

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

January 7, 2020  
7:00 p.m.

**Call to Order & Roll Call**

The special meeting of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness was called to order at 7:03 p.m. in the Dan Patacchia Room at City Hall.

Present: Karlo Silbiger, Chair  
Ira Diamond, DPM, Committee Member  
Collette Hanna, Committee Member  
John Helyar, Committee Member  
Mark Lipman, Committee Member  
Deborah Wallace, Committee Member

Absent: Kim Gibson, Vice Chair

Staff: Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator  
Christina Stouffers, Homeless Outreach  
Coordinator

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**The Pledge of Allegiance**

Deborah Wallace led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda**

Chair Silbiger invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, indicated that staff was gearing up for motel reuse and manufactured housing feasibility studies; reported receipt of the contract from

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the county; noted that the City Manager would be hiring a Special Assistant to the City Manager on Homelessness; and she discussed homeless individuals that staff was working directly with.

Discussion ensued between meeting attendees, staff and Committee Members regarding individuals being served; the need for a case manager; Project 50 from Los Angeles county; reduced budgets when people are successfully housed; evidence that directly housing people is the cheapest, most effective solution; the amount of money spent on emergency services for the homeless; and agreement to discuss a suggestion to put \$7 million in the budget from the General Fund to pay to house every homeless person in Culver City, not including Section 8, at the next meeting.

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, discussed funding for the Accessory Dwelling Unit (ADU) program; items to be presented to the City Council; and the Linkage Fee study.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding consideration of a Vacancy Tax; current items in the work program; staffing levels; Committee agreement to agendize a discussion of a Vacancy Tax; inclusionary housing issues; City Council policy decisions; and the need for prioritization and follow up on proposed items.

Member Diamond introduced Russ Perot of the Lindberg Park Neighborhood Association; reported on the October Forum on Homelessness and Housing at Temple Akiba; invited everyone to the next Forum on January 28 with Chair Silbiger and Member Helyar speaking about Safe Parking and Landlord Incentives; he thanked staff for their work and support of homeless individuals in the City; and he reported a donation of 3,000 pairs of shoes to Shoes for the Homeless for distribution to the homeless.

Discussion ensued between meeting attendees, staff and Committee Members regarding consensus to add revision of the pamphlet to the agenda for the next Committee on Homeless (COH) meeting; turnover at Saint Josephs; a suggestion to have a discussion with Phil Ansell; competitive salary; the increased workload for Service Provider Area (SPA) 5; voucher amounts; payment standards; and funding levels.

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Russ Perot, Lindberg Park Neighborhood Association, discussed outreach; educating the community on what is being done; and he requested a presentation on homelessness to the Lindberg Park neighborhood.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the COH Outreach Subcommittee; Police Department presentations; available statistics; and encouraging the public to come to COH meetings.

Chair Silbiger announced that he and Member Lipman would be speaking at a Forum on Homelessness at the Culver City Democratic Club on January 9 in the Rotunda Room at Vets; he reported attempts to be added to the School Board agenda; he discussed City Council consideration of Safe Parking and potential housing sites in the City; and safety issues expressed related to homelessness.

Member Lipman reported listening to a radio show on KFI that advocated for establishing internment camps for homeless people; he pointed out the need to reframe the homelessness issue; and the importance of changing the narrative in order to help people.

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#### Consent Calendar

##### Item C-1

#### Approval of Minutes for the Special Meeting of November 29, 2019

Member Helyar pointed out that Melissa Vollbrecht was still listed as a Member and she is no longer on the Committee.

MOVED BY MEMBER HELYAR, SECONDED BY MEMBER LIPMAN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE SPECIAL MEETING ON NOVEMBER 29, 2019 AS AMENDED (ABSENT VICE CHAIR GIBSON).

