



CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

11/9/2017

Public Safety Committee

November 9, 2017

Minutes

Committee Members: Councilors Adam Roof (AR)(Chair); Sara Moore (SG)

Others Present: Richard Haesler (RH), City Attorney's Office (Committee Staff); Marcy Esberg (ME), CEDO Assistant Director; Erin Ahearn (EA), Community Health Center/Safe Harbor; Margaret Bozik (MB); Steve Marshall (SM); Jesse Aloe (JA), Burlington Free Press

At 10:04 a.m. Chair Roof commenced the meeting.

1. **Agenda:** Motion by SM; second by AR – passes 2-0.

1. **Approval of minutes of 10/19/17:**

Motion by SM; second by AR – passes 2-0

1. **Public Forum:**

None

1. **Committee Discussion – Community Safety Issues re Homelessness – Discussion with Invited Stakeholders**



CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

11/9/2017

AR: First, in order to properly structure this and keep our timeline, we will reconvene next Wednesday from 5:30 to 7 for a subcommittee work session to follow up on this discussion and finalize a report back to council. Staff will notify as to location.

Brief overview of the task before the committee

Sara M: Adam and I serve on the CD& NR Committee also – which will have homeless encampment issues on its upcoming agenda.

AR: Back to the Questions - # 1 – What sort of collaborations does CHC have with other organizations?

EA: Providing primary care to the homeless – to include mental health and substance abuse issues – connect to Food Shelf

See – Housing Opportunity Grant

See: Warming Shelter – up to 38 beds now – the only low barrier shelter

Looking to open Medical Respite Program

Various other sites looking to provide supports to the homeless – See Beacon

Pair hugely with the hospital

MB: CHT – speaks to two funding issues – would like to pitch for additional funding for the warming shelter – to go year round and during the day

City could advocate for the State to change Medicaid plan – to permit CHT to bill for shelter related services. Allowed in other States. See Washington

Sara M: Are there continuing needs for additional Housing Retention Specialists?





CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

11/9/2017

MB: Note both Howard and Pathways can only bill for housing retention specialist for mental illness with hospitalization

Sara M: Transitioning in and out of homelessness – Can CHC follow?

EA: Absolutely

Steve M: There is a population of homeless/impooverished – they are a mix – we can and should treat as victims – could use restorative models as practiced by the CJC

ME: fall through the cracks because there is not a strong co-ordination of services – we can't do everything – but we need to take steps

See – Howard – Street Outreach – these things make a difference

MB: Look to what other States have done – also make sure Chittenden County gets its fair share re: population As well as proper allocation for percentage of those served overall versus state numbers

Done by VHCB

Can the Committee get these VHCB principles and standards for its determinations?

Steve M: want regional coordination – our constituency is “all people at risk of becoming homeless” – let's making housing more stable.

MB: Note – tenant in any housing supported by low income tax credits has a right to renew lease so long as in compliance with the terms of the lease.

AR: Thank you all.





CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

11/9/2017

1. **Other Business**

AR: Meeting next Wednesday

1. **Adjournment**

Sara M: Move to adjourn

AR seconds. Passes unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 11:04