

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
July 5, 2005
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Don Smitz, Ruth Booth, Bill Grady, Gordon West
Committee Members Absent: John O'Day
Staff Present: Dennis Schultz, Jim Kennedy
Others Present: Supervisor Terry Rose, Cory Hess (Kenosha News)

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Bill Grady, Acting Chairperson.

1. Comments by the Chair - None
2. Citizen's Comments - None
3. Approval of Minutes - 5/3/05

MOTION to approve minutes by Don Smitz, seconded by Gordon West. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Update on INNS Program - Shalom Center

Jim Kennedy distributed a fact sheet and stated that the Joint Task Force on Homelessness has met fairly regularly since January, 2004. The objective of the Task Force was to find one location to replace the INNS Program so the homeless wouldn't have to hop around every night from church to church. The Shalom Center is looking at a warehouse on Sheridan Road that is owned by the City. It has 12,500 sq. ft, with about 10,000 usable square feet. The rough estimate is about \$1 million to renovate this building. There would be no building expansion at this time. This site would accommodate the INNS Program, but there is no room to re-locate the other Shalom Center current operations. The food distribution could also be located in this building. The original goal was to put everyone in one building for greater efficiency.

This building would have easy access to the Job Center and its services, and would also have access to Sheridan Road for public transportation. The Shalom Center Board is supportive of this site. The City would lease the property for \$1/year for 10 years.

Dennis Schultz added that this is still in the preliminary stages. The County and CUSH have not been part of these meetings.

Bill Grady requested that Dan Melyon be asked to attend the next Human Services Committee meeting in August. He would also be interested in seeing a preliminary site map to look at expansion possibilities.

Terry Rose stated that the resolution for the County to fund \$250,000 for this site came to the County Board over a year ago. They felt there was some urgency, but now see that it was just in the planning stages. They thought it would be developed much quicker than one year. Why is this taking so long? He would like an explanation.

Mr. Kennedy explained that most of the time has been spent finding the site. Everyone on the Task Force has been frustrated.

Mr. Schultz stated that if everything goes well, Dan Melyon believes we can get the shelter remodeled and ready for use by November.

A preliminary drawing for the remodeling showed 46 beds. During the summer, the INNS Program averages 28-30 people per night. They turned away 18 people one night this summer. There are more people in the summer because the Lake County and Racine County shelters both shut down. When Mr. Grulich was closed down, there were 3 or 4 families that had to find a place to stay.

5. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law - None
6. Committee Members Comments - None
7. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Don Smitz, seconded by Gordon West. Meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

F:Sharon\HSCmin7