

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
April 8, 2008
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Judy Rossow, Ed Kubicki, Bill Grady, David Arrington, Ruth Booth, Ariana Gillmore,

Committee Members Absent: Virginia Jones

Staff Present: John Jansen, Laurie Staves, Jim Kennedy

Others Present: Brad Weinstock, Dan Melyon, Co. Bd. Chair Terry Rose, Co. Bd Suprs Jennifer Jackson & John O'Day, Joe Potente, Kenosha News

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Judy Rossow, Chairperson.

2. Citizen's Comments

Terry Rose stated that on 4/3/08 he was present at a meeting at Gateway Technical College, where the new State DCFS Secretary Reggie Bicha was introduced. Jack Waters, the Director of the Kenosha Community Health Center brought up a problem that no hospitals in Kenosha will provide services to pregnant women receiving Title 19 or without insurance. No hospital will admit them as an OB patient. Of the 13 OB/GYN doctors in Kenosha, only one was accepting Title 19 patients and will now discontinue that practice so that will leave nobody in Kenosha to see these patients. There will not be any pre-natal care. This could have a significant impact on the County's budget in the future because many people will be going to the emergency room and we will get the bill. This is cost shifting to the County. Mr. Rose said he suggested that the Governor's Office should convene a meeting to discuss this with local people. This committee needs to follow up on this. This is a crisis in the community.

Dan Melyon said that an average of 3 - 5 people in their emergency shelter have children. They will be looking into this as well.

Jennifer Jackson said that a constituent brought to her attention a concern about the homeless shelter. The constituent's church contributes to the Shalom Center. They are overcome by the smell of cigarette smoke. Is it allowable to smoke and will it be allowed in the new center? There are kids here. This is something we need to look at. The County is paying for part of its operation, so it's relevant.

David Arrington said that this is not the appropriate place to bring this issue. This is not our place to set their rules. This should go to the Shalom Center. The County Board should not get into this.

3. Approval of Minutes - 3/4/08, 3/18/08, Jt. 1/8/08 and 1/22/08

MOTION to approve minutes by Ed Kubicki, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. DWD: Approval of Resolution to Modify the 2008 DWD Budget for Real Work/Real Pay Grant

Laurie Staves stated that we received \$82,680 from the State DWD to pilot a program called Real Work/Real Pay. We will work more intensively with 13 of our current W-2 participants to help get them into higher paying jobs. This is an 18-month program. We will develop their skills. The average wage for 2007 was \$8.20 per hour. We hope to increase the wage by 10% - 40%. We will use our Business Services and our partners in the Job Center to help our 13 people move through this program. This is all State funding. Using our existing staff, we will work with 3 participants for 3 months. We will continue to track their progress for 1-1/2 years afterwards. If we have good results, we may be able to make this a permanent program.

MOTION to approve by David Arrington, seconded by Bill Grady. Ariana Gillmore approved as well. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Update on Homeless Shelter

Dan Melyon introduced Brad Weinstock, the Shalom Center Board Co-Chair and the Capital Campaign Chair. Mr. Melyon explained that the site had to be subdivided and re-zoned. That was passed about one month ago by the City Council. We have put down \$5,000 for the purchase of this property. We held 3 public meetings in October. Approximately 50 people attended each meeting. Nobody was against this project. The only negative comment was about the potential problem of movement of clients by the KAC and Shelter. Mr. Melyon distributed a set of plans that was submitted to the City.

Brad Weinstock said that this agency goes back 27 years. This is an exciting time for us. We are making substantial progress to launch our capital campaign. \$4 million is the target price for this project. \$1.5 million will be for the INNS portion of the program. We are working with Growth Design for our fundraising. We have 2 people who will be honorary chairs - people with high visibility. When will we launch our capital campaign? We can't give an exact date but hope to do it this spring. We have a very strong Board at the present time.

The County and City have each committed \$250,000 towards this project. It's in the City's 2009 city plan. The Shalom Center's Board of Directors have committed \$150,000 - \$160,000. They will be working with CUSH and they will help reach out to the corporations.

6. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law

John Jansen thanked the County Board Supervisors for their service to the Human Services Committee.

7. Committee Members Comments - None

8. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Bill Grady, seconded by Ed Kubicki. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

F:Sharon/HSCmin4