



Topeka/Shawnee County Homeless Task Force

c/o Community Resources Council

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Minutes January 13, 2010

The January 13, 2010 meeting of the Topeka/Shawnee County Homeless Task Force was called to order at 1:00 pm by the new chairman, Chris Kratochvil.

Discussion of the Code of Conduct

There was a discussion related to the Code of Conduct and also requirements for voting and taking actions at meetings. Discussion also was held on the number of meetings a member must attend to vote. After reviewing the bylaws it was determined that a member must attend 3 sequential meetings to vote.

John Castello volunteered to provide a sign in sheet for use at meetings so people could ascertain their past attendance and so new members could be identified. It was suggested that a new member's packet be prepared with copies of bylaws and other information.

Discussion of proposed Mission Statement

A discussion of the proposed mission statement was held. Doug Wallace expressed concern about use of the term "advocacy". Barry McMurphy indicated that we really focus more on allocation and use of resources than we did rights of individuals. Concern was expressed over the use of the term "ensure" as being too strong and "promote" was suggested as a better term. It was suggested that our strengths as a group came from collaboration, coordination, and education. It was moved and seconded and passed that a committee of four volunteers, one of which to be from the board, be formed to recommend changes to the mission statement, to report on this to the executive committee in February and then to the full committee in February. Nancy Johnson volunteered to chair the committee and Barry McMurphy, Lewis Kimsey and Doug Wallace agreed to serve.

Discussion of Proposed Calendar

The chairman presented and proposed to use a calendar for scheduling of pertinent activities. After discussion, it was moved, seconded and passed that the task force implement and use a calendar for scheduling activities.

Announcements/Discussion

Lewis Kimsey of SRS discussed changes by SRS to General Assistance and Medical Benefits.

Corrie Wright reported that Brenda Lester of Fairlawn Green Apartments had a homeless unit available. She can be reached at 785-272-2010

(Minutes continued, Homeless Task Force January 13, 2010)

Doug Wallace invited all in attendance to the annual Valeo HOPE Connections Quarterly Homeless, Mentally Ill Advisory Council Lunch on Friday January 15, 2010.

John Castello reported that the Preliminary Annual Homeless Assesment Report (AHAR) had been filed yesterday and the final report would be filed on January 29th. When that information is filed, it will be forwarded to the group.

In attendance:

Kim Swinney – KLS-TMAP
John Castello – CRC
Lewis Kimsey – SRS
Kelly Matthews – Cornerstone
Barry McMurphy - Cornerstone
Jeff Karas – TRM
Ben Whisnant – Topeka Aids Project
Chris Kratochvil – HCCI
Tammy Adams – Value Options
Nancy Johnson – CRC
Corrie Wright – City of Topeka HND
Roslynn Crouch – Breakthrough House
Paul Rasmussen – Heartland Community
Randy Crandall – Veterans Administration
Doug Wallace – Valeo
John Johnston -
Carrie Harris -
Diane Etzel-Wise – Kansas Statewide Homeless Coalition