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#### Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

**2020 Homeless Count Subcommittee Update. Receive an Update from the 2020 Homeless Count Subcommittee on the Outreach and Coordination of the 2020 Homeless Count Scheduled for January 22, 2020 at the Culver City Senior Center**

Member Wallace outlined the schedule for the Homeless Count, and asked for suggestions to address the issue of having to send people to volunteer at other locations when there are too many volunteers for Culver City.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding pre-registration by Los Angeles Housing Services Authority (LAHSA); priority for those who pre-register vs. first come, first served; allowing people to stay behind and help or to go to under-served jurisdictions; making positive use of the time spent sitting around; City Council participation; donations to Upward Bound House; having underage volunteers assemble hygiene kits; educating people as to what it means to be homeless; reshaping the narrative; the video from LAHSA; coordination with Everyone In; using the time spent waiting for advocacy and activism; clarification that the majority of homeless people are unseen; invitations to Council Members; help collecting items; start time; food; coffee; participants from last year; the importance of acknowledging those who coordinate the event; the schedule of speakers; the special teams who count the hot spots and areas deemed unsafe for the public; duties of Committee Members; distribution of certificates; deployments; length of time necessary to do a thoughtful and thorough count; counting the hidden homeless; photo opportunities; raising awareness; a recent video commemorating people who have died over the past year due to homelessness; the importance of humanizing the people living on the street; a suggestion to have people write a statement about homelessness and take a photograph or write thoughts about homelessness on a banner; homeless or formerly homeless artists; a suggestion to invite a speaker to discuss homelessness and a volunteer to photograph and document the evening; the press release; t-shirts; flashlights; the maps; clearly delineating the Culver City border; and highlighting the hot spots to be counted by the special teams.

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Item A-2

**Discussion - Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness.  
Discussion on the Implementation of Goals and Actions Under  
the Plan to Present and Combat Homelessness Including a  
Discussion on Action 3G (Conduct Feasibility Studies)  
Including Temporary Seasonal Shelter Feasibility Study  
Involving Government Owned Land**

The Committee viewed a video of public speakers making comments at the December 9, 2019 City Council meeting about homeless individuals.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding education; outreach strategy; negative press; threats and harassment; the Police report regarding an incident between a resident and a homeless individual; proximity to the residential neighborhood; fear; the concentration of people under the overpass; the law; the lack of shelter beds; cold weather shelters; obstructing the public right of way; creating obstacles to diminish the size of the public right of way; demographics; the affordable housing crisis; misconceptions about homelessness; creating dialogue; talking points; public outreach; frustrations of the people who live on Globe Avenue; facilitation of communication between residents and the homeless; initiation of conflict; concern with vigilantes; use of criminalization language; concern with anti-homelessness; resident anger at the situation; the need to get people off the streets; the promise made to the public with Measure HHH that the homeless would be housed; increased costs; the importance of being open minded; combating misinformation and misperceptions; being more explicit about things that have been accomplished or that are in the works to solve problems; providing information on what people can do to address feelings of powerlessness; City Council direction to move forward quickly; progress made with implementing the Homelessness Plan; and direction to the Outreach Subcommittee to bring a draft of talking points forward for Committee review.

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Item A-3

**Discussion - Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness.  
Discussion the Implementation of Goals and Actions Under  
the Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness Including a  
Discussion on Action 1B (Implement a Safe-Parking Program)  
Including Mobil Laundry and Showers**

Chair Silbiger received consensus to hold the remaining agenda items to the next meeting.

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Item A-4

**Discussion - SELAH Citizen Outreach Program Follow-up  
Discussion on the Presentation from the SELAH Citizen  
Homeless Outreach**

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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**Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda**

Chair Silbiger invited public comment.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

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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 the date for the February COH meeting, and City Council direction to staff, as part of the motion for the Feasibility study, to check in with the Committee on Homelessness.

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**Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 9:05 p.m., the Culver City Committee on Homelessness adjourned to Tuesday, February 18, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

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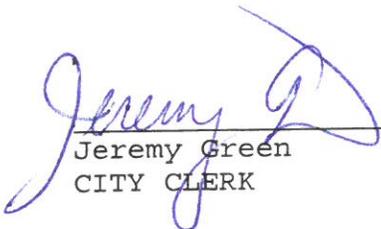
TEVIS BARNES  
SECRETARY of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness,  
Culver City, California

APPROVED

 2/18/20

KARLO SILBIGER  
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

18 MAR 2020  
Date