

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

July 28, 2020
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness was called to order at 7:07 p.m. via Webex.

Present: Karlo Silbiger, Chair
Kim Gibson, Vice Chair
Daniel Behrendt, Committee Member
Darryl Cherness, Committee Member
Rachel Feldstein, Committee Member
Khin Khin Gyi, Committee Member
Mark Lipman, Committee Member

Staff: Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator
Christina Stouffers, Homeless Outreach
Coordinator
Roland Miranda, City Attorney's Office

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The Pledge of Allegiance

Daniel Behrendt led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Meeting participants introduced themselves and discussed their background and experience.

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, described procedures and administered the Oath of Office to Daniel Behrendt and Darryl Cherness.

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Public Comment – Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Silbiger explained meeting format and procedures; indicated that the Committee had not met since February because of the pandemic; and he invited public comment.

No public comment was received for Items not on the Agenda.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of February 18, 2020

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding audio issues with the meeting; clarification that \$1 million was specified in the motion recommending that the City provide money from the General Fund to support homeless activities; and agreement by staff to correct the amount in the motion.

MOVED BY MEMBER BEHRENDT AND SECONDED BY MEMBER LIPMAN THAT THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING ON FEBRUARY 18, 2020 AS AMENDED.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: GIBSON, GYI, LIPMAN, SILBIGER
ABSTAIN: BEHRENDT, CHERNESS, FELDSTEIN
NOES: NONE

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Recognition of Departing COH Members (Dr. Diamond, Ms. Hanna, Mr. Helyar and Ms. Wallace)

Chair Silbiger expressed appreciation to former Committee Members for their service and wished them well in their future endeavors.

Vice Chair Gibson echoed previous comments made by Chair Silbiger and hoped that former Members would be able to join the Committee at a future meeting to share their reflections.

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Item A-2

Introduction of the New Assistant to the City Manager on Homelessness, Helen Chin

Helen Chin, Assistant to the City Manager on Homelessness, provided background on herself and discussed work on different projects with staff.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding effective partnerships with the Committee; assessing the needs of the unhoused; the importance of community education; how systems and services work; availability of data; information from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA); local data collection; Coronavirus response; connecting people to St. Joseph Center; the inability to release annual homeless count numbers until allowed by LAHSA; systems integration; and Leadership Culver City.

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Item A-3

(1) Administration of the Oath of Office to Newly Appointed Committee Member(s) and (2) Selection of the Chair and Vice Chair

New Members took the Oath of Office at the start of the meeting.

Chair Silbiger discussed duties of the Chair and Vice Chair and he nominated Vice Chair Gibson to serve as Chair.

MOVED BY CHAIR SILBIGER, SECONDED BY MEMBER LIPMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS APPOINT KIM GIBSON TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

Member Silbiger nominated Mark Lipman to serve as Vice Chair of the Committee on Homelessness and Chair Gibson seconded the motion.

MOVED BY MEMBER SILBIGER, SECONDED BY CHAIR GIBSON AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS APPOINT MARK LIPMAN TO SERVE AS VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

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Item A-4

Subcommittee Appointments: Receive Nominations and Approve Recommendations for Appointments to the 2021 Homeless Count Subcommittee, Appointments to the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative Subcommittee, Appointments to the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee, and Appointment to the COH Bylaws Subcommittee

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the ability to serve on multiple subcommittees; clarification regarding the duties and workload of the various subcommittees; welcome packets sent to the new members; allowing the new Members a chance to think about what subcommittees they would like to join; and allowable size of subcommittees.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION TO APPOINT VICE CHAIR LIPMAN AND MEMBERS BEHRENDT AND GYI TO SERVE ON THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION TO APPOINT CHAIR GIBSON AND MEMBERS CHERNESS AND FELDSTEIN TO SERVE ON THE 2021 HOMELESS COUNT SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION TO APPOINT MEMBERS CHERNESS, FELDSTEIN AND SILBIGER TO SERVE ON THE OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION TO APPOINT VICE CHAIR LIPMAN AND MEMBERS GYI AND SILBIGER TO SERVE ON THE BYLAWS SUBCOMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2020-2021.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding Brown Act rules; staff assistance; virtual meetings; scheduling of subcommittee meetings; and meeting frequency.

