

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
CULVER CITY
ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON
HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

April 18, 2023
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

Chair Daniel Behrendt called the regular meeting of the Culver City Advisory Committee on Housing and Homelessness to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Patio Room.

Present: Daniel Behrendt, Chair
Amy Cherness, Committee Member
Darryl Cherness, Committee Member
Emily Dibiny, Committee Member*
Rachel Feldstein, Committee Member
Khin Khin Gyi, Committee Member

*Member Dibiny arrived at 7:13 p.m.

Absent: Bubba Fish, Vice Chair
Leonardo Wilborn, Committee Member

Staff: Tevis Barnes, Housing and Human Services Director
Christina Stoffers, Homeless Outreach Coordinator

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The Pledge of Allegiance

Member Darryl Cherness led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment – Items NOT On The Agenda

Chair Daniel Behrendt reminded everyone of the purview and charge of the ACOHH and invited public comment.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

Kevin with St. Vincent DePaul requested information on the motel conversions taking place on Sepulveda Boulevard.

Tevis Barnes, Housing and Human Services Director, discussed a grant received to acquire and renovate two motels on Sepulveda Boulevard; the 73 units of interim and permanent supportive housing to be provided; issues discovered during construction that caused delays; proposed completion date; coordination with St. Joseph Center to determine who to house; people being temporarily housed in two other local motels; Exodus as the lead service provider and operator; meals and services provided; 24 hour services provided; and electrical issues.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the process to be housed at the location; the By Name list; the SPDAT (Service Provider Decision Assessment Tool); and referrals.

Member Emily Dibiny joined the meeting.

Additional discussion ensued between meeting attendees, staff, and Committee Members regarding costs; different standards for temporary vs. permanent supportive housing; the Sunburst conversion to permanent housing; kitchenettes; services provided; office space created; creation of open space; accommodations for pets; the conversion from temporary use to permanent supportive housing; the interim housing provided; the 24 hour services provided; security; the By Name list consisting of people known to the City who have been homeless for at least a year; City Council concerns; hardship for homeless individuals during the winter months; concern with the length of time for project completion; clarification regarding what is involved to complete the project; the closure of the Ramada; clarification regarding the length of interim stays; outreach to those who live in RVs; LAHSA (Los Angeles Housing Services Authority) work on the area; creating safe parking for RVs; and the food bank.

Further discussion ensued between meeting attendees, staff and Committee Members regarding communication and outreach to the public regarding the project; people who want to participate in the food pantry; referrals; transitioning from interim to permanent housing; clarification that people are not transitioned until they are ready; regular updates provided at City Council meetings; the daytime vs. nighttime population of the City; the Mobile Crisis Team being activated; services provided by Southern California Hospital; and the 72 hour mental health hold.

Chair Daniel Behrendt reported on his experience visiting LifeArk in El Monte noting that he had reached out to them for a potential future presentation to the Committee.

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Receipt of Correspondence

None.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Regular Advisory Committee on Housing and Homelessness Meeting of February 21, 2023

Member Khin Khin Gyi received clarification regarding the name of a member of the public who provided public comment.

MOVED BY MEMBER DARRYL CHERNESS, SECONDED BY MEMBER AMY CHERNESS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 21, 2023 (ABSENT VICE CHAIR BUBBA FISH AND MEMBER LEONARDO WILBORN, WITH MEMBER RACHEL FELDSTEIN ABSTAINING).

Chair Daniel Behrendt expressed appreciation for the detailed minutes.

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Order of the Agenda

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members resulting in agreement to defer Items A-1, A-3, and A-5 to the next meeting due to the absence of Member Leonardo Wilborn and Vice Chair Bubba Fish.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Discussion on Function and Purpose of the ACOHH Subcommittees:

- **2023 Homeless Count Subcommittee**
- **Homeless Initiative Subcommittee**
- **Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee**

This Item was deferred to the next meeting.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding subcommittee assignments; a reminder for Committee Members to check their email; and Committee Member requests for staff assistance with email.

Member Darryl Cherness expressed concern that the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee had not met or had any events; discussed the need to identify who outreach should be done to; methods of outreach; brochure distribution; meeting location and time; and meeting rosters for subcommittees.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding subcommittee discussions; focusing objectives; clarifying needed resources from staff; agreement to hold the next meeting of the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee on May 16 at 6:00 p.m.; virtual attendance; and staff agreement to send email reminders.

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Safe Camping Ordinance Update From Staff

• Discussion on Requesting Unhoused Person/Former Unhoused Person to Provide Structural and Programming Input on the Culver City Safe Parking Program

Tevis Barnes, Housing and Human Services Director, discussed the Homeless Emergency declared by the City; the Safe Sleep Site; the site plan; safe suites; Urban Alchemy; onsite amenities provided; laundry vouchers; micro-transit; laundry service for sheets and towels; common areas; outside space; bistro lighting; and the pet area.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the generator; charging; solar lanterns; locked storage areas; locked tents; number of spaces available; staff parking; lost revenue to the City; ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) facilities and accommodations; and cooling the tents in the summer.

Chair Behrendt invited public input.

The following member of the public addressed the Committee:

Nancy shared comments and concerns.

Chair Behrendt indicated that staff was available to speak with her.

Tevis Barnes, Housing and Human Services Director, indicated that Sisters of Saint Paul was also available to speak with her.

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Report From Member Wilborn Regarding Conversation with Unhoused Person

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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Item A-4

Discussion on Filling Open ACOHH Member Seat with Someone Who is Unhoused or Formerly Unhoused in Culver City

Tevis Barnes, Housing and Human Services Director, discussed efforts to fill vacancies and the value of lived experience.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding youth members; feedback from program participants; the need to fill the seat with someone with lived experience to inform the decision making process; and communication with Upward Bound House and Saint Joseph's to see if they have a viable candidate, and if not, coordination with the City Clerk to conduct ACOHH seat appointments offline to align with the Culver City Project Homekey Program.

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Item A-5

Discussion Regarding Setting Up a Time for ACOHH to Tour Upward Bound House

This item was deferred to the next meeting.

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Item A-6

Discussion Regarding Donations for Project Homekey

Tevis Barnes, Housing and Human Services Director, reported the need to go to the City Council for permission to receive donations for Project Homekey; discussed the need for staff to write a staff report; the need to be clear on what is being solicited; and the process.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding identification and prioritization of items needed; houseware items; clothing; gift cards; books; groceries; staff accountability for donations; the inability of the City to accept cash donations; processing of monetary donations through a non-profit; the process; addressing shortfalls; donations from organizations vs. individuals; motivation for participation; consideration of execution by the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee when they meet on 5/16/23; planting

the idea with the City Council; the City Council Subcommittee; and sharing comments as a private citizen at a City Council meeting.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Chair Daniel Behrendt invited public comment.

Christina Stoffers, Homeless Outreach Coordinator, reported a suggestion in the comments that Exodus, the lead service provider for the Culver City Project Homekey Interim Housing and Permanent Supportive Housing Project, be in charge of receiving and disbursing donations.

Saint Joseph Center (SJC) representatives introduced themselves.

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**Items from Advisory Committee on Housing and Homelessness
Members/Staff (Continued)**

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding scheduling a tour of Project Homekey and Brown Act issues.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:25 p.m., the Culver City Advisory Committee on Housing and Homelessness adjourned to a meeting to be held on May 16, 2023.

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TEVIS BARNES

SECRETARY of the Culver City Advisory Committee on Housing
and Homelessness, Culver City, California

APPROVED

Daniel Behrendt

CHAIR of the Advisory Committee on Housing and
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 Bocchino
CITY CLERK

Date