



Edmonton Leadership Committee to End Homelessness

**September 9, 2008
8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Heritage Room – City Hall**

Present:

Linda Hughes
Barry Andres*
Roger Gouin
Councillor Karen Leibovici
Fred Pheasey
Cliff Supernault
Shelley Williams

Eric Newell
Bruce Bentley
Peter Goldring
Susan McGee
Franco Savoia
Bob Westbury

Kathy Barnhart
Jay Freeman
Carmel Harris*
Anne McLellan
Anne Smith
Don Wheaton, Jr.

Katie Soles – Soles & Company & Bill Paige
Kate Gunn
Mike Langstone
Judy Walz - Mayor's Office

* denotes designate

Regrets:

Dr. Gerry Predy, Archbishop Smith, Bruce Reith, Linda Cochrane, Minister Hancock

Call to order at 8:10– Linda Hughes

Agenda and Previous Minutes approved.

Opening Remarks – Linda Hughes

- Introductions & Welcome

Tolerant Shelter for Youth – Kathy Barnhart and Mike Langstone

- Kathy provided background information on the Tolerant Shelter. The business case was discussed.
- The shelter would need supports around housing and services.
- The report was accepted as additional information to be considered as further input to our strategies.

Expected Results From the Plan in Key Result Areas – Katie Soles and Bill Paige

Business approach with measurable results. What results do we really want to create?

- Deal with barriers that have prohibited private sector from developing housing and hostel services.
- Social Service infrastructure that is collaborative and unified directed towards prevention.
- In five years have 50% of mat population housed by private sector with social agencies providing service.
- 70% reduction of homeless population in 5 years. Prevent people from entering into the system.
- One data base that is person centered for specific measurement
- Discharge plan for accommodation for every person when leaving any community organization and support services.
- Wrap around services for prevention.
- System that is sensitive to cultural specifics
- Processes are working and people have bought into them.
- One stop shop for delivery of services, anyone looking for services, all information available and all working together.
- Sustainable, ongoing funding from federal and provincial governments.
- Community engagement and taking ownership for this population. Continued, sustained long term commitment around this issue.
- Very inclusive of the community. Virtual one stop shop not a geographic place.
- Robust recognition around complexity of problem.

Targets:

- List, review and reshape public policy needed to support the end of homelessness. Numbers are needed. Singles housing needs to be addressed.

Strategies – Summary of Strategies to Date – Jay Freeman

- Jay explained the layout of the draft strategies. The attempt was to lay out a clear concise plan. The Goals were for looking forward; Target for putting numbers to it; and Strategies how to accomplish.
- The strategy document was discussed at length.
- It was established that another goal should be created around lobbying public policy. Jay will work with Bob Westbury to draft this goal. This must include issues around funding. Kathy Barnhart will work with Jay and Bob to tie in advocacy work around FCSS funding.
- Jay will edit strategies for the next meeting based on feedback shared by the Committee.

Implementation Considerations From Other Jurisdictions:

- Linda reviewed implementation plans of several Cities similar to Edmonton. There are a huge wide range of approaches, some of which have complicated structures. Portland assigned their action plans to a lot of City departments with accountability to Council. Calgary is very different than US plans. Calgary's Homeless Foundation is a single point of accountability. Their City was not involved with no City accountability. We need to figure out what works for Edmonton.

What are the guidelines and principles we need to consider for implementation.

- Governance Model
- Clear accountability with defined measures of success
- Clout, muscle, power
- Ownership
- Mechanism to ensure accountability
- Do we set it up separately vs having it at arms length.
- Broad based approach with everyone including the homeless to own a piece of it.
- Who has the political clout to make this happen. Who is going to wear it.
- Strong, well put together model with recommendations.
- Put three options in front of us with pictures and pros and cons of the models.
- Ownership would be around what is the cost.
- We may be looking to City Council to take leadership and stewardship with shared ownership.

Descriptors that would describe this group:

- Nimble, action oriented, good relationship with organizations, management that allows them to manage funding and contracts, mechanism for community input.
- Knowledge of the existing organizations
- Separation between delivery and funding mechanism.
- Hit the ground running – capacity to evolve and develop in all facets of organizational structure within the organization.
- Credibility by senior orders of government
- Simplicity and ease around access for people to receive service from a lean, flexible and efficient organization.
- Ability to work easily in a complex environment
- Consider an existing possibility.
- Aboriginal component.
- Jay, Eric and Linda will structure three possible models for the next meeting for discussion.

- Organize a “Seeing is Believing Tour” for executives to visit community groups after the plan comes out. Bob Westbury indicated Telus would support this.

Adjournment & Next Meeting

- Adjourned 12:00 pm
- September 24 - 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon Heritage Room, City Hall