

Central Florida Regional Commission on Homelessness
Orange, Seminole & Osceola counties and the City of Orlando

Minutes of the Housing Subcommittee

August 2, 2007, 10:00 a.m., 2nd floor conference room at Orange County's Mabel Butler building.

Members present:

Krissy Todd (Chair); Cara Eule; Steve Kodsi; Thomas Griffin; Keylor Chan.

Members absent:

Brian Wilson.

Staff present:

Yvonne Vassel, Commission staff coordinator; Donna Wyche, Orange County; Rob Heenan and Buddy Balagia, Seminole County.

Ms. Todd welcomed all in attendance and asked each person to introduce themselves. Cara Eule said she is involved with building an apartment complex, in Osceola County, for homeless women and families. Keylor Chan said he spent thirty years in the U.S. Air Force and worked with a lot of military personnel who were homeless as a result of being displaced. Steve Kodsi said he is a developer of residential high-rises in the downtown Orlando area; Thomas Griffin spoke of his struggles to create Transition House, in Osceola County, which provides beds and addiction recovery services for the homeless.

The Committee went on to speak of its charge to examine housing options for Central Florida's homeless and ways to best go about doing so. There appeared to be consensus that doing an in-depth assessment of each type of housing was more than the Committee could accomplish in a few months. The committee decided to seek an analyses of the region's existing housing options for the homeless, and to look at areas where ten-year plans to end homelessness appear to be having some success. It was suggested that members look at the logic model used by the City of Gainesville in its 10-year plan and also the Homeless Emerging Project in Tampa.

The Committee discussed the frequency of its meetings and decided to schedule meetings on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. The desire to find a meeting location on the east side of Orlando – to shorten travel times – was discussed. The staff coordinator promised to look into finding such a location.

The meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

The next Housing Subcommittee meeting was scheduled for Aug. 21, 2007, at 8 a.m., at The Salvation Army, 440 W. Colonial Drive, Orlando, FL 32804.