Human Services Advisory Committee

Meeting Minutes

Renton City Hall
Council Conference Room, 7th Floor
November 27, 2012, 3:00 p.m.

1. **CALL TO ORDER**
Chair Linda Smith called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. A quorum was not present, so no official business could take place.

In Attendance
Members: Linda Smith, Chair; Rob Spier, Vice-Chair; Robin Jones; Shannon Matson

City of Renton Staff: Karen Bergsvik; Dianne Utecht; Jennifer Jorgenson; Margie Beitner

Absent
Elizabeth Stevens; Elyn Blandón

Visitor
Triina Tennelo

2. **BRIEFING**
Special guest Triina Tennelo gave a presentation on the Family Homelessness Initiative led by King County Housing and Community Development.

3. **IMPACT OF HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVE ON RENTON**
Homeless families call 211 to have an assessment done, to be placed into the housing that best meets their needs. There is one entry point into the system. Some families need intense services while others need help for a short time. Currently there is a waiting list of three weeks to get an assessment. This replaces the current system of calling shelters and transitional housing locations daily, to find out who has an opening. Cities now contract with agencies to serve a specific quantity of city residents. Under the new system, agencies for the most part, take those families that are the best fit – not those that are necessarily from a particular a city. Cities need to change how they contract with the agencies that serve homeless families. Karen is working with other cities on how to best do this.

The Initiative impacts three programs that Renton funds: Way Back Inn, YWCA, and Multi-Service Center.

In closing, Karen noted that Seattle will host the National Conference on Ending Family and Youth Homelessness in February, 2013.

4. **HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**
Karen noted three of the Committee's members will leave us when their terms end in December – Vice-Chair Rob Spier, Robin Jones and Elizabeth Stevens. Linda thanked them for their support and efforts over the past few years and gave both men a certificate of appreciation in recognition of their efforts. Karen will mail the one for Elizabeth.

5. **COLD WEATHER SHELTERS**
The cold weather shelter at Harambee is set to open when the temperature is forecasted to reach 32 degrees or lower for 24 hours or during other inclement weather. Luther's Table has agreed to be open at 7 a.m., when the shelter closes. There will now be a support team in place to be available to help the Harambee Church with volunteers and food. Kent and Renton cold weather shelters will both be open at the same time. This should avoid confusion and help get joint communications to agencies that serve the homeless.

6. **SUMMER LUNCH PROGRAM**
A total of 20,964 lunches were served this past summer. Renton's role is to coordinate the community sites with the Renton School District. Dianne has done this the past several years and Teresa Nishi will be taking over this responsibility in the future. Karen mentioned that the most successful programs partner with others for activities before and after the time when lunches are served.

7. **THIRD QUARTER PERFORMANCE REPORT**
Dianne gave an update on the most recent performance report for Washington Women's Employment and Education and Valley Cities domestic violence program. They are not meeting their performance goals. Funds can be withheld from agencies that do not meet 90% of their goals.

8. **HSAC VACANCIES AND APPOINTMENTS**
The Mayor appointed the four recommended applicants. There are three additional vacancies and Karen hopes to have these filled by the Jaunuary 2013 meeting.

9. **HOUSING REPAIR PROGRAM – Facilities Technician**
Joel Asbjornsen has been hired as the Facilities Technician in the Housing Repair Program. He will start work on December tenth.

In closing, Linda and Karen again thanked outgoing Committee members Rob Spier and Robin Jones, as did the rest of the members present.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.

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Signature

NEXT REGULAR MEETING
January 15, 2013, 3:00 P.M.
Renton City Hall, 7th floor, Council Conference Room