

**Minutes**  
**Homeless Taskforce**  
**MEETING DATE: August 8, 2007**  
**American Red Cross**

**Taskforce Members**

Rev. Cheryl Jefferson Bell Sue Castile Gypsy Claar Connie Dietz  
Jack Focht Patrick Hanrahan Lou Heldman Bishop Michael Jackels  
Bishop Scott Jones Steve Martens Janet L. Miller Tim Norton  
Marsha Stanyer Mary K. Vaughn

Ex officio members: Winston Brooks Bill Buchanan George Kolb Ron Holt

**Welcome**

Jack Focht called the meeting to order at 7 a.m. Minutes were approved.

**New Business**

*Updates to Local Governments*

Jack told the group he wanted to give an update to the City and County if everyone approved. The group agreed. Staff will set the date with the City and County for an update to be given.

*Update on Winter Overflow RFP*

Rachelle Moody presented an update on the overflow shelter RFP on behalf of Debbie Donaldson. The feedback of downtown ministers, AECH, CCHA, and TECH was taken into consideration. Greater flexibility is given in the new RFP which will be released on Friday, August 10 by the United Way. The RFP proposals will be due on September 8, with an award decision being made by September 15. This should give ample time for planning and preparation by the overflow operator. This was also a request of the various stakeholders.

Taskforce members discussed that while the RFP only gives a certain amount of money to the awardee to operate the facility, there is nothing saying the awardee cannot put additional funding into the shelter. Members agreed that kudos should be given to the City, County and United Way for listening to the community and including that feedback in the RFP.

*Census Data from 06-07 Winter Shelters*

Beth Oaks provided a report on the number of individuals who utilized the emergency shelters and emergency overflow shelter from November 1, 2006 – February 28, 2007. Twice prior to the overflow opening, the emergency shelters were past capacity. There was not a night where capacity was reached (410) once the overflow shelter began operating. For a complete handout, contact [Jgluszek@sedgwick.gov](mailto:Jgluszek@sedgwick.gov) or [dcarrith@sedgwick.gov](mailto:dcarrith@sedgwick.gov).

Taskforce members discussed what the numbers mean. One interpretation is that there are plenty of beds, especially with the overflow operating. Another interpretation is that more information is needed.... that just because x number of beds are available, they may not be the “right” beds (i.e. beds for families, children, women, etc).

*Housing First Presentation*

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 a.m.