

**CITY OF NEW HAVEN
HOMELESS ADVISORY COMMISSION**

March 10, 2022
Meeting Minutes

Attendance:

Members Present: D. Ecton, C. Mendez, R Handler

Ex- Officio: V. George, N. Torres

Staff: S. James- Marquis, T. Jefferson

Guest: K. Fitzgerald

Members Excused Absent: C. Spears

Members Absent:

Chair D. Ecton called the meeting to order at 6:07pm

Minutes: February's meeting minutes was reviewed via zoom. The vote on the minutes was postponed due to lack of quorum.

NEW BUSINESS:

The original Homeless Bill of Right for New Haven Residents Ordinance was submitted to the BOA on November 2019. Since then, there has been no movement of this legislation due to the COVID – 19 Pandemic. Consequently Chair D. Ecton and V. George Coordinator for Homelessness, thought it necessary to share the proposed legislation with the new board members prior to sending a letter of inquiry to the BOA regarding the status of the said legislation. The group discussed the proposed HBR. C. Mendez recommended a review of the financial impact statement as construction prices have all increased substantially. The group agreed to consult with the Engineering Department around construction cost. C. Mendez recommended edits for the letter to the BOA - she will forward to V. George.

COLD WEATHER UPDATE:

The group discussed the New Haven Independent February 25th article about the poor hotel conditions at the warming center. V. George shared that the article was based on one room which was not representative of the general hotel conditions. She went on to share that the hotel owner was very cooperative around maintenance of the rooms. The hotel passed both Fire and code enforcement inspections. V. George also shared that the staff at the hotels have been able to get people case management help, housing, and jobs. The last day for individual hoteling is April 28th, 2022. DESK and the Hamden warming center provided warming services for the rough sleepers.

One Stop Shop Pop Up

V. George shared that the next initiative being offered to unsheltered clients, moving into the warm weather, is the One Stop Pop-up service at three locations, Fair Haven, the New Haven Green, and Tent City on the Boulevard. The services that will be offered are:

- ❖ Shower- Mobile shower van
- ❖ Medical Service- Yale Outreach Mobile van service
- ❖ Harm Reduction

A press conference will take place tomorrow March 11, 2022, at 11am at La Iglesia para la Ciudad – 99 East Pearl Street, Fair Haven. All are welcome to attend.

CAN: K. Fitzgerald -

K. Fitzgerald shared that there were 601 CAN appointments scheduled - 60% of people are showing up for their CAN appointments. She also shared that 143 people were wait listed and 51 people were diverted, 36 people refused shelter. K. Fitzgerald shared that the CAN will no longer be using the wording refused shelter in their data collection - they believe this is outdated wording. Instead, they will be adding other data points that will be more representative. K. Fitzgerald also shared that there are 656 people on their By Name List, with 186 people matched to a housing resource. During the month of February, 32 people were housed. She shared that lack of affordable housing continues to be a challenge.

YHHAP: R. Handler informed the group of their upcoming annual meeting where they will explore potential funding needs of the community. They are expecting a variety of guest speakers.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 pm.