

**CITY OF NEW HAVEN
HOMELESS ADVISORY COMMISSION
JANUARY 11, 2018 Minutes**

Attendance:

Members Present: J. Huettner, N. Hogan, J. Hardy, D. Ecton, V. Wilson, J. Branham,

Ex-Officio: V. George,

Staff: V. George

Guests: T Yankee, C. Rose, K. Naughty, L. Delacruz, A. Roth, E. Mattison

Members Excused Absence: E. Lynn-Green, N. Torres, E. Robinson,

Members Absent: H. Catalbasoglo, C. Phillips

0.0 Meeting call to Order with welcome and Introductions at 6:08pm by J. Huettner.

1.0 Motion to approve December 14, 2017 Meeting Minutes was unanimous.

2.0 Motion was made to maintain current slate of officers – vote was unanimous:

Chair – J. Huettner

Vice-Chair – N. Hogan

Parliamentarian- V. Wilson

NEW BUSINESS

3.0 Resolution on Single Room Occupancy (SRO'S)

J. Huettner introduced E. Mattison of Continuum of Care who runs the TAP program. E. Mattison shared the history of rooming housing in New Haven. He shared that Mayor Lee eliminated approximately 1000 SRO units to make way for redevelopment. He went on to say that today there are only 100 licensed SRO units. He stated that the dramatic decrease in available SRO and shared living units have impacted this city and contributed to homelessness. He shared that 1% of Chicago's residents live in SRO units. E. Mattison suggested a committee consisting of City staff, Alders, homeless service providers, banks and landlords be formed to further explore the feasibility of SRO units. This group then revisited the proposed resolution on SRO units. There were a few amendments to the proposed resolution. There was a motion to accept the resolution as amended – followed by a unanimous vote to the adopt the SRO resolution.

4.0 Point-In -Time (PIT) Annual New Haven Homeless Census

L. Delacruz and K. Naughty gave a brief history of the PIT Count in New Haven of the sheltered and unsheltered homeless (individuals and families). The next PIT Count is scheduled for January 23, 2018 from 7pm to 11pm. All regions in Connecticut will be done at that time. They encouraged members of this group to participate.

C. Rose shared that the Youth Count (which attempts to count all unaccompanied youth) will begin January 24, 2018 and run for 6 days. They will be hosting several Come & Be Counted events at Open Schools, drop in centers, Gateway, SCSU, UNH, and Albertus to reach as many youth up to age 24 as possible.

5.0 N. Hogan did a presentation on Housing Tax Credits. He shared that the goal of Low Income Housing Tax Credits (LIHTC) is to help build affordable housing in support of strong communities. LIHTC are for new construction or renovation projects that create affordable rental housing for people facing financial challenges in urban and rural areas. N. Hogan discussed the need for tax incentives. J. Huettner suggested that N. Hogan draft a resolution to present to the commission for the next meeting.

6.0 V. George shared the Homeless Shelter Census Count with the group and highlighted a spike in the number of youth requesting shelter between Youth Continuum and Columbus House shelters. She also shared that the first warming center for the season which is operated by Community Action Agency of New Haven opened on January 3, 2018 at the Lighthouse Ministry Church.

7.0 T. Clark was unable to attend this meeting. She shared that she will be attending these meeting bimonthly, and at that time she will share CAN updates. She plans to attend the February 2018 meeting.

8.0 J. Huettner requested input from those who are homeless on proposed Homeless Bill of Rights.

9.0 YHHAP E. Lynn-Green, et. al.is still on break.

10.0 Announcements / News/Events

J. Huettner announced that Dr. Martha Okafor, the Community Service Administrator for the City of New Haven resigned her post. He commented that she left a strong imprint on this City.

11.0 Meeting adjourned 7:45pm