

CITY OF LONGVIEW

Homeless Housing Taskforce Minutes

October 16, 2023

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:33 pm.

2. Roll Call

Present: Ruth Kendall, Dian Cooper, Steven Boyer, Gena James, Shannon McClain, Rob Painter Johnson, Lauren Princehouse, Tim Watson

Nonvoting: Kayce Settlemier, Kenny Robinson, Nancy Vandehey

Not Present: Connie Lantz

Introductions around the room were shared.

Kris Swanson shared a brief background on how we got here today. The taskforce is made up of stakeholders from our community to establish a 5 year plan. This taskforce is not limited to Hope Village.

3. Public Comment

None

4. New Business

• Elect Chair and CoChair

Kayce Settlemier opened the floor to nominations for Chair.

Rob Painter Johnson nominated Ruth Kendall, seconded by Tim Watson.

Ruth Kendall nominated Dian Cooper, seconded by Tim Watson.

Kayce called for a hand vote. Ruth Kendall received 5 votes.

Rob Painter Johnson, seconded by Lauren Princehouse, made a motion to appoint Ruth Kendall as Chair.

Kayce Settlemier opened the floor to nominations for CoChair.

Ruth Kendall nominated Dian Cooper, seconded by Tim Watson.

Rob Painter Johnson, seconded by Lauren Princehouse, made a motion to appoint Dian Cooper as CoChair.

• 5 year homeless plan discussion

An open discussion was had on how to create a 5 year plan for the City of Longview including:

- How to gather information?
- First define the problem then determine why is this a problem.
- What numbers to include?
- What are the barriers to housing?
- Costs of keeping a person in housing vs finding housing after being homeless

It was determined that initially the best course of action would be to model our plan after an existing plan. Kayce has been working on merging the Cowlitz County and Chelan Douglas plans. She will continue to do so and work with a subcommittee to bring back to the group.

Subcommittee members will be Dian Cooper, Ruth Kendall and Shannon McClain with Kayce Settlemier as the staff support.

- **Determine monthly meeting time**

It was agreed that the 3rd Monday at 2:30 pm for 1 hour worked nicely for the group. January and February meetings will need to be shifted due to holidays.

5. Board Member Comments

The board discussed some challenges on looking at these issues. Bridges out of Poverty training was brought up as a possible training tool.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:52 pm. The next meeting will be November 20th at 2:30.