



QUINCY & WEYMOUTH Board on Homelessness

MEETING MINUTES – FEBRUARY 24, 2009



1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- John Yazwinski, Chairperson, welcomed the members and introductions were made. Minutes of the previous two meetings were approved, pending two minor changes, which are reflected in the updated Minutes for those meetings.

2. MCKINNEY 2008 AWARD

- John Yazwinski gave a recap of the McKinney-Vento application process and a summary of the award that was recently announced. Our Continuum's award is \$2,827,599, which will be used to fund 16 projects, 15 of which are renewals. QCAP's Rapid Re-Housing project was not selected for funding by HUD. Only 23 Rapid Re-Housing projects were awarded nationwide. The Board thanked QCAP for having submitted its application.

3. POINT-IN-TIME COUNT 2009

- The Board participated in the PIT on January 28, 2009. Matt Simmonds gave an overview of the three charts he created to illustrate trends, based on recent PIT counts. Our chronically homeless population continued to decrease last year, however, the emergency shelter count has gone up. The number of homeless individuals (those who are single and not in families) has remained steady. Overall, the number of all homeless persons has increased, but they do not need to be served at the same level of intensity as in previous years.

4. DTA/DHCD UPDATES

- Governor Patrick and Lt. Governor Murray have proposed shifting shelter contracts from DTA over to DHCD, which is the Department of Housing and Community Development. Any such conversion would take place on July 1, 2009. The State legislature is expected to vote on the matter this week.

5. MASS. INTERAGENCY COUNCIL ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS (ICHH) / SOUTH SHORE NETWORK

- John Yazwinski gave the Board an update about the South Shore Network, which was created as one of the regional State networks to work with the ICHH in implementing pilot projects. The South Shore Network was awarded \$837,913 for this pilot. About \$600,000 will be used for family housing; \$200,000 will be used for an emergency triage to housing program. The Board was invited to a press event with Lt. Gov. Murray at Stonehill College on February 27, 2009, to learn more about the network.

6. FEDERAL STIMULUS BILL

- The State of Massachusetts will receive a tremendous amount of resources under the Stimulus Bill. The focus of the homeless assistance funding portion of the bill appears to be on prevention and rapid re-housing. Entitlement communities such as Quincy will probably get a lump sum in stimulus funding. The balance of funds will probably be allocated through the State, with the possible collaboration of the ICHH regional networks.

7. UNACCOMPANIED YOUTH UPDATE

- John Yazwinski, Linda Stice, and Isabel Ventre met to follow up on this issue after the last Board meeting. A lot of Quincy's unaccompanied youth are now in night school. Isabel has organized a focus group with unaccompanied youth to find out more about the kind of services that would be beneficial to them. Most unaccompanied youth want housing, but they do not want to live in Boston, and they do not want to stay at Fr. Bill's Place in Quincy.

8. HOMELESS PREVENTION / RENTAL & HEAT ASSISTANCE

- Ginny Gilmartin notified the Board that RAFT money is still available and that QCAP is will be accepting applications for its fuel assistance program through April 1. QCAP also has Lend-a-Hand funds available.

9. STATE BUDGET CUTS

- The Board expects local aid to be cut substantially, but will hope for level funding.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- Isabel Ventre announced her retirement as Quincy's Homeless Liaison to the Quincy Public Schools, effective the end of this school year. The Board thanked Isabel for her service, and wishes her well upon retirement.

Present	Last Name	First Name	Organization
	Bickler	Melissa	South Shore Mental Health
X	Boisson	Karen	Quincy Commission on the Family
	Callanan	Nancy	Quincy Planning Dept.
	Carmer	Jessica	DOVE
	Cole	Sharon	MA Dept. of Mental Health
	Coleman	Richard	Colonial Federal Savings Bank
X	Connelly	Stephen	Quincy Planning Dept.
X	DiSante	Ed	Friends of the Homeless
	Ellison	Belinda	C.H.D., Atlantic House
	Faring	Gail	South Shore Savings Bank
	Fitzgerald	Nicole	Father Bills & MainSpring
X	Gilmartin	Ginny	Quincy Community Action Programs
X	Glennon	Sean	Quincy Planning Dept.
	Grenier	Normand	Neighborhood Housing Services of. S.S.
	Lauser	Wendy	IMPACT Employment Services/hopeFound
	Lehrer	Jody	Weymouth Planning Dept.
X	MacKinnon	Mona	Quincy Mental Health Center
	MacRitchie	Jay	Quincy Housing Authority
	Newell	Dorothy	Friends of the Homeless
X	Newell	Herb	Friends of the Homeless
	Niles	Barbara	Quincy Housing Authority
	Olmstead	Rose Ann	South Shore Mental Health
X	Parnaby	John	Weymouth Planning Dept.
	Quinn	Robert	Quincy Housing Authority
X	Simmonds	Matt	SimTech Solutions
	Spinks	Bill	Bay State Community Services
X	Stepansky	Michael	MA Dept. of Mental Health
	Stevens	Robert	Quincy Planning Dept.
X	Stice	Linda	Quincy Commission on the Family
	Strollo	Beth Ann	Quincy Community Action Programs
	Vecchi	Jacquelyn	MA Dept. of Social Services
X	Ventre	Isabel	Quincy Public Schools
X	Weston	Regina	Atlantic Clubhouse
X	Yazwinski	John	Father Bills & MainSpring

Alternates/Guests:

X	Flores	Maureen	DOVE