



**South Plains Homeless Consortium  
Minutes of the Consortium Meeting**

**Wednesday, January 7, 2004,  
Meeting at the South Plains Food Bank**

**Present:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Andy Hackney	U.S. Dept of HUD
Becky Haskitt	VA Outpatient Clinic
Bob Terrell	WorkSource of the South Plains
Christina Cavarrubio	CHCL
David Atencio	Basin Detox
Debra Rogers	Children's Home of Lubbock
Donna Ulrich	SPCAA
Doug Chapman	First United Methodist
Elsie DeLeon	TDHS
Estella Garcia	U.S. Dept of HUD
Ione Heartsill	LIHN
Joe Rangel	City of Lubbock
John Sims	
Wanda C. Merritt	U.S. Dept of HUD

**Minutes of the Meeting:**

- Donna Ulrich, Vice President, presiding; meeting started at 12:15.

**Minutes:**

- Minutes of the December meeting were approved.

**Treasurers Report:**

- Balance of \$2,245.71 as of 12/31/03. There have been no checks and no deposits in the account.

**Old Business:**

- It is time to pay your membership dues for 2004. Get a form from Joe Rangel (they will also be distributed via email). Fees are \$25 for the first person and \$10 for the next two members. Fees for individuals are \$10. Dues are due by the March 2004 meeting.
- Becky repeated a request that we have a working group for cases meeting after the main meeting, so that we can work cases across all the agencies. This could help all of us a lot. John Sims agrees, this could be a major community resource. Ione says that we need to figure out what the real needs are and then do it, and such casework would help this. Donna asked if we could present such cases as a regular part of the meeting. Cases should be presented in a five-minute time limit. Becky: we should make it less formal than scheduling ahead. If we just put it on as an agenda item and make it available, then it can be used. Bob moved that we put this in the agenda as a 15 minute space.
- First Case: Doug: woman approached him to propose that she donate money to put up 2 hotel rooms for Christmas and Christmas nights. Doug found that it was a challenge to find a bona fide homeless person. Contacted Salvation Army, who had dropped the 3-



## **South Plains Homeless Consortium Minutes of the Consortium Meeting**

day limit over the Christmas weekend. Joe suggested that Red Cross sometimes have families put out because of fire or other problem. Contact Lubbock is also an excellent resource, especially since they have a bulletin board for such things.

### **New Business**

- Since there were only 12 people attending, (two others came in later), we decided to put off officer selections until next month.
- John Sims brought up a city-wide card that merchants can give out, and it creates money for the non-profits. This is called Partners Cards weekend in Dallas. John will look into what they do in Dallas. Deborah suggests that we work this through the mall, since it is such as area-wide shopping hub.
- Ione: the majority of homeless people in this area are people living with relatives. What can we do about them. Many live in really bad situations. Few of Ione's clients are actually homeless, but were kicked out of a home they were living in for whatever reason. Donna: this is a really wide problem, and until HUD changes the definition of homelessness, that will not change. We need to find money available to fund this, and HUD does not define it that way. It is a political issue, if you deal with the millions of people that are really homeless. Ione: we do not have any HUD money anyway, so what can we do. The churches are doing some of this, but there is still a huge problem. How do we find these people, and how can we bring help to them. Doug says that the people in his church would be shocked to learn that there is not even a waiting list at LHA because there are so many people applying.
- Andy: the future of government money from agencies like HUD will not increase. LHA now has an administrator that is not waiting for money from HUD, finding different sources of money to actually building more housing.

### **Conference Committee Report**

- There have been no meetings since the last monthly meetings. There are four break out sessions with different classes.
- Registration forms are normally mailed out at least 60 days ahead, so they need to be mailed out by the end of February. Brochures are planned to be handed out at the RSPC meeting in January (in about 2 weeks).

### **Officer Selections**

- Bob's term is up as secretary. Alice, Joe, and Donna are continuing on. Bob has agreed to continue on as Board Member at Large, now that Tobyn has left. Bob is offering to continue to handle the email communications, if someone else will handle the minutes.
- Bob will set up an email nomination, including having other nominations sent in for the January meeting. Debra will be nominated for Secretary.

### **Announcements**

- Donna: Rural South Plains Coalition is Thursday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>. Meeting is from 9-noon with registration at 8:30. Address is 1611 FM 300 Levelland (that is the Sundown Hwy).
- FDIC is having a train the trainer for workshop training for the MONEY SMART program. Contact Wanda Merritt for information at (806) 472-7286 x 3014.
- Wanda Merritt – A free grant-writing workshop for faith-based initiatives is coming up. The two-day training is scheduled for February 5 & 6 and will be conducted at the



## **South Plains Homeless Consortium Minutes of the Consortium Meeting**

Lubbock Business Center, 1301 Broadway. There is no cost for the training, but registration (with confirmation) is required.

- Andy: There is a structured class for free, through Housing Finance Corp.
- HUD: Web clinic to be held. Also announcing new clinics for small businesses.
- Wanda Merritt: Advised the group that Sally Shipman, the Regional Representative for the Interagency Council for the Homeless, will be in Lubbock on March 2 & 3. Ms. Shipman, along with local HUD Representatives, have a scheduled meeting with the mayor to discuss the city of Lubbock's commitment to a 10-year Plan to End Homelessness. While in town, Wanda suggested that Sally could address the consortium since the regularly scheduled meeting is March 3<sup>rd</sup>. Ms. Shipman's region encompasses five states - Texas, New Mexico, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Oklahoma. She will be working with largest 100 cities in US to end chronic homelessness in 10 years.

### **Next Meeting**

- The next meeting will be held Wednesday, February 4th, at the South Plains Food Bank. If you want to be on agenda, email Alice at [aggarcia@spag.org](mailto:aggarcia@spag.org).
- Anyone that wants to present their agency, please email Bob or Alice.
- Bob will email minutes.

### **Adjourned**

Meeting adjourned at 1:25.