

JUNEAU HOMELESS COALITION

Juneau Homeless Coalition Meeting Minutes

April 19, 2012

11:30-1:00 PM

Tlingit & Haida Regional Housing Authority

I. Roll Call/Introductions

Jorden Nigro called the meeting to order at 11:35PM.
Agenda Approved.

II. Approval of Minutes

Save for May Meeting (Annual Retreat).

IV. Discussion Items

A. Kiel Renick reported on the Vulnerability Index Survey Results. There were 36 volunteers who went out on the week of March 26 for three days, targeting the most vulnerable homeless population. The purpose was to have specific data to understand the housing demand for the vulnerable homeless population and to connect with those most in need of shelter and other services. The question, "Is there a theory of why Juneau has a higher index than Anchorage?" was raised. The coalition agreed that we need to define a unified theory and come up with answers to this problem, and then identify and agree on these issues.

It was agreed that the Glory Hole and JHC collectively owns this data. The question, "how do we use this data to get people sheltered?" was brought up for discussion. Mandy Cole stated that JHC needs to write an analysis of this data and plan on publishing a report and put money behind the publication. The JHC will have a small committee start on a draft of this publication.

The short and long-term solutions for the vulnerable population was discussed. In the short term, a Housing First facility would need to be built. Jen LaRoe said that we also need to get these people connected and that many are eligible for Social Security. Others short term solutions would be data analysis with a committee, develop steps on how to get housing and educate, provide tenant training and teach the homeless how to be good tenants. Long-term data would need to be collected to track people's experience during and after they receive housing.s

B. The JHC Retreat will be on Thursday, May 17 from 1-6PM with a working session from 1-4PM and from 4:30-6PM, stakeholders will be invited to participate and hear what priorities the coalition has to present. The structure of the coalition will be discussed and possibly reorganized and a facilitator is needed.

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C. The downtown and CBJ issues over the homeless population during the tourist season was discussed. The Marine Park shelter is being reconstructed and the lot behind the museum will also be under construction, so there is concern for where the homeless will go. There needs to be a summer and year round solution. The possibility of opening up the Thane campground year round or earlier could be an option. The coalition identified chronic inebriates downtown as a problem because a handful of business owners have contacted the JHC. The suggestion of getting the downtown businesses together for a meeting at the Glory with the JHC and several chronic inebriates was a possible short-term solution to gain some insight to the issue.

E. SOAR Training is in Juneau on June 6 & 7 at Tlingit and Haida Regional Housing Authority.

F. Treasurer's Report: Members need to pay for 2012 dues and the JHC MOA needs to be updated.

Next Meeting:

Annual Retreat: Thursday, May 17, 2012 1PM-6PM Bill Ray Center

Meeting Adjourn 1:30PM.