

FORT MONMOUTH ECONOMIC REVITALIZATION AND PLANNING AUTHORITY

SOCIAL SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE (SSAC)

MINUTES ON PUBLIC MEETING, June 17, 2008

The FMERPA Social Services Advisory Committee (SSAC) public meeting took place on June 17, 2008 at 3:00 p.m. at the FMERPA office located at 2-12 Corbett Way, Eatontown, N.J.

In attendance were **Committee Members**: Rose Estephan, Laurie Cannon, Lynn Miller and **FMERPA Staff Member**: Diane Canterbury, Rick Harrison. **Public** in attendance: Tom Mahedy, Philip Welch, Beverly Bova Scarano, Steve Heisman, John Yaeker, Linda Zucaro, & Bree Boulware.

1. **Call to Order**: Rose Estephan
2. Open/Welcome/Introductions - Rose Estephan - Rose welcomed everyone and acknowledged all in attendance.
3. **Review of Prior Meeting Notes**: All attendees reviewed; Lynn Miller stated that she was not listed as attending the 20May08 meeting where she was as the minutes verbiage reflected. **Public Comments**: Tom Mahedy stated that he would like to urge the Realtors to advocate more as it pertains to the Fort Monmouth region's development.
4. **Discussion of SSAC Final Recommendation**: Rose Estephan provided a brief synopsis of where the committee is in reference to NOI evaluations and recommendations. Rose Estephan explained the types of data gathered and how it was obtained (e.g. recent/current Point in Time Survey's, Monmouth County Consolidated Plan, homeless advocacy organizations & surveys, site visits, advisory committee attendees etc...). Rose explained that it has been a struggle based on the fact of when and where the data was obtained. The accuracy and effectiveness of the data came to be questioned but, Lynn Miller made it clear that not only one item (e.g. Point in time) is used to determine numbers of homelessness; the numbers come from multiple resources. Rose stated that any and all data will be used and requested that if there is additional data that is out there that attendees are aware of; to share and it will be considered. Rose also discussed the actions that will follow the formal recommendation from the SSAC. Rick Harrison discussed the HUD application and anticipated schedule, including a public hearing.
5. **Discuss SSAC Path Forward**: Rick stated that the process of evaluating/analyzing NOIs has not gone as quickly as we may have liked but, the main objective is to get it right. There will be a board meeting on 24Jun08 with a resolution to be voted on to begin the process for negotiating with the Homeless NOI submitters. Tom Mahedy queried if there will be a public draft before the meeting. Rick responds was that a public notice of the meeting will be provided as it is always. Tom M. stated that he was totally opposed to the process where it is keeping the numbers of homeless in Monmouth county down. Rose E. provided a breakdown of the populations and potential numbers that the SSAC intends to recommend. They are: Emergency Shelter (to serve 20-30 persons), emergency services for homeless families (approx.

10), victims of domestic violence (approx. 60 persons), and permanent supportive housing for individual and/or families (approx 50-100 dwelling units). Rose will be providing a report to the board on 24Jun08. Rose also discussed her many conversations with John Yaecker for self-help housing. At this point, Linda Zucaro brought affordable housing to the table. She queried if those numbers provided are part of the 375 AH units currently slated for the Ft Monmouth region. Laurie Cannon responded with that we're trying to increase the 375 dwelling unit number. Linda Z. stated that she was not too concerned about COAH but, more concerned with affordable homes for those who qualify. Rose explained that there are many factors that are being considered at this point including input from the host communities. Phil Welch queried transitional support housing being that Rose did not mention. Rose responded that the information presented and reviewed indicated the need for emergency and permanent supportive services. Lynn Miller explained that transitional funding is limited and that HUD is focusing on Housing first. John Yaecker thanked Rose for her time in learning about self-help housing. Rose in turn thanked all those in attendance for there on-going efforts and commitment. Tom Mahedy stated that he was not satisfied with the numbers being proposed, not having transitional housing accommodated, and that some service providers have more support than others. Rose responded stating that all NOI submitters knew the timeline. Phil W. thanked the committee and Rose for addressing housing that affordable and trying to increase the 375 number. John Yaecker provided more information on self-help housing (e.g. tax exemptions, occupants pay municipalities taxes per value of home etc...) and how many based on time that would be able to be accommodated via the Habitat for Humanity's NOI.

The closing discussion was a presentation from Lynn Miller who provided actual numbers from the Application of Funding Scores for all NJ counties.

6. Schedule Next Meeting: The next meeting is scheduled for July 08, 2008, at 3:00 p.m. at the FMERPA office located in Eatontown, NJ.