

# **CITY OF NEW HAVEN HOMELESS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

**January 10, 2019**

## **Minutes**

### **Attendance:**

**Members Present:** C. Phillips Jr., J. Huettner, D. Ecton, N. Hogan, V. Wilson, H. Catalbasogh,

**Ex-Officio:** V. George, N. Torres,

**Staff:** V. George

**Guests:** B. Huang, C. Torres, L. Freeman, T. Clark, K. Fitzgerald, C. Dignan,

**Members Excused Absent:** A. Roth, C. Gormley

**Members Absent:** E Robinson, J. Hardy,

0.0 J. Huettner called the meeting to order with introductions.

1.0 Approval of December 13, 2018 Meeting Minutes was unanimous.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

2.0 The group discussed the format and focus of the Forum on Elderly Homelessness. The goal of this forum is to explore services available to the elderly, and to begin the conversation of providing a safety net for them. In addition to presentations by service providers, J. Huettner requested a presentation of census and HMIS data to help define the gravity of the problem. The group reviewed the list of invited guest speakers which included: shelter providers, Agency on Aging, City's Elderly Services Department, HANH, Cornell Scot Hill Health Center, Yale New Haven Hospital as well as elderly homeless individuals.

3.0 There was a discussion on how the re-establishment of the Civilian Review Board could impact police interaction with the homeless as it relates to the Resolution on the Decriminalization of Homelessness and the Bill of Rights. This commission would like to meet with the police leadership on these matters.

4.0 B. Huang reported that the Affordable Housing Taskforce met on 1/9/19. They discussed the following recommendations: to increase the spectrum of housing options, further explore land use, work on a regional plan, improve the quality of housing stock, improve access to affordable housing, create an affordable housing database, and create an Affordable Housing Commission. The next meeting is scheduled for 1/24/19.

B. Huang also shared that the Room for All Coalition has brought together several groups to explore options for affordable housing, while creating a platform to educate the unstably housed. New Haven Legal provides logistics for this group.

5.0 V. George shared that the warming center opened on 1/3/19 at the 180 Center at 793 Grand Ave. During the first couple of days there were as many as 40 guests. Since opening it has been at capacity. She also shared that on 1/7/19 Hamden opened their first warming center which is being operated by Columbus House.

6.0 T. Clark reminded the group that the Annual PIT count is scheduled for 1/23/19. She shared that currently CAN's focus is to end youth and family homelessness by 2020. Other CAN goals are to better align resources and pursue additional funds.

7.0 YHAP students are on break – no updates are available.

8.0 Meeting adjourned.