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

January 8, 2019 7:00 p.m.

Call to Order & Roll Call

The special meeting of the Culver City Committee on Homelessness was called to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Dan Patacchia Room at City Hall.

Present: Karlo Silbiger, Chair

Kim Gibson, Vice Chair

Ira Diamond, DPM, Committee Member

Mark Lipman, Committee Member

Melissa Vollbrecht, Committee Member

John Helyar, Committee Member Deborah Wallace, Committee Member

Staff: Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator

Ashleigh Blackman, Housing Authority Clerk

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The Pledge of Allegiance

The Committee on Homelessness (COH) recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

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The following item was considered out of order.

Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Regular Meeting of December 4, 2018

THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS PASSED A MOTION APPROVING THE MINUTES FOR THE DECEMBER 4, 2018 REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE ON HOMELESSNESS AS SUBMITTED (ABSENT MEMBER HELYAR).

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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.

Member Lipman reported receipt of an email from an individual living in their vehicle who received tickets for having an oversized vehicle; he expressed concern with people losing their vehicles for being unable to pay parking fines; and he questioned whether there was anything that the COH could do to give relief to people caught in a similar situation.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding authority; the ability to waive fees; ordinances; advocating for change; encouragement to the individual to contact the Police Department; Committee consensus to agendize consideration of the issue; creation of a safe parking program in Culver City; a suggestion for special consideration during cold weather months; and relaxing parking laws.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

Receive an Update from the 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count Subcommittee (Gibson, Wallace and Volbrecht)

Vice Chair Gibson provided an update on plans for the 2019 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count; discussed volunteers; donations; and cities that have an insufficient number of volunteers.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding training for deployment site coordinators; the press release; volunteers; donations; making an announcement about the Annual Homeless Count at the January 14, 2019 City Council meeting; Geographic Information System Mapping Technology (GIS); the app created for the Homeless Count; maps printed out last year for each team; the large map made for each table with an overview of the City; wifi issues last year; data collection; color coding by census tract; being conscious of boundaries so as to not double count; hotspots; safety; counting by St. Josephs and the Police Department; areas that border Los Angeles; the request from the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) that Culver City count some of Los Angeles; homeless people in the cemetery; the area by the freeway; City maps vs. LAHSA maps; adjustment factors used by LAHSA; jobs within the volunteer teams; staff time; attempts by LAHSA to develop an app; t-shirts and other promotional items; the planned schedule of events; cars stopped in the past for driving slowly through neighborhoods; training; deployment; driving teams; walking teams; age limits; participation at the Command Center; start times and policies of other area cities; subcommittee duties; the requirement that the Police Department not engage in sweeps for the month prior to the Count; what time the Count is finished; data collection and reporting; and appreciation to the Subcommittee and staff for their efforts.

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Receive an Update from the Los Angeles Homeless Initiative Subcommittee (Diamond, Helyar and Lipman)

Member Lipman reported on topics discussed by the Subcommittee including motel vouchers; short term rental platforms; Tiny Homes; funding for future homeless programs; increased density that creates housing pressure once new corporations move in; the potential for rent wars; unstable housing; and a suggestion to create a linkage fee connected with the profits made by the corporations and increased housing pressure.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the process for creating a new tax in the City; linkage fees; proving the nexus between what is being charged and what is being funded; effects of new businesses on housing, traffic, and City resources; strains on housing stock; the experience with Amazon in Seattle; separating the developers from the corporations; the nexus study for inclusionary housing; including a certain percentage of affordable housing; determining the threshold and levels of affordability; in lieu fees; finding the right balance; getting funds needed for the next year; keeping the money in the neighborhood that is affected by the development; generating a permanent housing funding source; concern with waiting too far into the budget cycle; staff workload; market tolerance; the projection that 5,000 new employees will be working in Culver City; Chamber of Commerce opposition to a linkage fee; increased rents; subsidized rents; new square footage created; development cycles; creating a consistent revenue stream; examination of City policies; the amount of office space currently vacant; a suggestion to agendize a discussion of best practices; accessory dwelling units to encourage affordable housing; covenants; home vs. hotel environments; use of General Fund monies; Tiny Homes; the modular and manufactured homes feasibility study; identifying potential locations; City Council consideration and support; supporting momentum and next steps; providing effective support; offering suggestions to the City Council; elevating Committee priorities; piggybacking on the efforts of Los Angeles; Los Angeles linkage fees; mansionization; policy decisions; and review of the Business Tax Code in Culver City.

Item A-3

Receive an Update from the Outreach and Engagement Subcommittee (Gibson, Lipman and Silbiger)

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, discussed partnering with the Landlord Tenant Mediation Board (LTMB) and their upcoming meeting on January 30.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding bringing together landlords to help the COH better understand how to incentivize affordable housing; a suggestion to agendize an item for discussion with the COH subcommittee on the LTMB agenda; March 2 as the proposed date for the Landlord Roundtable; opposition to rent control; exploration of rental protection and antidisplacement strategy; and agreement that the Subcommittee attend the LTMB meeting scheduled for January 30, 2019 and report back to the COH at the next meeting.

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Item A-4

Review an Update on the Implementation of Goals and Actions Under the Plan to Prevent and Combat Homelessness

Tevis Barnes, Housing Administrator, reported work on the feasibility studies; discussed the presentation to the City Council; development of a timeline for implementation of the studies; City Council direction to explore fees and Tiny Homes under manufactured and modular housing; the work of staff to move studies forward; the inclusionary housing study; drafting of the ordinance; community meetings; potential pushback; demonstration projects; the Homelessness Tool Kit; owner outreach; and Measure H funding.

Member Diamond discussed the successful creation of the plan and the implantation process; the 2016 Homeless Initiative; the 47 Strategies; meetings with Phil Ansell; the \$50,000 grant to hire a consultant to develop the Homeless Plan; City Council approval of the Plan; focusing on the Plan; and a suggestion to include the Plan as part of regular discussions each month.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding timing; City Council direction; the Economic Empowerment Ordinance; finding ways to employ the homeless; looking at the example of Fort Worth, Texas; the employment center on Sepulveda Boulevard; the government shutdown; taking guidance from the Plan; providing the City Council and the community with regular updates; transitioning the COH from a Committee to a Commission; and increasing visibility.

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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 Committee Members regarding coordination with the Culver City Unified School District (CCUSD) on use of space; existing CCUSD programs assisting the homeless; encouraging coordination and cooperation; the Culver Closet; distribution of excess fresh food; Shoes for the Homeless; planned events where different vendors come to provide services for the homeless; partnerships with faith-based organizations; encouragement for people to attend the shoe processing on February 2, 2019 at West Los Angeles College in Lot 5; increased numbers of homeless on Skid Row; finding a new outreach coordinator for St. Josephs; referring outreach to the Los Angeles County Homeless Outreach Portal (LAHOP); the outreach team for the Homeless Count; appreciation to the Fire and Police departments for their support; a recent pursuit where a person on a scooter was struck by a car; Police Department participation in the Annual Homeless Count; training for homeless outreach; the South Bay Police Agencies; AB109 monies; increased homeless issues in Redondo Beach;

coordination with the Fire Department; the partnership with the Department of Mental Health; transients who move through the City vs. those who stay; contact between the Police and the unhoused; non-enforcement contact; acknowledging the presence of the homeless; Police Officer training for positive interaction with the homeless; ensuring the safety of homeless individuals; homeless residents; enforcement; and staffing levels.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 8:49 p.m., the Culver City Committee on Homelessness adjourned to Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

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TEVIS BARNES

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

APPROVED

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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

Date

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