

Housing Task Force
November 19, 2015, 5:15 PM
Meeting Minutes
City Council Chambers

Kevin Casey, Will Eberle, Tom Bachman, Polly Nichol, Laura Biren, Jack McCullough

Approved Agenda

Discussed structure of HTF to explain to Tom and Will

Tom: on Good Samaritan Haven Board for 2 years, volunteer for 20 years; the shelter has hired a new Executive Director – remaking operation

Good Samaritan is meeting Down Street and taking over financial/bookkeeping sector

Good Samaritan and Community Awareness: Board of 5 people: everyone took a different town and interviewed town members on housing needs within town → making community aware of issues

Polly: article in Times Argus about panhandling

Mentioned Youth Services Bureau work with me on the community forum

Parking meters in St. Petersburg, Florida reminder

Laura: will contact Josh (Executive Director) from Groundworks Collaborative in Brattleboro for more information on their Community forum and its successes and struggles

Will: Another Way and Good Samaritan collaborate

Round-up Campaign

Top Topics for discussion at Community Forum; Collaborations; Policy:

- Police checking on homeless
- Myths and Realities
- (Will) Low barrier shelter issues; people not fitting into eligibility
- Partner with Down Street, Homeshare Now
- (Polly) State of support for funding shelter
- (Kevin) Shift in thought about shelter in Montpelier
- (Tom/Will) Good Samaritan/Barre services would be helped by shelter in Montpelier
- Transitional housing needs in Montpelier
- (Jack) State body Housing Council → connecting with Correction Department
- (Tom) Awareness of Montpelier = plug into help volunteer need at Good Samaritan

Youth Services forum in library this past summer by Calvin Smith – should look into to see how it went (Pros/Cons)

The Housing Task Force should focus on housing article in The Bridge each distribution from a different organization focused on a certain topic

Forum should happen late January/early February (Legislature's in session, timing of hiring ED for Good Samaritan as well)

Collaborate/co-sponsor with The Bridge and/or The World and/or Times Argus

Adjourned 6:30 PM

Next meeting: December 17 at 5:15 PM