

HOUSING & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY BOARD  
CITY OF MESA  
MESA CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
57 EAST 1<sup>ST</sup> STREET, LOWER LEVEL  
October 24, 2002  
-MINUTES-

MEMBERS

Mr. Greg Holtz, Chairperson  
Dr. Carlos Vallejo  
Ms. Teresa Cotton (Excused)  
Mr. Michael Graham (Excused)  
Mr. Bob Hisserich  
Mr. Len Locke (Excused)  
Ms. Susan Klecka  
Ms. Elaine Nelson  
Mr. Ken Salas

GUESTS

Council Member Rex Griswold  
Richard Nelson

STAFF

Ms. Debra Determan  
Ms. Nichole Wamble

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

REVIEW OF September 26, 2002, MEETING MINUTES

Elaine Nelson made a motion to accept the minutes of September 26, 2002 amending the number of yes votes under Election of Officers from (8) to (7). Carlos seconded the motion and the motion carried.

STAFF REPORTS

Nichole announced that after approximately 1 ½ years of working on the East Valley Problem Solving Network Homeless Case Study, a final draft of the Homeless Case Study Report would be presented to the partners Thursday November 7th. Nichole explained that the study began in March 2001 and was looking at the personal and systemic barriers to services experienced by the various clients. Nichole explained that it is a qualitative study and that there have subsequently been changes in the intake processes of some of the housing programs as well as meaningful collaborations between EVAC and several other agencies. She also mentioned that the partners are very excited about the collaborations that have been taking place. She stated that these agencies have been working together for years without having a clear understanding of the programming or intake requirements of the other agencies within the continuum of care.

Councilmember Griswold stated that he felt the observations coming out of the Homeless Case Study would be very important. He has been working with Paz de Cristo and stated that if you feed someone and you don't house or transport him or her then a problem could be created in a neighborhood.

Nichole also mentioned that the Notice of Funding Availability was recently sent out in the mail and that an Applicant Meeting will be held November 5, 2002 from 9:00 - 11:00 in room 170 of the Mesa City Plaza Building. She also mentioned that all Human Service/ABC applicants are being requested to attend so that agencies can be made aware of how the two processes will be rolled together in this next funding cycle.

Carlos mentioned that on October 19, 2002 the Latino Town Hall took place and focused on four areas: Neighborhood Issues, Education, Economic Development and Leadership Development. He stated that he felt it was a very productive day and that many people benefited from the day's

activities. Ken noted that he too felt it was a very productive day that offered the chance to open dialogue about some important issues. It allowed the discussion to get started about beginning to do something to revitalize areas and to help people help themselves. He also stated that he felt the key was to develop the collaborations, partnerships and encourage the involvement.

Carlos stated that he too is interested in encouraging collaborations and believes that a key collaboration should begin with Mayor Hawker welcoming ASU President Michael Crow to the valley and inviting him to discuss potential partnerships between the City and the University system.

Debbra announced the Office of Human Services in collaboration with the City of Mesa Police Department is working on another point in time study to count the number of homeless on the streets and in shelters. This event will take place on February 27, 2003. She also mentioned that the members of the Mesa City Council and the Mayor have been invited by St. Vincent de Paul to serve a meal on November 19 during Homeless and Hunger Week.

Debbra also mentioned that a conference on Homelessness would be coming up October 28<sup>th</sup> and 29 at the Embassy Suites on I-17 and Greenway Road. During this two-day conference there will be a mini institute on Day Labor.

Debbra introduced *Building Blocks for the Future* - a collaboration amongst the Cities of Mesa, Tempe, Scottsdale, Chandler, Gilbert, Mesa United Way, Valley of the Sun United Way, MCC and MAG on an East Valley Needs Assessment. The process will take place over the course of 18 months and each city will determine what format they would like to use. Cities may choose to pull people together people in a large forum, conduct focus groups or conduct key informant meetings with key leaders. Each city will begin by using the same set of questions and once that information has been gathered the cities will come together for a Regional Town Hall to discuss the similarities and differences among the communities. This information will be very valuable to Staff in determining how funds will be allocated. This will also assist in looking at unmet needs or gaps in services.

Debbra stated that it is a wonderful collaboration that allows each municipality to have a better understanding of what the needs are in each of the cities as well as being able to discuss the amount of funding that is being put toward specific programs. Debbra requested the input and support of the Board as we move through the process.

Debbra pointed out that each member had been given a copy of the Mesa Housing Master Plan, which will be presented by Ben Patton at the November board meeting.

Greg announced that Mayor Hawker has requested that he be a representative of the Housing and Human Services Advisory Board on the Housing Master Plan subcommittee.

Susan made a motion to adjourn, the motion was seconded and the meeting adjourned at 6:45p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Debbra Determan, Human Services Coordinator