

JUNEAU HOMELESS COALITION

Juneau Homeless Coalition Meeting Minutes

October 28, 2010

11:30-1:00 PM

Tlingit-Haida Regional Housing Authority

I. Roll Call

II. Approval of Minutes

- September 23, 2010 – (Postponed)

III. Action Items -

1. JHC Calendar – To use JHC funds to cover the final costs of production of the JHC calendar, estimated to be \$700 with the idea that these funds will be recovered through sales. (Calendar Sales volunteer list)

Scott relays message from Laura/Jorden that the calendar is almost complete. After various fundraising efforts (AK Litho donation, State of Alaska Community Initiative Grant, JHC member donations), there is a need to cover approximately \$700 for printing costs. The plan is to borrow the money from the JHC for printing with the idea of recovering those costs through sales. A sign-up sheet for the Public Market, First Friday, and AK Coalition on Housing and Homelessness Conference in December. There is \$1291 in the JHC account.

Allen moves to use JHC funds for the production of the calendar. Jen seconds. Motion Approved.

2. Juneau Homeless Coalition dues – To collect JHC dues at the beginning of the New Year, Jan. 1, 2011. (Dues have not been collected since March 2009)

Scott discussed with Brad the idea of collecting dues beginning January 1. Included was a category for patrons (\$5) and creating a tier system for larger, smaller organizations.(\$50, \$100)

Jen moves to accept the membership form changes and collect dues beginning in January. Allen seconds, motion approved.

3. Letter to the City requesting Thane Campground stay open through the winter.

Mariya reports that she has had meetings with various Assembly members, Mayor Botelho, and the new building inspector that has led to a change in the draft of a letter about the campground. She will work on this draft and get it to the JHC. In the meantime, campground patrons are being absorbed into local CoC options.

IV. Discussion Items:

1. Project Homeless Connect – Letter to Sherrie Simmons for funding.

AHFC has some funds available (\$2000) for Juneau Project Homeless Connect. Scott & Mariya will send the letter of request. Funding might be more than last years costs and would allow for some other options; survival bags, stipend for GH patron that prepared lunch bags, breakfast/training for service providers. Once word is received, Allen and Brad will be notified.

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2. Advisory Board information

Coalition discussed the recruitment of advisory board members and the draft job description. Rebecca suggested putting the categories of the board spots in the description.

Mandy moves to Coalition to begin recruitment of the board members after job description is finalized by Ad Hoc Committee. Allen seconds. Motion approved.

3. Letter to CBJ about Thane Campground – (already discussed)
4. Larry Corbin – Housing/Training program

Scott mentions that Larry Corbin has a housing design/training program that he is interested in putting into place locally and working with Polaris House. An example of the housing can be seen in the lot across from Costco.

5. Medical Respite update – meeting with Bartlett Regional Hospital

Scott reports that Gail, Mariya met with Bartlett Hospital CEO Shawn Morrow and discharge staff about the medical respite situation. Informational meeting was held with the idea of meeting again in the next month. Bartlett staff were to take a look at past records to see about the volume of patients that they have send that were homeless and could utilize a medical respite facility. Scott received word this week that it has been more difficult than expected for the hospital since tracking for homelessness has not been done. The hospital expects to meet again in about three weeks; in the meantime discharge staff have visited the Front Street Clinic and the Glory Hole.

6. Yaakoosge Daakahidi Alternative High School meeting – Request for on-site services

A meeting was held at the HS a few weeks ago with the idea of figuring out how to get more services to students.

Ideas/suggestions/options to explore:

- JYS to look at some of the reasons for resistance for students to use TLP/Cornerstone options. (As well as other ideas discussed at the YDAHS meeting a few weeks ago.)
- Aware, Inc. -- Women's domestic violence shelter is a great resource for pregnant teenagers or those with children. Mandy suggests looking at ways for a shelter stay to be more attractive to teens. Aware, Inc. an Americorps volunteer that would be willing to work with the school. One item to look into is concerning students who don't want to utilize the shelter due to having/being separated from a boyfriend.
- Alaska Legal Services Corporation -- Holly Handler available to talk about the emancipation process with those under 18.
- Glory Hole is an option for those over 18.

Cindy discussed the need for assistance for students in filling out paperwork for various housing options. Shari Partin(AHDC) will help with rental assistance documentation and Amy Hiley's contact was given as a

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similar resource. Perhaps getting other documents necessary from other JHC agencies not in attendance today would be a good next step. (THRHA, Housing Choice Voucher application, etc.)

Two things to consider for the future:

- It was mentioned that trust and familiarity are essential to getting students to utilize the housing resources that will be offered. Question: How best to organize so that this happens and the resources are used? Is it better to train Yaakoosge staff about housing options or to schedule a housing expert once a week, or with enough regularity that students are comfortable?
- What to do if there are no housing options?

7. Alaska Coalition on Housing and Homelessness Conference – Attendance, calendar sales, speaking roles.

AK Coalition attendance was included on the monthly attendance sheet. It will be good to know who is going for speaking events and to help sell calendars in Anchorage.

Also, two main speakers (Bill Hopson, Jennifer Ho) that are heading to the State conference want to stop in Juneau before heading to Anchorage. JHC members staying in Juneau will be asked to make sure the visits are informative, helpful.

V. Informational Items

a. Planning Commission – Interested in supporting affordable housing efforts. Would like more feedback/support from affordable housing advocates when facing zoning issues or NIMBYISM.

Scott discussed a presentation earlier in the week where Planning Commission expressed appreciation for the information/activity but also wanted more visibility from housing advocates/Scott when zoning issues are discussed – voices against higher density, affordable housing projects are usually strong.

b. October 22 HUD Regional Director Colleen Bickford & Renee Greenman meeting:

- HUD looking for more direct involvement with Juneau.
- New Regional Sustainability Officer David Voight wants to work with Juneau consortium on next round of the HUD Sustainability Regional Planning Grant. Colleen & David will be back in Juneau in November for the Municipal League Conference & AHC meeting Nov. 16

HUD representatives recognized the work in affordable housing and homelessness in Juneau and wanted to look for ways to provide more assistance in the future and to assist with a future version of the HUD Sustainable Communities Regional Planning grant.

c. Future Juneau Visits –

- Wednesday, December 1, Noon-2pm, Bill Hopson, Downtown Emergency Shelter Services, in Seattle. Link: <http://www.dallasnews.com/video/dallasnews/hp/index.html?nvid=397608>
- Tuesday, November 30, Jennifer Ho, United States Interagency Council On Homelessness (As of this afternoon, this trip doesn't look like it is going to happen.)

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Veterans Opportunity

On September 28, 2010, HUD announced the availability of a set-aside of approximately 500 project--based vouchers (PBV) through HUD-Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) through a notice of competitive funding. *PIH Notice 2010-40* informed Public Housing Agencies (PHAs) that have already received an allocation of VASH vouchers in 2008, 2009, or 2010 of the opportunity to submit an application for a special set-aside PBV VASH vouchers. The availability of these project-based VASH Vouchers provides additional permanent supportive housing opportunities for eligible homeless veterans. PHA applications are due to HUD **January 26, 2011**. Click here for a summary of the funding opportunity:

[VASH PBV Summary](#)

Does a JHC member want to approach AHFC about this opportunity?
Scott to call AHFC for more details on Friday.