

SPECIAL HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 7, 2012

PRESENT:

**Elizabeth Young, Chairwoman
Richard Keaveney
Matt Murell
William Hughes, Jr.
Arthur Bassin
Ellen Thurston**

ABSENT:

Edward Cross

ALSO PRESENT:

**Gail DiCosmo, Clerk
Paul Mossman
Kevin McDonald
Ronald Knott
Sarah Sterling
Robert Fitzsimmons
Lynn Kutski
William Fisher
Kary Jablonka
Richard Scalera
Michaele Williams Riordon
Chairman Grattan
13 Public
Maranatha Inc.**

PRESS: 2

Chairwoman Young called the meeting to order at 4:58 PM.

P. Mossman turned the committee over to Al Coley, President and CEO of Maranatha, the Not-For-Profit Organization. A. Coley distributed to committee members an Agency Overview booklet, explaining their Mission, History, Experience and Program & Services. He explained the Proposed Housing Model i.e. Tier 1: Emergency & Transitional Housing, Tier 2: Supportive Housing with Case Management and Tier 3: Permanent Independent Housing. P. Mossman informed the committee that the 2 sites, one in Livingston and one in Hudson have been take off the table. A. Coley said his organization has no location for a shelter in mind but he is confident he could obtain private financing to purchase a building for the shelter. 13 dorm-styled rooms for homeless individuals and seven rooms for homeless families. A. Coley would be looking for the County to pay his organization to house the homeless and provide services to them, while having 24-hour staffing to oversee the shelter, along with a nurse to handle medications. The County would be charged on a per-person basis, based on how long individuals stay at the shelter. No specific financial details have been proposed yet. This organization would provide transportation; counseling and help the homeless find housing and job training. This project would take Three (3) to Five (5) years to have the shelter fully operational.

Chairman Grattan stated that whichever proposal is picked would have to cost less than the \$70.00 a night which is being spent to house the homeless currently.

After some questions & discussion, P. Mossman was instructed by the committee to reach out to agencies who may be interested in developing a homeless shelter in the County. Those groups may include Catholic Charities.

With no further discussion, a motion to adjourn at 6:30 PM by W. Hughes, Jr., seconded by E. Thurston.

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