City of Albany
Homeless Task Force
Thursday, December 20, 2012 – 7:00 pm
Albany Senior Center, 846 Masonic Avenue – South Room

Meeting Notes

Members present: April Anthony, Ruth Cashmere, Barbara Chambers, Andrew Franklin, Brian Johns, Lisa Kleinbub, Gordon McCarter, Paul O’Curry, Sharon Pipkin.
Member absent: Julie Ann Winkelstein
Staff present: Ann Chaney and Isabelle Leduc, Chief McQuiston, Sgt. Willis

1. Adoption of November 15, 2012 Meeting Notes

Motion: Motion was made by Member Johns and seconded by Member McCarter to accept the November 15, 2012 minutes. Motion carried all in favor.

2. Guest Speakers: Police Chief Mike McQuiston and Sgt. Willis

- Police Chief McQuiston provided an overview of Albany’s 1999 efforts at the Bulb, as well as current activities.
- Albany PD visits the Bulb on a daily basis, which is not meant to harass. Visits are not always enforcement driven, but typically done for the purpose of providing visible safety presence for all persons. When enforcement is used, he said it is done with the intent of getting help for the individual.
- PD is not currently enforcing the City’s ‘no overnight camping’ ordinance. This is a challenge because the PD is trained to not treat someone differently under the law.
- Information was also provided from a San Luis Obispo County survey regarding their homeless population.

3. Staff Update

- Staff Leduc reported on a meeting with Elaine DeColigny, Executive Director of EveryOne Home.
- Staff Chaney provided a brief overview of the information distributed in the packet: funding sources, low income housing inventory, McLaughlin Eastshore State Park Plan (Bulb portion).
Staff Leduc provided a brief overview of the Dignity Village Evaluation Report also included in the packet.

4. Report on framing January City Council report – Members Pipkin, Kleinbub and Winkelstein

- The subcommittee presented the draft report.
- The draft report will be revised according to comments received.
- The final report must be sent to staff by January 11 to be included in the January 22, 2013 Council meeting packet.

5. Discussion on expanding options to Council

- The Task Force identified other items to add to the brainstorming list:
  - Food bank
  - Suitcase clinic
  - Enforcement of the Park Ordinance (Pros, cons, cost)
  - Food and coat drive

6. Report on MHSA Advisory Committee – Member Thrush

- Member Thrush provided a brief update of the meetings to date, but mentioned that he would have more information in the future.

7. Research on programs that serve the homeless.

- Member Thrush mentioned a new federal program that provides free cell phones to the homeless.

8. Items for the Next Agenda

- Eastshore State Park Plan
- Berkeley’s Public Common for Everyone’s Initiative
- EveryOne Home
- MHSA report from Member Thrush

9. Adjournment: 9:15 PM