

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL
UNTIL APPROVED BY THE
CULVER CITY
COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULVER CITY
COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

February 23, 2016
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Ira Diamond, DPM, Chair
Deborah Wallace, Vice Chair*
Evlynne Householder, Committee Member
Freddy Puza, Committee Member
Paul Taylor, Committee Member

*Vice Chair Wallace arrived at 7:20 p.m.

Absent: Alex Fisch, Committee Member
Kim Gibson, Committee Member

Staff: Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator
Eliana Garzaro, Housing Authority
Roland Miranda, City Manager's Office

Also Present: Gabrielle Solis, St. Joseph Center
Larry Kaufman, Homeless Person

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Pledge of Allegiance

The Committee on Homelessness recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Community Announcements by Board Members/Information Items
from Staff**

Tervis Barnes, Housing Administrator, reported receipt of a call from Vice Chair Wallace regarding a homeless family; she provided background on the family situation; discussed work with the family through Upward Bound; the potential involvement of St. Joseph; and the emergency voucher program.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding available options; homeless people the City is trying to assist; status of the homeless woman in front of Bunin; Code Enforcement; the woman that hangs out in the City Hall Courtyard and her son; the woman living near the Senior Center; building rapport and gaining trust; first contact; confidentiality; follow-up; updates on specific cases; the Upward Bound House program; and Family Services.

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Public Comment for Item Not on the Agenda

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes - December 12, 2015 and January 12, 2016

Tervis Barnes, Housing Administrator, noted receipt of an email with spelling corrections to Ms. Solis' name in the minutes.

THE CULVER CITY COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 17, 2015 AND JANUARY 12, 2016 AS CORRECTED (ABSENT WALLACE, FISCH, GIBSON).

Members of the Fire Department introduced themselves noting that they deal with the homeless on a daily basis and feel the Committee is important.

Chair Diamond thanked the Fire Department for the emergency bags of sand.

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Order of the Agenda

Chair Diamond brought item A-4 forward on the agenda.

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Action Items

Item A-4
(Out of Sequence)

Ending Homelessness in Culver City

Chair Diamond discussed the goal of ending homelessness in Culver City; a suggested approach; organizations serving the homeless in the City; coordination; the different focus of each organization; those people not being sufficiently served; putting together a forum or roundtable to discuss issues; qualifiers to received services from each organization; barriers to service; whether everyone is gaining access; areas not being served; and the Culver City Continuum of Care Policy.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding what the City can do to help remove barriers to service; formulating a message to the new City Council; making concrete recommendations to help the service providers with their missions; revisiting the mission of the Committee; input with regards to the budget; the lack of a Housing budget; and revisiting the strategy to see what can be improved.

Vice Chair Wallace joined the meeting.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding funding for the Housing Department; defining what it means to end homelessness; people who want to live on the street; and clarification that ending homelessness does not mean moving homeless people to other cities.

Larry Kaufman noted that the Police Department moves homeless people in Culver City to Los Angeles; discussed increasing the homeless count; and the difficulty of finding one solution for homelessness.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding affordable housing; coordinating agencies; involving investors and developers; the density bonus law; the credit check requirement; Senate Bill 1818; the Grandview Project; Upward Bound; concessions to encourage increased density to enable affordable housing; clarification that the poor are the highest users of public transportation; Transit Oriented Development; Tilden Terrace; reduced costs; clarification that the project is affordable housing, not Section 8 housing; retail and commercial use; concern with liquor sales; concern with encroachment; limited uses; space issues; traffic concerns; liquor sales; the Globe project; Habitat for Humanity; average cost per unit; fee waivers; vetting for families; regulations; parking; collaboration of agencies; increasing housing in the area; a suggestion to place creation of a subcommittee to discuss the purpose and strategy of the Roundtable on the next meeting agenda; the life of the subcommittee; and scheduling the Roundtable.

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Item A-1

Debrief - 2016 Homeless Count Subcommittee

Chair Diamond expressed appreciation to those who participated in the 2016 Homeless Count including Committee Members, Housing staff, Police and Fire department staff, Upward Bound, St. Joseph, and vendors that provided food; he felt it was the best Homeless Count yet; he appreciated the training; and he commented on the acoustics.

Discussion ensued between staff, Committee Members and audience members regarding ways to improve the Count for next year; start time; accuracy of the number of homeless reported; the number of homeless calls received by the Fire Department; an observation that homeless people wait until after midnight to sleep so everyone will be gone; whether volunteers don't want to participate if the event is late; liability issues; sending special teams to hot spots later;

deployment time for different areas; kudos to organizations in the City for their help in keeping numbers of homeless in the City down; whether the fact that deployment was earlier changed the numbers counted; focus areas; families; those who do not want to be found or counted; the need for volunteer name tags; advance outreach to service clubs; a request that LAHSA collect 75 names; the group information sheet; communication with teams while they are out; clarifying that volunteers are not to get out of their cars; LAHSA training; demarcation on the maps; clarifying what areas volunteers should avoid; additional work to be put into maps; and consideration of different formats with GIS.

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Item A-2

Certificates of Appreciation - 2016 Homeless Count

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the procedure for recognition; appreciation to participants; clarification that each participant gets a personalized certificate; contacting participants; and scheduling.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS APPROVED CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION FOR SUBMITTAL TO THE CITY COUNCIL.

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Item A-3

Legislative Update

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, asked for input on whether to continue to include the item on the agenda each month.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding The County initiative; proposed funding; a trial program by Housing and Urban Development to increase the minimum rent coverages in Oakland; the Section 8 program; regional biases; and clarification that more money will not be spent, rather less people will be served.

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Public Comment for Items NOT on the Agenda

None.

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Items from Committee on Homelessness Members

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the Westside Coalition; sending a community liaison; sending representatives to different meetings to increase the presence of the Committee; benefits to the City; what the Coalition does; consistency of attendance rather than rotating Members; improving access; assigning duties; being available to attend different meetings related to the Committee; Planning Commission meetings; working with the business community; Downtown Business Association meetings; advocating for positions; whether Committee Members have to join different organizations or can simply attend the meetings; the Homeless Resource Sheet; input from St. Joseph and Upward Bound; printing costs; format; agendizing consideration of a special Roundtable meeting; scheduling the next Committee meeting; organizing the Roundtable; limited staff involvement; scheduling a room; mailing; brainstorming; number of attendees; refreshments; and notification.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:31 p.m., the Culver City Committee on Homelessness adjourned.

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TEVIS BARNES
SECRETARY of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness,
Culver City, California

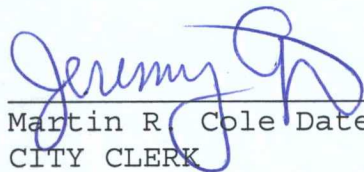
APPROVED

 Chair

IRA DIAMOND

CHAIR of the Committee on Homelessness, Culver City,
California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the
State of California that, on the date below written, these
minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver
City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of
said meeting.


Martin R. Cole
CITY CLERK

5 MAY 2016


Jeremy Green

Deputy