

Homelessness Task Force
Kick-off Meeting
Patriot Hall, Clatsop Comm College
Thursday, November 30, 2017, 10:00-11:30am

Task Force Chairs: Interim APD Chief Geoff Spalding and Astoria Mayor Arline LaMear
See appended list for attendees

1. **Mayor's Welcome**
2. **Introductions** (see list)
3. **Meeting Format - Ground Rules - Title:**
 - a. Format - Meet once a month, in the same room, beginning January. Schedule via Doodle Poll.
 - b. Ground rules: Determine vision for Astoria and homelessness for the next 3-10 years. Educate the community and the Council. Perhaps provide recommendations to Council. Respect all points of view around table.
 - c. Title: Consensus to stay focused on the challenges of homelessness. Create positivity by adding the word "Solutions" (suggested by David Reid). Adopted: Homelessness Solutions Task Force.
4. **Adopting Homeless Definition.** Consensus preference for the Beaverton Blue Ribbon Committee definition (over HUD or McKinney-Vento Act definitions), with minor amendment.

Homeless individuals and families are those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate night time residence. They include those who, because they do not have access to fixed, regular, and adequate stable housing, are doubled-up or sharing housing, are living in motels/camping grounds, are living in shelters, are living in unsheltered settings such as cars, parks, or abandoned buildings.
5. **Identify extent of problem.** From around the table:
 - Menacing, aggressive behavior, mainly from transient youth.
 - Litter
 - Public health
 - Custodial requirements on businesses
 - Need money for transitional/situational housing
 - Lack of transitional/situational housing, affordable housing
 - Lack of mental health and drug treatment
 - Property damage
 - Need to educate community on the breadth and depth of the challenges
 - Look at symptoms and causes of homelessness
 - De-stigmatize. Not all homeless people are addicted or have mental health issues.
 - Focus as much on ways to help people as on laws and ordinances

Elaine Bruce: January 2017 point-in-time numbers from Project Homeless Connect: In Astoria, 89 unsheltered (use HUD definition) individuals. In Clatsop County, 680. Includes data gathered during the day at Project Homeless Connect event in Seaside, survey among homeless population on the street, school district data.

Annie Oliver: Limited use of Warming Center this year, being open only three days so far. Last year, every night 30-35, with overflow.

Bill van Nostrand: Think way outside the box. Public-private partnerships to build transitional housing. Spirit Mountain Casino provides housing grants. Purchase old Lum's Auto Building for such housing.

Celia Davis: Some present needs: A roaming "Lava Mae" bus to provide showers, toilets, and laundry service, to fulfill basic hygiene needs and rekindle dignity. Storage for belongings.

Attending:

Elaine Bruce, Exec Dir., Clatsop Community Action

Sean Fitzpatrick, housing creator; Astoria Planning Commission

Tom Leinart, co-owner, Pat's Pantry

Kenny Hanson, detective, Astoria PD

Cindy Price, Astoria City Council

David Reid, Small Business Development Center, Clatsop College

Bill Van Nostrand, Pastor, First Presbyterian Church

Celia Davis, citizen

Annie Martin, Astoria Warming Center

Kelly Green, citizen

Alan Evans, Helping Hands

Raven Brown, Development Director, Helping Hands

Tom Freel, KAST radio

Mike McNickle, Public Health Director, Clatsop County

Luke Colvin, co-owner, Buoy Beer

Richard Garner,

Katie Frankowicz, Daily Astorian reporter

Bryan Kidder, First Presbyterian Church

Amy Baker, Exec Dir., Clatsop Behavioral Health Care

Sarah Lu Heath, Exec Dir., Astoria Downtown Historic District Assoc

Jack Harris, co-owner, Fort George Brewery

Jennifer Holen, co-owner, Baked Alaska Restaurant; Exec Dir., United Way of Clatsop

Jonah Dart-McLean, Astoria Parks Dept. Maintenance Supervisor