

## City of Auburn Mayor's Task Force on Homelessness

DRAFT Meeting Summary for Meeting #6: Thursday, March 24, 2016

5:00 – 7:00pm

City Hall Council Chambers

MEETING ATTENDANCE					
<b>Task Force Members &amp; Alternates:</b>					
Sylvia Fuerstenburg	✓	Alexis Schleiss	✓	Carla Hopkins	✓
Alexander Foster	✓	Leticia Figueroa	✓	Jeremy James	X
Virginia Gannon	✓	Dennis Grad	✓	Julia Jordan	X
Debbie Christian	✓	Jeff Escobar	X	Ron Roberts	✓
Laura Kniss	✓	Cara Brinkley	✓	Stacy Heinle <i>for</i> Diane Cimino-Kelly	✓
Ted Leonard	✓	Denise Daniels	X	Kathie Blaschke	✓
<b>Staff Support Team:</b>					
Erica Azcueta	✓	Tami Kapule	✓	Bill Pierson	✓
Karen Reed, Facilitator	✓	Jamie Kelly	✓	Karen House <i>for</i> Kristin Winkel	✓
Emily Pearson	✓	Eric Robertson	X	Dana Hinman	✓
<b>Guests:</b>					
				Honorable Mayor Nancy Backus	✓

The meeting convened at 5:05 p.m.

**Welcome, Introductions, Review of Agenda.** Karen Reed, Task Force facilitator, welcomed the group and reviewed the agenda. She noted for those in the audience that the Task Force will take public comment at the end of the meeting and written comment forms are also available.

**Approval of Summary Notes from Meeting 5.** Sylvia Fuerstenberg moved to approve the meeting notes; Virginia Gannon seconded the motion. Summary notes from Meeting 5 were approved as submitted.

**Co-Chair Remarks.** Carla Hopkins noted that co-chair Denise Daniels may attend halfway through the meeting. She thanked the group for the respect they've shown one another throughout the Task Force meetings.

**Public Comment received since Meeting 5.** No online public comments were received. Karen noted that written transcriptions of comments submitted at Meeting 5 are included the packet.

**Task Force Report – Outline and Revised Problem Statement, Criteria for Success and Recommendations.** Karen reviewed the proposed outline for the Task Force report; under next next steps, she noted that the Task Force may want to consider being reconvened in 6 months to review progress. Karen noted that the document in the packets includes a few corrections noted from last meeting, and several footnotes to source data. There were no additional comments on the document.

**Review and Discussion: Ballot Ideas.** The purpose of the discussion tonight is to be sure everyone understands what is being proposed under each ballot item. New items can be put on the ballot at this meeting, and we can edit items for clarity or delete them at this meeting. After this meeting, Karen will make the edits to finalize the ballot and then send it out to all Task Force members; ballots should be completed and returned to Karen before the next meeting. Staff will tabulate the voting results for presentation and discussion at Meeting 7. Per the Task Force approved charter, recommendation items need at least 60% support and consensus items need at least 80% support. The group went through the ballot item by item.

Discussion and comment points outlined below (*changes to ballot noted in italics*):

- I represent Auburn citizens. We want to see something done along the lines of policing. There's not enough emphasis – and the community will want to see that we're addressing this issue. There seems to be no police presence at church meal programs. Police should interact with these individuals.
  - *A ballot item will be added calling for increased police patrol around meal programs and other areas where homeless are congregating.*
  - *A ballot item will be added calling for ensuring police have information to provide referrals to homeless individuals*
- Grace Community Church is training other churches to learn how to self-monitor at their meal programs. We don't have many issues; we've been doing this for 10 years and have around 150 attendees every Sunday.
- The Police Departments Community Resource Team officers' efforts are driven by problem solving. Warmer summer weather brings more homeless out (visibly); we're always encouraging good Park conduct. Everyone has the right to "loiter" in public parks. We do give referrals. CRT Officers Blake and Clapp know most of the homeless by name.
- These are positive actions by Police and the public needs to know about this.
- Our PD does an incredible job with outreach. Perception is different when it comes from the service level. A suggestion coming from Debbie Christian is perceived differently than coming from an officer. Trust and respect is gained by service providers on a different level.
- This is a community piece, a sense of well-being, not necessarily a policing piece.
- Outreach to homeless and education to the community are two separate ideas.
  - *A ballot items will be added speaking to education of residents about homelessness.*
- City financial, community and zoning support is needed by AYR's Arcadia House project which is looking for a location.
  - *Ballot item will be amended to clarify this.*

- *Meal programs each day of the week—ballot item will not that 5 days of week are covered now.*
- Is there a need for shelter for Auburn students? A: Yes, absolutely – but these would have to be family shelters, but capacity (space) is an issue. The ASD would save lots of money on the McKinney-Vento act if there was a local shelter. We don't use taxis anymore as they are too costly.
  - *Ballot item will be clarified to speak about both school and other public facilities and family shelters.*
- Valley Cities is developing a system where transitional housing and services are provided together. Lack of transitional housing and number of detox beds is a problem.
  - *Ballot items will be added talking about both low-barrier shelter, and low-barrier transitional housing.*
- There needs to be a clear soft handoff between services. There's a broken link in the system that must be addressed.
  - *Ballot item will be revised to talk about enhanced collaboration and communication between agencies, and including the cities.*
- *Information brochure should be updated annually.*
- *Consolidate items around detox beds and mental health, substance use treatment services.*
- *Delete item about pre-paid cell phones being pre-programmed.*
- *Delete clothing bank –there are already two.*
- *Clarify that laundromat—Burien idea—is to utilize a private business.*
- *Add strategies such as town halls, websites to public education idea.*
- *Central location for services—consolidate under Services.*
- *The pieces of legislation noted under advocacy failed this session; Karen will work with Cara to get a simple explanation of what the bills did, and the items will call for resubmitting these measures next year.*
- *Delete items about contacting legislature.*
- *Additional item: advocate for better intra-south county bus service.*
- *G.1 should be consolidated under services item.*
- *City has partnerships with service agencies; continue to strengthen.*
- *Connections need to be made early on when exiting a system.*
- *Add item calling for short term transitional housing for those coming out of foster care system and jail to help them transition to permanent housing and employment, other services.*
- Can the Task Force reconvene in a few months? A: Mayor Backus said she would support this idea

**Homework for Task Force.** Karen will revise the ballot and send it out electronically to folks by next Wednesday, with voting instructions. After that, she will prepare a draft task force report and circulate that before the last meeting.

**Next Steps:** At the final meeting, the Task Force can review and propose edits to the voted ballot results (re-voting may happen). Also, Task Force members will be asked to provide direction to finalize the Task Force report.

### **Public Comment**

- Kenneth Moultry, Sober Solutions: I run recovery-based housing. We currently house 116 individuals here in the City; 93 are working or in school. Ideas don't work, but being proactive does. We want to partner with the City to further our goals of making our clients better, more productive members of society.

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm