

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

August 28, 2018
7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The regular meeting of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness was called to order at 7:06 p.m. in the Dan Patacchia Room at City Hall.

Present: Karlo Silbiger, Vice Chair
Kim Gibson, Committee Member
John Helyar, Committee Member
Mark Lipman, Committee Member
Deborah Wallace, Committee Member

Absent: Ira Diamond, DPM, Committee Member

Staff: Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator
Ashleigh Blackman, Housing Authority Clerk
Roland Miranda, City Attorney's Office

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The Pledge of Allegiance

Carlene Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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Public Comment - Items NOT on the Agenda

Vice Chair Silbiger invited public input.

Meeting attendees introduced and provided background on themselves.

Meeting attendee provided background on herself and reported that she has been sleeping in her car since August 11; discussed her positive experiences seeking help from St. Josephs; expressed appreciation for services received; discussed emotional trauma; activism; challenging experiences; indicated that she wanted to stay in Culver City and continue substitute teaching; discussed letting go of the shame of being homeless; Measure H and Measure HH; the importance of voting; Safe Parking LA; establishing a safe place to park and sleep in Culver City; things learned from homeless people; the Bread and Roses Cafe; and she expressed gratitude for the experience that she hoped would be short-lived.

Vice Chair Silbiger discussed the Safe Parking presentation and its inclusion in the Homeless Plan.

Member Wallace discussed upcoming propositions related to homeless and housing issues.

Discussion ensued between meeting attendees and Committee Members regarding Prop 2; an article in the LA Times regarding the Mental Health Service Act; money held by the Department of Mental Health; and state monies vs. county monies.

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, reported that the City Council had formed an ad hoc Housing and Homeless Subcommittee; she discussed the expansion of the role of the Landlord Tenant Mediation Board (LTMB); the goal of increased community outreach; creation of an ordinance requiring that landlords make tenants aware of the LTMB; whether to require that landlords provide an application for mediation when increasing rent; neighbor to neighbor disputes; habitability issues; revision of the bylaws of the Committee on Homelessness; a potential name change to the name of the Committee to the Housing and Homeless Committee; inclusion of housing in the updated plan to prevent and combat homelessness; changing the mission of the body; and concern from the Los Angeles Apartment Association regarding language used in item 2A on page 10.

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Presentations

None.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of June 26, 2018 and July 7, 2018

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, indicated that minutes would be available at the next meeting.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Election of Officers: Receive Nominations for the Election of Officers of the Committee on Homelessness

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, clarified the process for filling vacancies on Committees, Boards and Commissions.

Committee Members agreed to wait until Member Diamond could be present to elect officers.

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Item A-2

Formation of Subcommittees and Ad Ho Subcommittees

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding formation of the Bylaws Subcommittee; changing the name and the mission of the Committee on Homelessness

to include housing due to the importance of housing within the issue of homelessness; and the Landlord Fair.

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, discussed changes to the process for the Homeless Count with the loss of redevelopment; responsibility of the Homeless Count Subcommittee to work with staff for outreach and solicitation of volunteers and food; Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) training; complete coordination of the event; City Council approval of actions necessary to conduct the event for three years; work with staff to implement the Homeless Count; LA County Homeless Initiative Subcommittee responsibilities to oversee implementation of the 47 Strategies; update of the Homeless Plan; the Rapid Rehousing Program; the Economic Empowerment Ordinance; the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee; Homeless Resource Guides; the Homeless Toolkit; introducing materials and resources to target populations; and the short duration needed for the Bylaws Subcommittee to review bylaws and consider a name change and adjustment to the mission to include affordable housing.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding partnership with elected officials; National Housing month; event tie-in; scheduling; the intent of the Landlord Fair; the difficulty of getting landlords to accept Section 8 vouchers; providing incentives to landlords; targeting homeowners for shared housing; the relatively low number of rental units in Culver City; logistics; and assigning coordination of the Landlord Fair to a subcommittee rather than making a separate subcommittee to handle it.

Vice Chair Silbiger invited public comment.

The following member of the audience addressed the Committee:

Robin Lecard volunteered to help with the Landlord Fair, citing his positive experience working with St. Josephs to get off the street.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding confidentiality; a suggestion to include the Landlord Fair as part of the Community Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee; and Committee Members expressed their preferences for which subcommittees to serve on.

Gary Silbiger received clarification that only City Council appointees are allowed to serve on subcommittees, not community members.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION TO MAKE THE FOLLOWING SUBCOMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:

1. HOMELESS COUNT SUBCOMMITTEE - GIBSON, WALLACE
2. COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ENGAGEMENT SUBCOMMITTEE - GIBSON, LIPMAN, SILBIGER
3. LA COUNTY HOMELESS INITIATIVE SUBCOMMITTEE - HELYAR, LIPMAN
4. THE BYLAWS SUBCOMMITTEE - HELYAR, SILBIGER

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Item A-3

Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness - Plan.
Implementation Review and Motion to Support the Release of the Request for Proposals Related to the Motel Reuse, Temporary Seasonal Shelter and Manufactured and Modular Housing Studies (Action 3G)

Member Lipman asked about previous discussions to add ADUs and JADUs.

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, discussed feasibility studies for motel reuse, temporary seasonal shelters, and manufactured and modular housing including tiny homes and shipping containers; she indicated that ADUs fall into a land use issue; discussed identification of potential sites; transforming a nuisance property; economic development; permanent supportive housing; conversion to full living spaces; working with owners; compilation of a list based on the likelihood of conversion; office space for staff; shared seasonal shelters; loss of the Armory; property owned by Caltrans and the School District; identification of sites for temporary shelters; intensifying development in certain areas; modular homes;

casitas; tiny homes; access to transportation; infill development; and cost per unit.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the number of motels in the City; inclusion of security; mobile medical clinics; coordination with other cities; spreading out impacts; creating a number of smaller shelters rather than one large one; benefits of multiple locations serving different populations; the Globe Avenue project; and consideration of using of open space.

Member Lipman discussed his examination of Culver City; bridge housing; Starting Human; he presented photographs of projects outside of the City and potential sites; discussed using tiny homes as transitional housing; placement of tiny homes in parkways; and he agreed to provide information to staff.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding allowing people to buy their own tiny homes; potential sites; land; jurisdictions; logistics; bathrooms; accommodating seniors; and underutilized parkways.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION TO RECOMMEND THAT THE CITY COUNCIL SUPPORT THE RELEASE OF THE REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS RELATED TO MOTEL REUSE, TEMPORARY SHELTERS AND MANUFACTURED AND MODULAR HOUSING.

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Item A-4

Plan to Prevent and Combat Homeless - Plan Implementation Review and Make a Motion to Approve Action 2B - Homeless Tool Kits

Discussion ensued between meeting participants and Committee Members regarding a suggestion to add information regarding the number of homeless in LA county to clarify the regional nature of the issue on the page entitled Who Is Homeless; adding the percentage of people who are mentally ill to the Why Are People Homeless page; including information about work done by Culver City on the issue; highlighting relationships with St. Joseph and Upward Bound; Showers of Hope; updates to the Resource Guide; LAHSA; the Los Angeles Homeless Outreach Portal (LA HOP);

and 211, the county help number for health and human services.

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION TO APPROVE THE HOMELESS TOOL KITS WITH CHANGES INCLUDING ADDING INFORMATION ON THE CITY OF CULVER CITY HOMELESS COMMITTEE, UPWARD BOUND AND ST. JOSEPHS TO HIGHLIGHT WORK DONE LOCALLY, INCLUDING LA HOP AND 211, ADDING INFORMATION ON THE NUMBER OF HOMELESS IN LA COUNTY TO ADD CONTEXT, AND INCLUDING INFORMATION ON THE PERCENTAGE OF HOMELESS PEOPLE WITH MENTAL ILLNESS.

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Item A-5

California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program – Review the Notice of Funding Availability – California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, discussed the California Emergency Solutions and Housing Program; eligibility of Culver City to apply; funding activities; outreach; expanding services to evenings and weekends; moving the outreach team to City Hall; use of a car; costs for evenings and weekends; state assistance for funding; housing studies; grant writing; City Council approval; the Homeless Emergency Aid Program; making an Emergency Shelter Declaration; and liability.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding county Measure H authorization of one outreach team for each SPA; frequency of services; costs; police outreach officers; partnering police officers with St. Josephs; defining what activities are being applied for; operating subsidies; incentives; funding for grant writing; concern with the state dictating zoning in Culver City; the focus on larger cities; legal ramifications; LAHSA use of the money; the intent of the law; the second round of Measure H funds; and work with the LA Initiative Subcommittee on grants.

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Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Chris Oliver, Upward Bound House, discussed legal aid counseling available.

Booker Pearson, Upward Bound, discussed preparing units for families and supplies needed.

Discussion ensued between meeting attendees regarding work with the School District; fundraising; adding a donation of goods component to the Homeless Count; the inability of the City to ask for money; education by the Community Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee; adding an item to the agenda for next month to discuss how to help secure supplies and provide additional opportunities to continue engagement of volunteers from the Homeless Count; and posting volunteer opportunities on the City website.

Tiffany, St. Josephs Center, reported a major increase in response calls in Culver City and she discussed transporting clients to the Housing Authority for interviews and to look at apartments.

Discussion ensued between meeting attendees and staff regarding the need to get more people to help St. Josephs staff.

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Receive and File Correspondence

None.

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Items from Committee on Homelessness Members

Member Lipman asked to agendize a presentation from Starting Human on tiny homes for a future meeting.

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, discussed the need for a permit if an example of a tiny home is brought and presented to the Committee.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding Member availability and potential alternative meeting dates, with agreement to meet on October 2, 2018.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:57 p.m., the Culver City Committee on Homelessness adjourned to October 2, 2018 at 7:00 p.m.

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

APPROVED

KARLO SILBIGER
VICE 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

7 NOV 2018
Date