 2008, meeting was duly posted in compliance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law requirements.

Agenda Item 2. Approval of the Agenda for August 14, 2008.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the August 14, 2008, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Nancy McLane, Clark County, and Gina Jackson, Nevada Homeless Alliance, had not arrived yet although quorum was met without them.

Agenda Item 3. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting on June 12, 2008.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the June 12, 2008, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Nancy McLane, Clark County, and Gina Jackson, Nevada Homeless Alliance, had not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 4. Approval of Minutes from the Meeting on July 10, 2008.

A motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes for the July 10, 2008, meeting. The motion was approved unanimously. Nancy McLane, Clark County, and Gina Jackson, Nevada Homeless Alliance, had

not arrived yet.

Agenda Item 5. Receive an update on the July 10, 2008, Committee on Homelessness Workshop. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Maryann Ustick, City of North Las Vegas, summarized the agenda and discussion from the July 10 Committee on Homelessness Workshop and listed the three priorities that were decided upon at the workshop (1. Preventing homelessness, especially focusing on families; 2. Increasing access and integrating services for veterans; and 3. Focusing on marketing and public awareness).

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

Agenda Item 6. 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: the United Way of Southern Nevada's Annual Giving/Fund Campaign is beginning; the annual conference of the Nevada Association of Social Workers will be on September 25-27 at the Golden Nugget Hotel and the Homeless Track will be on September 26; a SOAR (SSI/SSDI, Outreach, Access and Recovery) Training Project Program will be held on September 17; renegotiations are in progress with ASR to assist with the Winter Homeless Count; and two RFP's are being finalized (one for an End-of-Year Progress contract to assist in developing and reporting on summaries and trends, etc. and one for a Mobile Shower Project).

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

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

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, stated that the Summer Night Shelter was full every night to-date; and she summarized beds used by providers including Catholic Charities, Emergency Aid of Boulder City, HopeLink, Salvation Army and the Rescue Missions.

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

Agenda Item 8. Receive an update on the 2009 Continuum of Care application. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Michele Fuller-Hallauer, Continuum of Care Coordinator, gave an update on the 2008 Continuum of Care application via a PowerPoint presentation titled "2008 Continuum of Care Update."

There was no discussion by the Committee; and a motion was made and seconded to accept the prioritization of the Evaluation Working Group for submission of the 2008 Continuum of Care Competitive Application. The motion was approved unanimously.

Agenda Item 9. Receive a presentation from the Center for Independent Living on agency services. Recommended action - Take any necessary action.

Terrie Stanfill, HELP of Southern Nevada, and Kelly Robson, HELP of Southern Nevada Youth Center, gave a presentation on the HELP of Southern Nevada Youth Center (formerly the Center for Independent Living) on agency services.

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

Agenda Item 10. Public Comment.

Shannon West, Regional Homeless Services Coordinator, stated that September is Recovery Month.

Frank Perna, Homeless Advocate, stated displeasure at not being able to offer public comment on individual agenda items as was allowed in the past; and he submitted the August, 2008, issue of *Forgotten Voice* and a letter dated August 14, 2008, addressed to the SNRPC Homeless Committee as follows:

“Southern Nevadans, especially our veteran population, should be pleased that Veterans Affairs Secretary Peake is visiting with our Congressional delegation. I hope he is made aware that the SNRPC Executive Board, composed of city and county elected officials, has passed a March 20, 2008 resolution in support of more comprehensive veteran healthcare in Southern Nevada. It supports an acceleration from the proposed 2011 date and funding for domicilliaries (veterans homes) to provide therapy programs for PTSD, TBI, alcoholism and drug addictions, legal and illegal. We are deficient in these services for our civilian population and these domicilliaries will serve to improve services for all citizens. We all should appreciate when our local officials support our veterans during wartime.

There will be a public hearing on August 19, 2008 at 9:00 a.m. which will be a videoconference at the Grant Sawyer Building by the Nevada Division of Welfare and Supportive Services.

The proposed rule changes reducing initiatives in welfare reforms are unfair and inequitable and punitive when there is a rise in unemployment and a financial crisis. Some of our military families are on welfare.

We are experiencing a rise in the homeless population of women and children and an increased demand for food. Since there is a \$6,000,000 TANF reserve these changes are unnecessary. Attend this meeting and ask that there be an exemption from budget cuts for the most vulnerable in our population.”

Loretta Moses, NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness), announced the 3rd annual NAMI Walk-A-Thon would be held on November 22, 2008; and an information meeting would be held on August 19 at the Rawson-Neal Psychiatric Hospital. She submitted a brochure and backup flyers as well.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.