

**CITY COUNCIL/  
COUNTY COMMISSION  
HOMELESS PLANNING MEETING**

**July 26, 2004**

(Participants List Attached)

Meeting began at 1:15 p.m. in the conference room of the Area Agency on Aging at 9887 - 4<sup>th</sup> Street N., St. Petersburg.

Cliff Smith and SP Councilmember Littrell opened the meeting explaining the need for a 10-year plan for homeless services.

Virginia Rowell, SP, reported 112 have already been submitted; no beginning or ending date.

Howie Carroll described funding sources as Super Nova, SHIP, HOME, and CDBG for the entitlement governments (Pinellas County, Largo, St. Petersburg and Clearwater); and also, Good Samaritan Act.

Cliff Smith said we will need to have a plan to receive dollars.

Gay Lancaster asked how does the Coalition activity dovetail? The Coalition has already started a 10-year Countywide plan.

Herb Marlow said his contract involves five pieces that include looking at any public investment and how to better coordinate services. He is also the consultant doing the Countywide Human Services Study.

Gay Lancaster said there already is coordination between the County and St. Petersburg on social action funding. We need to determine if the community is ready to work together to resolve targeted problems.

PC Commissioner Welch said that once a model is agreed to, funding will be needed. He requested a roster for the Coalition.

Gay Lancaster said we need a common vision community-wide. Herb Marlowe's job is to find out. At the table would be funders; then various service committees; every segment would have a role.

SP Councilmember Bryan asked if it would be like a JWB?

Cliff Smith said it would be comprised of government, service providers, faith-based organizations, law enforcement, etc.

Gay Lancaster agreed. It should put us in a position to maximize our own dollars. Do we want to be in the business of helping agencies survive or do we want to solve community problems?

SP Councilmember Bryan asked if we should put out an RFP for services?

Gay Lancaster said that Herb Marlowe is to define that model and others.

SP Councilmember Littrell likes a goal centered strategic approach. If we are going to participate as partners, we want to be participants in Mr. Marlowe's work. Meetings listed to date are on Thursdays, which is St. Petersburg's Council meeting day. How can elected officials participate?

Gay Lancaster said the County is not trying to "own" this. Mr. Marlowe will be spending time with cities. It is clear that cities who are providing resources want a role in how things work. The County pocket is finite.

SP Councilmember Virginia Littrell knows a tax would be a hard sell.

Howie Carroll wanted to know if Marlowe would meet with all elected officials in the County?

Mr. Marlowe said no—he plans to meet with elected officials from the four entitlement governments in workshops.

PC Commissioner Welch diagramed his view of the Human Services Planning Council and wanted to know where St. Petersburg was in the process.

HSPC  
(Assessment Only)

Homeless	Mental Health	Service Agencies	Others
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10-Year Plan

SP Councilmember Littrell said the City is at the conceptual phase.

Cliff Smith said that a 10-year Homeless plan is not in Herb Marlowe's scope of services.

SP Councilmember Bryan said that the continuum of care needs a 10-year plan to fill service holes.

SP Councilmember Littrell said that Herb Marlowe is to identify the gaps.

PC Commissioner Welch questioned what the next step would be if we all agreed a 10-year plan should be done.

Virginia Rowell outlined the steps:

1. Identify Stakeholders
2. Identify Working Groups
3. Identify Resources
4. Identify Problems and Causes
5. Develop Strategies
6. Obtain Stakeholder Input/Feedback
7. Create Plan
8. Implementation

Note: References for the 8 points listed above are the U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness and National Alliance to End Chronic Homeless.

Herb Marlowe indicated his scope of services goes up to Step 7. The question is who are the stakeholders? His current group is the Homeless Coalition.

SP Councilmember Littrell stated if St. Petersburg decided to do its own plan, it could be done immediately. She agrees a Countywide plan is the best approach. If the Coalition is the stakeholder, then how do elected officials have a role in decision making?

Tish Elston said the elevated level of the homeless issue involves more direct involvement of elected officials.

SP Councilmember Littrell said that St. Petersburg government is different.

Gay Lancaster said we can't have 3 or 4 elected officials from the same jurisdiction; jurisdictions can't sit at the table if they are not willing to make dollars available. She doesn't see the Homeless Coalition as a decision-making entity.

SP Councilmember Littrell wants elected officials on the body which makes decisions on how dollars are allocated. She believes the \$2.8 million has been allocated fairly to date.

Ginny Rowell said we may be able to include elected representatives on the current Prioritization Committee.

SP Councilmember Littrell wanted to know how St. Petersburg's City Council might fit into

what Herb Marlowe is doing.

Clwtr. Councilmember Petersen said she doesn't want to create another layer of bureaucracy.

Herb Marlowe explained that we want to create an avenue for input so we have a voice in what is implemented.

SP Councilmember Littrell requested a workshop with St. Petersburg City Council and others for each entitlement jurisdiction.

Virginia Rowell said the stakeholders group is comprised of members of the community and elected officials. She outlined the Homeless Coalition Board and Advisory Committee. (A copy is attached). Restructuring has been discussed for two years at the Coalition meetings.

Gay Lancaster said that if one entity decides not to play, it won't work.

SP Councilmember Bryan said there needs to be fair representation to make it work—based on population.

