



Agenda

Homeless Housing Taskforce

Monday, November 20, 2023

2:30 PM

Training Room, 2nd Floor, City Hall

HYBRID MEETING DETAILS

23-001738 Please click the link below to join the webinar: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84015494317>
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma); +1 253 205 0468 US
Webinar ID: 840 1549 4317

CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

In attendance: Ruth Kendall, Chair; Dian Cooper, CoChair; Steven Boyer; Gena James; Connie Lantz (joined online at 2:56); Shannon McClain; Rob Painter-Johnson; Lauren Princehouse;
Excused: Tim Watson, LPD
Staff present: Kayce Settlemier, non-voting member; Nancy Vandehey

MINUTES

23-001739 Minutes from October 16, 2023

Gena James, seconded by Dian Cooper, made a motion to approve the minutes. This passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

23-001740 Establish Bylaws

Edits discussed and will be brought back in December.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

23-001741 5 Year Plan

- review priority goals
 - Increase access to affordable/low-income housing
 - Establish and maintain existing shelter options
 - Increase access to behavioral health services
 - Maintain a crisis response system
 - Increase prevention and education opportunities

Kayce explained that Cowlitz County has a great plan, so rather than using the Chelan-Douglas plan to work for us, she's circled back to utilizing the Cowlitz County plan. There is a need for more housing options. Sometimes it's impossible to get them into any shelter (Community House, Hope Village, Chess). We need to maintain and develop new shelter options (safe parking). It was suggested to bring in local agency speakers to talk about their services. Rick's Law need to be looked into to see how it might be utilized locally.

23-001742 Poverty Simulation / Bridges out of Poverty

- goal date
- special meeting
- assign tasks

Discussion included inviting City leaders and City Council members. It was added that the cost of a homeless person is paid either way - before or after. This should be an ongoing training. Kayce will meet with Steven and work on how to get this started. Goal would be the end of January.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Steve Madsen, Cowlitz Wahkiakum Legal Aid, spoke on housing codes. Currently, 35-40% of their cases are housing issues. Timeframes on prior evictions being held against renters could change to help renters find housing options.

BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS

Dian Cooper spoke on the Cold Weather Shelter and the need for volunteers.

ADJOURNMENT

Next meeting will be December 18th at 2:30 pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 3:51.