

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

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

May 22, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The meeting of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness was called to order at 7:05 p.m. in the Patio Room at City Hall.

Present: **Karlo Silbiger**, Chair
Peter Capone-Newton, MD, Committee Member
Ira Diamond, DPM, Committee Member
Kim Gibson, Committee Member
Deborah Wallace, Committee Member*

*Member Wallace joined the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Staff: **Tevis Barnes**, Housing Administrator
Ashleigh Blackman, Housing Authority Clerk

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Pledge of Allegiance

Ira Diamond led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda

Chair Fisch invited public input.

No cards were received and no speakers came forward.

Meeting attendees introduced themselves and included:
Robin Lecard, formerly homeless; Jerry Ramirez, St. Joseph
Center Outreach Case Manager; Allen Shepherd Culver City
Police Department; Rachel Ralston, LeSar Development; Gary
Silbiger, former Mayor and founder of the Committee on
Homelessness; Kevin with St. Vincent de Paul; Roger Braum,
Fire Department; and Chris Oliver, Upward Bound.

Chair Silbiger indicated that the purpose of the special
meeting was to focus on the homeless plan and he noted the
limited time frame to formulate the plan.

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Presentations

None.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Meeting Minutes - April 24, 2018

MOVED BY MEMBER DIAMOND AND SECONDED BY MEMBER GIBSON THAT
THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE
MEETING OF APRIL 24, 2018.

AYES: CAPONE-NEWTON, DIAMOND, GIBSON, SILBIGER

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: WALLACE

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Community Engagement - Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative Subcommittee: Conduct a Community Engagement Session with LeSar Development Consultants to Inform the Update of the City's Homeless Strategies

Chair Silbiger reported that he and Member Diamond had been meeting with staff and the consultant to begin the process of developing a plan; he discussed the deadline; establishing a timeline; setting goals for the plan; and figuring out who to reach out to in the community.

Member Diamond expressed support for LeSar Development Consultants.

Member Wallace jointed the meeting.

Rachel Ralston, LeSar Development Consultants, discussed most recent homeless count numbers; limited shelter beds; people on the street and in cars; the dramatic increase of homelessness in the region; Measure H: the County's Homeless Initiative; funding for homelessness planning; the July 31, 2018 deadline for submission of a Homeless Plan; clarification that the county provides services and the City provides infrastructure; establishing case plans for each of the 226 homeless individuals in the City; best practices; identification of revenue sources to expand existing City activities and develop new programs; she summarized existing programs; City planning grants; and opportunities within Measure H for affordable housing.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Ralston and Committee Members regarding strategies under each housing goal; picking the appropriate strategy for the population; varied needs; different starting places for different cities; availability of the strategies on the county website: broad based supports: housing, education, healthcare, veterans' services; Phil Ansell and the collaboration of stakeholders in the area; concern with the accuracy of the homeless count numbers; counting methods; those with unstable housing; homeless prevention; and timing.

Robin Lecard reported being homeless for 8 years; thanked staff, Member Diamond and St. Vincent de Paul for helping him get off the streets; discussed the reluctance of some people to accept help; acknowledged different situations for each person; and he asserted that until one has been on the street, it is hard to know what it is really like.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Ralston and Mr. Lecard regarding service resistant individuals; previous disappointment as a deterrent for seeking help; having services ready when they are needed; and mental health and substance abuse issues.

Rachel Ralston, LeSar Development, provided an overview of the timeline and discussed things that Culver City is already doing regarding homelessness.

Further discussion ensued between staff, Ms. Ralston, meeting participants and Committee Members regarding the need to schedule a City Council item; county flexibility with the deadline; Rapid Rehousing; work with Brilliant Corners; increasing subsidies to keep families local; numbers served; landlord outreach; City incentives; clarification regarding covenants; the Mortgage Assistance Program; ineffectiveness of the Landlord Tenant Mediation Board (LTMB); the City Council directive to expand the duties of the LTMB; ways to control rent increases; notification that mediation is available to tenants; finding a balance; shared housing models; social well-being; access to transit; adding shared housing to the list of strategies for the City; the focus on housing; and job development.

Rachel Ralston, LeSar Development, discussed the draft goals; community education; adding a Homelessness Coordinator position; cost analysis; expanding homelessness prevention programming; training for first responders; economic empowerment; engaging the Chamber of Commerce; money to acquire properties; implementation of a safe parking program with amenities; allocating half of Section 8 vouchers to homeless individuals; planning grants; and identifying top priorities.

Discussion ensued between staff, Ms. Ralston and Committee Members regarding support for shelter beds vs. brick and mortar; the Homeless Coordinator position; safe parking;

use of temporary structures; and loss of beds when the Armory closed.

Further discussion ensued between Ms. Ralston, staff, Mr. Lecard and Committee Members regarding potential safety issues with the use of a tent to house the homeless during inclement weather; getting the Downtown Business Association to accept a temporary shelter; expansion of the parking program at St. Augustine's; increasing the number of transitional shelters; using an underutilized area for a transitional or emergency shelter; the Upward Bound format; economic development opportunities for the neighborhood; Raintree Plaza; options that the City can explore for the shelters; the feeling that most shelters are for battered women and children; clarifying the messaging; using the term bridge housing rather than shelter; serving more people and providing more options; increasing the number of bridge housing options available in the City; concern with attracting people from outside of the City; prioritizing items; the importance of intervention; the Homeless Prevention Tool Kit; qualifications for the Homeless Coordinator; assessing at-risk individuals; helping people catch up; prioritization of affordable housing; the Regional Needs Housing Assessment (RHNA); distribution of income in the community; understanding affordable housing needs; income support; identification of veterans in Culver City; data collected by St. Joseph Center; providing services to homeless during off hours; homeless transport; liability issues; specialists in the Police Department to address homeless issues; tracking of the homeless by the Fire Department; the Homelessness Management Information System; the feeling that all the items are important; public apprehension with having the homeless in their neighborhood; implementation grants; regular medical and legal support for the homeless; money available for capacity building for service providers; and appreciation to St. Joseph Center.

Rachel Ralston, LeSar Development, summarized priorities discussed including bridge housing, homelessness prevention, focusing on affordable housing development and understanding needs, improving coordination of outreach and engagement, and education as well as coordination and implementation; she questioned who should be engaged for input; discussed scheduling; outreach; community input sessions; interactive education sessions; solicitation of

feedback on challenges surrounding homelessness; and identification of solutions.

Discussion ensued between Ms. Ralston, staff, meeting attendees and Committee Members regarding outreach to schools, libraries, the Senior Center, West Los Angeles College, and service providers; the process to invite Council Members; meeting length and location; providing different meeting times; streaming on Facebook live; neighborhood associations; scheduling; food; the end of the school year and parent involvement; providing proper notice of meetings; child care; outreach regarding the meetings; meeting format and facilitation; identification of who to invite; and next steps in the process.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

None.

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Receive and File Correspondence

None.

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Items from Committee on Homelessness Members

None.


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May 22, 2018

Adjournment


There being no further business, at 8:41 p.m., the Culver City Committee on Homelessness adjourned to June 7, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

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

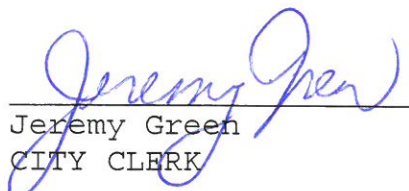
6/26/18

APPROVED


KARLO SILBIGER
CHAIR of the Committee on Homelessness, Culver City,
California

6/26/18

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

26 SEP 2018