



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

**Wednesday, January 5, 2005
Meeting at the South Plains Association of Governments
58th and Ave. Q**

Present:

Name	Organization
Bob Terrell	WorkSource of the South Plains
Debra Rogers	Children's Home of Lubbock
Gary Frye	Lubbock Cooper ISD
Janet Harvey	MHMR
Alice Garcia	SPAG / AAA
Joe Rangel	City of Lubbock CD
Mary Guetersloh	Hope Community of Shalom
Miguel Ricon	HUD
Adelaida Montemayor	LISD
Wanda Merritt	HUD
Ione Heartsill	LIHN
Estela Salazar	Community Health Center of Lubbock
Hattie Heiner	WPS
Alex Torres	AFLAC (volunteer)
Becky Haskitt	VA Outpatient
Gloria Quinton	Across the Street Outreach
Valeria McGaha	Managed Care
John Sellers	KiCorp
Burnetta Sellers	KiCorp
Martin Martinez	Self

Minutes of the Meeting:

- Bob Terrell, President, presiding; meeting started at 12:10
- Mary G. asked for a correction to the December minutes: help can be received from Ashbury United Methodist Church at 20th and Ave T. (2005 Ave. T. Minutes of the December meeting were corrected and approved)

Treasurers Report:

- Diane was not present, but there have been no major changes in the last month. The account balance is currently \$2652.53.



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Old Business:

- **211 Project:** Alice reported the project is on target and will transfer from Midland on February 14. They will be advertising in the paper to fill the positions of Community Builder and INR Specialist. Interested persons should send their resumes to the attention of Pete Lara. The positions will be filled by February 7.

While in Midland, 211 has received 100 – 200 call per month from this area.

There will be another resource directory generated. It will not be called the “Red Book”, but it will be published from the SPAG office. Bob inquired about the status of agency information. Alice said there were approximately 1100 agencies. They are using IRIS and plan to eventually be web based. The plan is to eventually switch to Alliance.

New Business:

- **Introduction:** To save time, Gary brought name tents, so formal introductions were not made at this meeting.
- **Discussion and demonstration of SPHC website.** The website is coming along, thanks to the work of Burnetta and Tommy Sellers, plus the generously provided financial support of Mark Johnston, President of Ki Corp. Bob demonstrated the work that has been done and the information currently in place on the website. There are a number of placeholders on the site, awaiting updated information. This will be a structure to keep and use documents of all our work. We will be able to store agency brochures for anyone to access who desires information about services. This will serve as a central information system. It will include such things as How to Donate and a Community Wish List, where members can put up an emergency request. Burnetta is continuing to work on this. The site has a Public Forum and a Member Forum. Members will have a password. All documents will be “read only”.

As we work toward pursuing the C of C, committee members will have to work together closely. This site can be used to eliminate up to 80% of meetings and travel by allowing member to interact with others. We will need to purchase some kind of message board for facilitate this. Also in working toward COC, Bob has built a chart of services and agencies. He will need help from the members to continue to build this chart.

- **Announcement of Continuum of Care for 2005, and Compassionate Care Fund.** Bob, Gary and Alex have been discussing the fact that with Gary’s expertise in grant writing and reviewing, we have a very good shot at doing a successful Continuum of Care grant for this year. They presented the plan so far, and talked about how to divide up the parts of the homeless care we can apply for to optimize such services across the community. **The complete presentation can be accessed in the attachment.**

In previous years, this was \$350,000 for the rural counties, and \$850,000 for Lubbock. So this can create a formal, funded program for our region to handle our homeless in a much superior fashion. This requires building a Cof C plan for the city and region that



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includes comprehensive coverage of needs and collaboration between private and public agencies. For example: 45% of homeless clients have learning disabilities which make it difficult for them to find and maintain jobs. Agencies can work with Adult Education and LISD to address client's needs.

A flow chart presented highlighted the immediate need for Outreach and Intake Assessment. The mission of SPHC will be to coordinate services. If this is going to happen we will need to be doing the following things during the next few months:

- Collect lots of information about our community and document.
- Develop regular surveys to understand the homeless population
- Develop a Needs and Gap Analysis
- Understand the C of C component already in plan

Members received a copy of Midland's C of C proposal and Bob pointed out the highlights of their successful plan. We will need at least four or five more committees:

- Strategic Planning and Priorities
- Membership, Agency Information – Outreach and Recruitment
- Survey Committee
- HMIS (can only get help if we have get C of C)

We have done pieces of this, but have not been really effective. Everyone needs additional funding. By going through this process, we will collect the data needed to apply for additional grants, as well as C of C. Gary and Bob presented the idea of a "Proposal Factory" to help all member agencies.

Bob asked for feedback on the presentation. Ione stated "If we don't do anything, we might as well disband." Debra added that we are all struggling to meet the challenged of serving the homeless and we must collaborate to survive.

- Ione made the motion for the SPHC to pursue the C of C grant this year. Janet seconded the motion. It passed by acclamation.
- Alex Torres is interested, experienced and able to help with this process. Ione moved that Alex be added to the Board as an At-large Member. The motion was seconded by Adelaida and passed by acclamation.
- It was proposed that we spend the money to purchase Vbulletin or some other program to create the needed message board. During the discussion, it was decided to place a maximum amount of \$500 for the purchase and that the officers would use their best judgment to secure the appropriate program. Burnetta will research the possibilities. Janet moved that the SPCH allot the funds. It was seconded by Gary and passed by acclamation.



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- **Establishment of new committees:** In order to start working on the C of C, Bob suggested that two committees be immediately established. These committees will need to meet at least twice before the next meeting:

Membership – Outreach and Recruitment: Alex Torres, Joe Rangel, Adelaida Montemayor

Survey: Bob Terrell, Debra Rogers, Janet Harvey, Estella Salazar

- **Discussion of membership registration and dues:** Time limitation kept us from completing this item. It has been postponed until the February meeting
- **Other Comments:** Martin expressed his interest in helping, stating that he had worked with President Bush (then Governor Bush) in 1995 to help raise money for the prison system.

Next Meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 2, the location will be announced later. If you would like to be on the agenda, email Bob at bob.terrell@twc.state.tx.us. Or Debra at drogers@childshome.org

Adjourned

Meeting adjourned at 1:30