

Homeless Solutions Task Force
Patriot Hall, Clatsop Community College
August 9, 2018, 10am-Noon
Minutes of the Meeting (**Amended**)

Members present were – Mayor Lamear, Elaine Bruce, Angela Cosby, Sean Fitzpatrick, Sara Lu Heath, Jennifer Holen, Jarrod Karnofski, Tom Leiner, David Reid, Kenny Hansen and Geoff Spalding

Guest roster attached as part of the minutes.

1. Chief Spalding opened the meeting at 10:11 a.m. and recognized guest speakers, Cameron Moore, County Administrator and Brett Estes, Astoria City Manager.
2. Mayor Lamear welcomed attendees and said she was anxious to hear any progress from the subcommittees. Mayor Lamear commented about the extent of the homelessness issue and desires to start taking action on a smaller front.
4. Minutes of June 18th meeting. David Reid moved, Elaine Bruce seconded. Unanimous yes vote.
5. Recap (Chief Spalding). Brief recap of June 18th meeting highlighting the great work the subcommittees are doing.
6. County Administrator, Cameron Moore addressed the committee and shared the plan for the County Housing Study which includes all the cities in the county. \$100,000 has been budgeted for the study but they have only spent approximately \$75,000 to date which leaves funds for contingency items. Johnson Economics is conducting the study which kicked off in May of 2018 and is expected to be completed by October of 2018. The study is being directed by a steering committee and a technical advisory committee. The goal is to create a detailed database of housing stock to identify potential gaps and strategize to address the County's and City's needs. The recommendations will be presented in a variety of different public meetings and there will be additional opportunities for public input. The following questions were posed:

Will the study include evaluating current opportunities and or buildings that currently exist that can be better utilized?

Transportation to services and homes need to be a stronger consideration (posed as a comment).

Will the final product be similar to a strategic plan? Moore replied, not necessarily and that it will identify the needs, how many units are needed and at what price point. Very unlikely all the recommendations will be completed due to differences of opinion, funding, etc.

Moore added that some of the things they hope the study will identify, include: Characterization of needed housing types, conceptual zoning maps of Urban Growth Boundaries, Conceptual zone development, Incentives to developers, funding mechanisms and capacity building initiatives.

The conversation also included a discussion regarding the old Tide Point Restaurant and the challenges to it becoming a drop-in center along with a conversation about Accessory Dwelling Units.

7. Subgroup updates.

a. HEALTH. (1) CMH is starting medication assistance in partnership with CBH. (2) Health van and pavilion project is on hold. (3) Recruiting for nurses and primary care providers to extend the health clinic with an anticipated opening in November. (4) Recruiting for new security personnel to include a new Safety, Security and Emergency Preparedness Coordinator.

b. EMPLOYMENT. David Reid spoke with the canneries about the shower option for potential employees and found that some already exist. Parks & Rec said that they are considering contracting out some debris removal services to include feces removal and graffiti.

c. HOUSING. Mayor Lamear announced that the League of Oregon Cities will be providing a day of training and discussion on homelessness and housing. She will attend and bring back information.

d. CONNECTIVITY. Elaine spoke about transitional services and potential for funding as long as it's under \$5000, for accounting reasons.

e. SCOPE OF PROBLEM. Still need to meet.

f. URGENT SERVICES. Elaine explained CCA is looking at using additional warehouse sites in safe zones for food distribution during an emergency situation when low lying sites may not be useable.

8. Roundtable Topics:

Mayor expressed her interest in a drop-in facility.

Elaine is feeling positive about the group and where we are headed.

Jarrod stated the CMH's priority is to provide care to their patients. Another priority is to keep hospital space for patients and guests and refer homeless individuals to services as this has become a big problem for them.

David spoke about the need to be able to fill current available jobs and how difficult the job market is now with low unemployment rates and multiple job openings.

Jennifer mentioned that there are a variety of services already available in our County.

Angela feels that the group is productive, functional and worthwhile.

Tom shared a nice story where he found a homeless individual a job.

Elaine mentioned that Russell Gray with Worksource is a good resource for on-the-job training and would be a good speaker for an upcoming meeting.

Geoff mentioned that his priority is community safety and shared some insight as to the types of calls they're receiving that are homelessness-related. More on this at an upcoming meeting.

Public comments (roster attached)

Joan – Asked if the homelessness problem is a substance abuse problem

Bill – Came to see how we're doing and glad to see collaboration is continuing.

Nelle – Eugene has some solutions for similar issues. She will send some information along.

Dave – Low income housing is not homeless housing.

Meeting adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

###END