

Auburn Homeless Taskforce

Committee Meeting

DATE March 13, 2024

TIME 11:00 am

LOCATION 24 South Street, Auburn, NY

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY Renee Jensen

IN ATTENDANCE

Shari Weiss, Nicole Gee, Kyra Pauley, Molly Vander Werff, Renee Jensen, Mike Slomski, Edward Pickard, Arlene Ryan, Miranda Spencer, Mary Rathbun, Tim Donovan, Christina Bennett, Sherrain Clark, Megan Stuart, Gary Mann, Darlene Podolak, Kevin Swab, Erica Ryan, Ashley Tuecke, Liz Vuillemot, Crystal Consentino, Karen Walter, Jen Dalziel, Amy Sanzotta, Tony Ventura, Kristine Raus, Elaine Harter

WELCOME

The meeting was called to order at 11:02. Introductions were made.

GUEST SPEAKER: VETERAN SERVICES FOR CAYUGA COUNTY

Kevin Swab, director for Veteran Services for Cayuga County, shared a presentation about their program. The military veteran term can apply to many people- those who have served 6 months or 20 years, they can be 19 or 100 years old. The DD214 is the record of military service. The VA's definition of veteran is active duty for 2 years. There are some veterans who do not qualify for some services depending on the branch. Veteran Services for Cayuga County is county funded. They gave a handout with links for different resources available. They do have some funding to help get Veterans housed. Non-service connected pension- serving during wartime. There is a shuttle that is available to veterans Monday through Thursday mornings. There are openings for volunteers for a DAV transport provider, but that does have some health requirements.

HOUSING AND HOMELESS COALITION UPDATES

Megan Stuart shared about the Point in Time count. There were 6 people were found in Cayuga County and they were not all found in the city of Auburn. We will be able to provide the PIT full report at the May meeting.

There has been a new person hired as the Housing Services Coordinator. They will be working with all three counties to help provide some housing search information,

The general membership meeting will be on the 3rd Wednesday of April at 1:30 pm. We will be discussing the criminalization of camping on government property that the Supreme Court will be hearing on April 22nd.

COC FUNDED AGENCY UPDATES

Chapel House- shelters are full- Men's has one opening, ROLES has 2 women openings. The men's shelter got new siding and the kitchen is getting an update. They have hired some new staff. They need some housing supplies donations.

CAP: has one opening and has housed two people this month.

OTHER AGENCY UPDATES

DSS: Mary Rathbun shared Cayuga County DSS has prevented 30 households from homelessness. They are currently working with 31 families, 23 of those families are in hotels, and 123 individuals, 24 are at Chapel House. They met with the state about rental supplements for a designated pot of money. The focus will be on the individuals, instead of families.

City of Auburn: CDBG Action plan has been accepted by the council. Funded 12 human service agency programs. Programs will start July 1, 2024. There is a new HUD Buffalo representative named Alex.

CCHN: Nicole shared that they successfully housed a couple recently. She did a mediation through landlord/tenant rights. 1 placed in Sennett Meadows. One client has had barriers because of criminal justice involvement. There is a new transitional housing program with DSS 6 units, homeless families and individuals coming out of criminal justice involvement, 90 day program with light case management.

Cayuga County Mental Health: no updates given.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/NEW BUSINESS

Tim Donovan shared that Kristine Raus has been selected as the new Chapel House executive director. Chapel House will have a charity golf tournament, August 16th at the golf course outside of Weedsport.

Health Fair with YMCA will be held on April 20th, 10 am to 1 pm. Open to the community, there will be tabling possibilities.

Homsite has some vacancies for their SRO and are taking applications for mobile home replacements program, which are income eligible, they must be the owner of the mobile home and the land. There is also The Restore contract for seniors over 60 with home repair needs.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 am. The next meeting will be on May 8, 2024, at 11 am.