

TASK FORCE

Homelessness task force

DATE 01/03/24

LOCATION

Zoom only

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE

Ericka Reil, Chip Castle, Miriam Ben-Dor, Jeremy Spiro-Winn, Joe Mueller, Stephen Finner and Philip Moros

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHER ATTENDEES

Staff Samatha Hiscock

1. Call to order.

Call to order 7:00 PM

2) Adjustments to Agenda

Under updates about warming shelter in Montpelier include update about warming shelter in Barre and update from Rebecca Baruzzi about student per Stephen Finner

3) Public Comment

Samantha will comment as she wishes

4. Approval of minutes from the previous meetings

Only correction Ericka's name is misspelled.

Approval of minutes Stephen
Miriam

5. New agenda items:

a. Survey Final

Survey has been written. Jeremy wrote the survey and it was re worked by Ericka and Chief of Police. Chip, Samantha and Brooke will go to encampments on 1/10/2024. Chip would like to give the surveys to Police chief. Jeremy will put together a spread sheet based on the responses.. Data collection will take place at meal locations and drop in centers. Stephen will make 50 copies and Ericka will distribute them. Process Ericka and Miriam will

distribute them at The Welcome Center /Another Way, 105 and Enough Ministries. People will be encouraged to take the survey ,fill it out and give it back immediately.

b. portalets

Erika and Stephen talked to city council about portalets. it hasn't been discussed by City council yet. Both the unhoused and citizens in general would like them

c. Montpelier overflow shelter

Some nights full and some nights not . For the most part it is working. There are COVID cases and more space in use. People from both Barre and Montpelier and some from elsewhere are using the overflow shelter;

c. updates about warming shelter in Barre

Church of the Good Shepherd in Barre asked how many people would use the warming shelter. Since it would be volunteer run and the number of volunteers is limited they are just trying to maximize use of volunteers. The church will be contacted and provided answers as able. No one doubts that there may be a need for the warming shelter. Of concern is staffing and control. Ask the church to pursue expecting 2 or 3 people. Perhaps something for children could be included. Talk to Rebecca Baruzzi re: student need and to library about problems they encountered.

d. updates from other committees

Rebecca Baruzzi School deliver resources liaison sent a report to Stephen. In Oct. there were 63 students who qualified as unhoused by Dec. that number had risen to 83 students.

Teresa Wood can only meet during lunch we will let it go for now. We can end her questions or have Stephen share her VIA presentation. Joint Fiscal Office has meetings and was responsible for data and we could get a report from them.

e. new year new priorities

Postponed until February meeting. Ericka asked that everyone should show up with 2 priorities for next meeting.

Meetings will be zoom only

Adjournment 7:50
PM.

Next meeting
Feb 7th

Respectfully,

Philip Moros