Gay Lancaster said a population basis won't work if we have a seat for every funder - JWB, etc.

SP Councilmember Littrell said that representation will be developed by the process we go through.

SP Councilmember Bennett said that representation of three City Councilmembers is evidence of our commitment. We don't want to spend 10 years planning. Want to see projects move forward. How do we best get a plan together?

Gay Lancaster said that nobody's getting in the way of a 10-year plan.

Beth Eschenfelder commented the process was confusing. She questioned does the Human Services Planning Council do the plan?

Herb Marlowe said no--that needs to be determined.

Virginia Rowell said the Homeless Coalition is currently responsible for Super Nova funding allocation. The Coalition knows a 10-year plan will be mandated in the future.

Beth Eschenfelder said if this group outlines who should be involved, the Coalition will bless it.

PC Commissioner Ken Welch asked what is Herb Marlowe's role?

Beth Eschenfelder said that we will need all the data Herb Marlowe gathers.

SP Councilmember Bennett asked if we could act as a Steering Committee?

Virginia Rowell said there would be stakeholders and work groups. Time for other areas that had prepared 10-year plans ranged from 3 months - 2-1/2 years. Virginia represents Mayor Baker on U. S. Interagency Coalition on Homelessness.

Gay Lancaster asked if we want City/County staff to develop a document if elected officials want more hands on involvement?

SP Councilmember Littrell said we don't know yet. Questioned what is the best model? She has faith in the Coalition. They have been fair over the years.

Beth Eschenfelder said the Coalition has hit a wall because it couldn't get the attention of elected officials. To get a jump start, it needs to have the involvement of elected officials.

Gay Lancaster asked would a Council of elected officials like to work with the Coalition? Meet in a month to discuss?

Herb Marlowe said Cliff and he could conceptualize and put forward a process model. How would we fold Marlowe's current scope into a 10-year plan?

PC Commissioner Welch said we need to take this back to the individual governing bodies.

Herb Marlowe said we need a commitment from each entity.

Beth Eschenfelder also suggested business leaders, developers, the Housing Authority and Tarpon Springs.

SP Councilmembers Littrell and Bennett said you already have St. Petersburg's commitment.

SP Councilmember Bryan questioned if anyone was taking minutes. Tish Elston said she was taking notes.

SP Councilmember Bryan asked Gay if we could have the Clerk at the next meeting.

Tish Elston indicated recording responsibilities could be shared.

Beth Eschenfelder listed the Clearwater Homeless Task Force, St. Petersburg Homeless Task Force, Lealman Homeless Task Force and Pinellas Park Homeless Task Force.

Gay Lancaster set the next meeting for 11:00 a.m., Friday, August 27, 2004. The meeting will be held in the conference room at the Area Agency on Aging located at 9887 - 4<sup>th</sup> Street N.

Cliff Smith reminded everyone that August 31 is the date of the County Workshop on

Homelessness.

The meeting adjourned at 2:55 p.m.

**CITY COUNCIL/  
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HOMELESS PLANNING MEETING**

**July 26, 2004**

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# “The 10-Year Planning Process to End Chronic Homelessness in Your Community”

(Taken from United States Interagency Council on Homelessness - [www.ich.gov](http://www.ich.gov) )

Presidential Order

Endorsed by US Conference of Mayors and NACO.

Formation of U. S. Interagency Council on Homelessness

Dollars and Cents Issue = Preventing Homelessness versus Managing Homelessness

- 1) Identify Stakeholders
  - City of St. Petersburg (task force and City Council meeting as Committee of the Whole)
  - City of Clearwater (task force)
  - Pinellas County (task force)
  - Pinellas County Homeless Coalition (responsibility assigned by HUD and Department of Children and Families)

{Also needs to include *business, law enforcement, housing developers, service providers, homeless, faith-based organizations, non-profits/foundations, and general public*}
- 2) Identify Working Group
  - Coordinates planning process
- 3) Gather Research & Data on Homelessness
  - Resources include: Homeless Coalition Strategic Plan, Homeless Coalition Homeless Count; Consolidated Plans from St. Petersburg, Clearwater, and Pinellas County. Additional information will be available through the County Task Force Consultant.
- 4) Define Community Problem/Assess Causes
- 5) Develop Strategies to Address These Problems
  - KEY ELEMENTS: clear goals, community-wide approach, organizational structure, mainstream agency involvement.

CONTRIBUTING ELEMENTS: private sector involvement, elected official commitment, progress-tracking mechanism, new and innovative services, NIMBY strategy.

Prevention

Centralization of Funding and Service Delivery

Resources to house persons discharged from institutional care  
Discharge planning protocols that prevent homelessness

Intervention

Assertive Community Treatment

Would include “Drop In Center” and Outreach Teams

Permanent supported housing for mentally ill and frequent users of acute health systems (Expansion of Boley Services)

6) Stakeholder Input and Feedback

7) Create Action Plan to Implement Strategies  
Activity/Responsible Persons

Cost/Funding Sources- Atlanta \$60,000; Memphis \$50,000; Louisville \$78,000

Time line- Atlanta 100 days; Memphis 2 ½ years; Louisville unknown

Performance Measures

8) Publicize and Implement Plan