



**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS & MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES
FULLERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT MURAL ROOM**

THURSDAY

DECEMBER 15, 2011

4:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Chairman Kennedy at 4:09 P.M.

PRESENT: Members: Anh, Deloof (arrived at 4:20 p.m.), Harvey, Jennings, Johnson, Keller (arrived at 5:00 p.m.), Kennedy, McGowan, McInerney, Mugrditchian, Serbin, Thomas

STAFF PRESENT: Mayor Quirk-Silva, Council Member Bankhead, Asst. to the City Manager Ferrier, Community Development Director Zelinka, Captain Bastreri, Housing Programs Supervisor Morad, Community Center Supervisor Espinoza, Executive Assistant Pasillas

MINUTES: Minutes of the December 1, 2011 meeting were APPROVED as written.

INTRODUCTIONS

Member Harvey – The need to know who the audience is before services can be provided (i.e. who is eligible for VA, etc.)

Member Thomas – People who spoke at the previous meeting gave up their opportunity for shelter at the Armory that night; need for a list of people willing to take in the homeless in emergency situations

Member Anh – Consumer testimony needs to drive services

Member Serbin – Impressed with heroism exhibited to overcome and prevail over situation; poverty not necessarily a result of an individual's incompetence; two separate issues – homelessness and homeless who are mentally ill

Member Kennedy – none

Member McGowan – The simple need for a place for the unsheltered to put their stuff

Member McInerney – Need to communicate the services and transportation that are available

Member Johnson – Need for year-round emergency shelter and services

Member Jennings – Enlightening to hear testimonies from the homeless

FOLLOW-UP REPORTS

Captain Bastreri, update on Fullerton Police Training – Capt. Bastreri updated the Task Force on the training that both the sworn and unsworn police employees had recently attended, which included: Critical Issue Training; POST Tele-Courses in Law Enforcement's Response to the Homeless and Recognizing Mental Illness – A Proactive Approach; a one-day Crisis Intervention seminar. All officers had attended training on taser use and the use of force, and 14 officers had attended a two-day course on Understanding Mental Illness at Golden West College.

Al Zelinka update on MindMixer – The site has been online approximately 30 days and so far 27 people had signed-up and contributed 16 ideas, with three to four additional ideas under each. A summary of these ideas would be brought to a Task Force meeting in January.

Member McGowan provided a brief update on the Listening Conference that had been held at the Hunt Branch Library recently. He explained that one-on-one discussions had been held with the individuals, along with one to two facilitators. The data collected from all of the Listening Conferences would be compiled in a database to be shared with the Task Force and community.

EDUCATIONAL PRESENTATION: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CARE

OC Health Care Agency - Mark Refowitz, Annette Mugrditchian, Tony Delgado, and Dr. Clayton Chow explained the various services provided by Orange County. Mr. Refowitz explained that funding was available for create permanent housing for the homeless, and he urged the City to work with the County on this type of project.

Dr. Jody Rawles explained the requirements for involuntary treatment of the mentally ill, and the various laws that pertained to such holds.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Susie Wright – Appreciates the Task Force addressing mental illness, but would also like to see post-traumatic stress not related to war addressed, as well as people with traumatic brain injuries.
- Joy Torres – Has used many of the services discussed, and developed coping skills because she knew where to go for support. AB109 – prisoners being released are not getting medication as rapidly as needed, and they also need housing.
- Brian Jacobs, Orange County Mental Health Board – The Mental Health Board had recently passed a Resolution of Support for Laura’s Law.
- Tony Package – Provided the Task Force with a handout on EDAR – a type of shelter for the homeless. Member Thomas would look into the cost.
- Sophia – A 12-hour training course in mental health first aid is available for the community.
- Gregory Wright – Importance of family-to-family class, which is offered by NAMI. Also, need for Fullerton to support Laura’s Law.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair Kennedy adjourned the meeting at 6:14 p.m.

AGENDA FORECAST

The next meeting of the Task Force on Homelessness and Mental Health Services is scheduled for January 5, 2011 at 4:00 p.m. at the Fullerton Main Library Conference Center.