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Item A-5

**Quarterly Report of Homeless Outreach and Services Provided:
Receive a Report from the St. Joseph Homeless Outreach Team
on Last Quarter's Homeless Outreach and Engagement**

Tevis Barnes, Housing Programs Administrator, introduced the item and discussed goals to expand homeless outreach.

Dawan Moses, St. Joseph Center, Director of Engagement, discussed yearly targets; outreach; contact; engagement; enrollment; services provided; demographics; Project Room Key; the mediator between the client and the case manager; and the objective to create a housing plan.

Discussion ensued between Dawan Moses, staff and Committee Members regarding privacy; target numbers; the quarterly report; the focus to connect people to housing; eligibility; priority; mediators; Project Room Key; number of participants; participating jurisdictions; whether people are actually service resistant; the number of times contact is made before relationships are built and services are accepted; the value of having a specific team for Culver City; establishing a direct housing project; and the number of housing-ready individuals in Culver City.

Additional discussion ensued between Mo Peterson of the Culver City Outreach Team, Dawan Moses, staff and Committee Members regarding the referral process; strategic mapping; scheduling; displacement caused by the pandemic; the

importance of communication; the focus on hotspots; historical data; identifying needs; demographic information on the LAHSA website; the City motel voucher program; putting the numbers into perspective; the Annual Homeless Count; comparisons with other cities; ways to improve; the fact that annual targets have been met within three and a half months; and appreciation to staff for their work.

Chris Oliver, Upward Bound House, provided an update on services provided in the last fiscal year; discussed the number of families served; permanent housing; children; unemployment as a result of the pandemic; work to get more people into housing; collaboration with the Culver City Housing Authority; high barrier families; City vouchers; adding wifi access points for families; social distancing; testing; and clarification that there have not been any cases of COVID-19 within the program.

Discussion ensued between Mr. Oliver, staff and Committee Members regarding appreciation to Upward Bound House for their work; the ability for Committee Members to visit the facility; comparisons between 2019 and 2020; extended stays in 2020; the inability to serve as many families as in prior years; reliance on St. Joseph Center; the Housing First model; the difficulty of finding housing within Culver City; the goal to keep families in the School District and local services; looking at shared housing; the lack of a mention of affordable housing in the COH bylaws; the difficulty of addressing housing policy; having a discussion about the effects of COVID on overall housing policy; and Committee consensus to add consideration of alternate housing strategies to address changing conditions to a future agenda.

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Item A-6

Discussion of the 2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Results. Discussion of the Results of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority 2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Reflecting a 13% Increase in Homelessness

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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Item A-7

Update - Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness. Receive an Update on the Implementation of Goals and Actions Under the Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness Discussion and Recommendations on the Following: Goal 3/ Action 3g - Conduct Feasibility Studies/Motel Reuse

Goal 1/ Action 1b - Identify Viable Sites/Safe Parking Program

Goal 2/ Action 2c - Explore Rental Protection and Anti-Displacement Strategies/Rent Control

Goal 3/ Action 3g - Conduct Feasibility Studies/AM Vets Site

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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Item A-8

Discussion - Bylaws Subcommittee: Discussion and recommendation on the Adoption of Updated COH Bylaws including: Frequency of meetings, Scope and Mission of the COH, Expansion of COH to a Board or Commission

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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Item A-9

**Discussion - Impact of COVID-19 on the Unhoused Community
Discussion and Recommendations on the Impact of COVID-19 on the Unhoused Community**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Gibson invited public comment.

No public comment was received.

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Receive and File Correspondence

None.

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Items from Committee on Homelessness Members

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding meeting frequency; scheduling; staff workload; the intersection of racism and housing; housing policy in Culver City; a suggestion to have a conversation on housing and racism with the Equity Subcommittee; Committee consensus to work with the General Plan Update Committee to address racist housing policy; and agenda items for the August and September meetings.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:35 p.m., the Culver City Committee on Homelessness adjourned to Tuesday, August 25, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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

APPROVED

KIM GIBSON
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.

Jeremy Green
CITY CLERK

Date