



OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN

HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, September 19, 2024
9:30 – 11:00 AM

Committee Members

PRESENT:

Jitan Kuverji
Shantel Davis
Chris Crothers
Jolita Wainwright
Rev. Kate Carroll

Asst. Chief James Ricks, JSO
Councilmember Peluso
Joelle Dillard, OGC

ABSENT:

Megan Allyse, Excused
Isaiah Oliver, Unexcused

COJ Staff Support:

Barbara Florio
Schnell Chin

Guests Present:

Call Meeting to Order, Welcome

9:30 – Shantel Davis, Chair called the meeting to order.

A motion to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2024 meeting was made by Commissioner Chris Crothers and seconded by Commissioner Rev. Kate Carroll. Motion passed: 5-0

No Public Comments.

Presentation: Dr. Tracye Polson, Director Strategic Partnership and Joshua Hicks, Affordable Housing Administrator.

Dr. Tracye Polson

Dr. Polson shared information regarding the City's plans with respect to House Bill #1365 more commonly known as the Camping Bill. A joint task force has been established with JFRD and JSO, JFRD taking the lead. Changing Homelessness with the HMIS system provides quality data in determining the homeless population. The plan is still somewhat fluid and may need to return to City Council for additional funding. This Commission working with the task force would be a valuable collaboration in developing a more solid plan to address this immediate issue facing the city.

Joshua Hicks

Josh Hicks as Affordable Housing Administrator is responsible for development of housing opportunities and securing funding, grant and commercial, to build affordable housing properties. He worked on the Mayor's Workgroup on Homeless, crafting the one year and five-year plans for the Mayor's Office.

COPIES OF BOTH PRESENTATIONS ARE ATTACHED AND MADE PART OF THESE MINUTES



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Panel presentation: Cindy Funkhouser, Sulzbacher; Dawn Gilman, Changing Homelessness; and Shannon Nazworth, Ability Housing.

Each presenter provided details of their agency efforts regarding the homeless issues of our City. All spoke of the difficulties finding beds, safe and supportive housing for those individuals in need. There were questions and concerns regarding HB1365 and the possibilities of establishing a city run camp for some of the homeless. This is not a permanent situation, temporary. Issues with storage of belongings as well as rules in place for those at 'camp'

COPIES OF THE 3 AGENCY PRESENTATIONS ARE ATTACHED AND MADE PART OF THESE MINUTES

Agenda item 'Commission Discussion' was deferred to Workshop meeting, September 23, 2024.

No Public Comments

Meeting Adjourned



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CERTIFICATION

Homelessness Initiatives Commission Board Meeting September 19, 2024

Recorded, Transcribed and Submitted by:

BSSM 10/17/24
Barbara Florio, Commission Staff
Homelessness Initiatives Commission

Approved by:

JK 10/17/2024
Jitan Kuverji, Secretary
Homelessness Initiatives Commission