

Homeless Liaison Minutes

Date and Time

Tuesday, October 13th, 2015, from 11:00 am to 12:00 pm

Location

New Horizons for NH, 199 Manchester St, Manchester, NH

Attendees

Matt Bouchie, Kevin Kintner (chair), Dee Santoso, Bill Sullivan, Nicole Clark, Jenn Chisholm, Jordan

11:05 Meeting begins

New Information

- I. Rich Doyle passed along the information that the old Homeless Service Center is to be repurposed. The committee is not yet sure exactly what it will be, but there was some speculation that it will address substance abuse.
- II. 1269 Café is going to be moving into the old police station, along with another church Zeal. Craig Chevalier asked that the committee please kill the rumor, where they can, that there is going to be a shelter.

General Updates

- I. Kevin shared some information on New Horizons. The numbers are currently still down for people using the shelter. He thought that some of the low numbers might be attributed to the closing of the Day Center, but there is no clear causation.
- II. Matt gave an update on the camps. Numbers are constantly shifting, but remain pretty much the same over time. Bill added that many of the camps are moving south, as police patrol much less down there. He also said that police would walk by more, if camps are kept clean.
- III. Library is experiencing no major problems, except that people who come in have no place to put their large bags. This would be helped if there was storage offered at the old police station when 1269 goes in.
- IV. Matt brought it to the committee's attention that the Healthcare for the Homeless team now has free naloxone kits available to prescribe to family members of heroin addicts. Basic training is required to use and these kits need to be prescribed, but they are available. These kits are part of a settlement from a lawsuit that the state lost and are used to try to reduce the number of emergency room visits.
- V. Jordan introduced herself at this meeting. She will be helping Jenn by serving as a Drug/Alcohol specialist. She spoke a little about S-Bert forms, anonymous forms which assess a person's substance abuse risk and encourages them to seek help from providers.

Upcoming Events

- I. Harbor Homes and the VA are hosting their Stand Down event in Nashua on Thursday, October 15th. There is a big push this year to ask potential veterans if they've served rather than asking them if they are veterans as more people that qualify will answer the first question. VA will be providing transportation.

- II. Empty Bowls will be occurring this Sunday, October 18th from 11:30 to 1:30 at the Brookside church. Bowls cost \$20 and soup is provided locally. Benefits New Horizons for NH.
- III. Do You Know Him Ministries will be putting on a Thanksgiving meal the weekend before actual Thanksgiving. This is a great place for people to get winter clothes, hats, mittens, etc.

Housing First Update

- I. Kevin shared an update on New Horizons for NH's Housing First project which has had a recent success. There are currently two units available.
- II. These units take those who have the most severe service needs and put them in housing units, the idea being that there will be less incidents with the police, less hospital visits, and more opportunities for these people to succeed. So far, this program has shown great success.

11:40 Meeting Concludes

Minutes Prepared By

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