

**CITY OF OXNARD COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2020**

On Monday, February 3, 2020, at 4:04 p.m. the Regular Meeting of the Commission on Homelessness convened in the Oxnard City Council Chambers, 305 West Third Street, Oxnard, CA 93030. Vice-Chair Yukio Okano called the meeting to order, and Chair Rivera assumed the gavel when she arrived.

1. ROLL CALL AND CALL TO ORDER

Roll was called, the following Commissioners were in attendance: Chair Peggy Rivera, Vice-Chair Yukio Okano, and Commissioners Rene Camper-Stewart, Ruby Durias, David Littell, Jose Negrete, and Mayra Plascencia. A quorum was deemed present. City of Oxnard staff members present were Emilio Ramirez, Housing Director; Karl Lawson, Compliance Manager; Elsa Brown, Affordable Housing Manager and Angelica Navarro, Administrative Secretary III.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Margaret Cortese, Behavioral Health Advisory Board member, addressed the Commission as the chair of that organization's committee that attends to Transitional Age Youth (TAY). Ms. Cortese described that organization's efforts related to homelessness, and expressed support for the direction of the City's homeless programs.

3. INFO/CONSENT

SUBJECT: Minutes of the January 6, 2020 Meeting

Vice-Chair Okano made a motion to accept the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Camper-Stewart. With Commissioner Plascencia abstaining, the motion carried without opposition.

4. REPORTS FROM STAFF

Mr. Ramirez reported on January's Faith Based Community event at Plaza Park to offer services for the homeless, at which seventy people signed up to volunteer at different levels.

5. COMMISSION BUSINESS

A. SUBJECT: Amended By-Laws

Chair Rivera read the proposed amendments and invited discussion from members of the Commission. Commissioner Negrete moved to accept the amended bylaws as presented, and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Littell. The motion carried unanimously. Pursuant to the newly approved amended bylaws, the Commission must conduct an Annual Meeting in which election of officers is to be held arose. Commissioner Negrete made a motion to hold the Annual Meeting at the next regular meeting, which will take place March 2, 2020. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Durias, and carried unanimously.

Ms. Lucy Cartagena-Martinez requested the opportunity to address the Commission on the item, and provided her comments. She objected to the Commission discussing the matter before receiving comment from members of the public, as that deprived the Commissioners of the

opportunity to consider public comments before voting on the matter. Ms. Cartagena-Martinez also urged the Commission to establish sub-committees, stating that it should have happened several months ago. She criticized what she characterized as the commissioners' lack of understanding of the issues and of the Commission's role in implementing programs. She further stated that Ad Hoc sub-committees must be operated according to Robert's Rules of Order, with two Commissioners on each sub-committee plus members of the community. Ms. Cartagena-Martinez stated her opinion that the commissioners' lack of knowledge means that staff is running everything instead of the Commission.

Mr. Lawson demurred, stating that any sub-committees of a Citizen Advisory Group are subordinate bodies of the CAG, and consist only of members of that CAG; that a sub-committee can invite any other individuals who are not members of the Commission to attend its meetings, but that the only members of the sub-committee are Commission members; and that the role of the sub-committee is to report its recommendations back to the full Commission.

B. SUBJECT: Consideration of Subcommittee Structure

Commissioner Negrete recommended tabling discussion of consideration of subcommittee structure to the Retreat. With opposition, it was agreed to by consensus of the Commission.

6. OLD BUSINESS

A. SUBJECT: 2020 Homeless Point in Time Count

Director Ramirez reported that 117 volunteers helped with the January 29, 2020 Point-In-Time Count. The Count was completed by 11AM. Changes to improve the Point in Time Count were suggested and will be reviewed by staff for consideration in next year's count. The numbers will be ready in a couple of months and report with the results will be presented to the commission. Mr. Ramirez expressed appreciation to the Commissioners who assisted on the day of the Count, and to Ms. Tara Carruth and other Ventura County representatives for their work in organizing and conducting the Count.

B. SUBJECT: Commission Retreat

Commissioner Negrete made a motion to hold the retreat on Saturday, February 22, 2020 at 10 a.m., and the motion was seconded by Commissioner Littell. All Commissioners voted in favor and the motion passed. Mr. Ramirez will distribute a proposed draft agenda to the commission for their input. Items are due twelve days prior to the meeting.

7. NEW BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Oxnard Navigation Center

Mr. Ramirez gave a power point presentation on the Oxnard Navigation Center. The Commission discussed the proposal and had an opportunity to ask questions and address concerns related to the new plan. Mr. Ramirez closed his presentation and stated that he was seeking a support statement from the commission.

Commissioner Negrete made a motion to express the Commission's support of the new concept for the Oxnard Navigation Center and of the proposed site located at B and Second Street. The

motion was seconded by Yukio Okano and it was approved by the following vote: Ayes: Commissioners Camper-Stewart, Durias, Negrete, Okano, Plascencia, and Rivera. No: Commissioner Littell.

8. CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Upcoming events include the Commission Retreat on February 22, 2020, and the March meeting to take place on March 2, 2020.

9. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting stood adjourned at 5:36 p.m.

(draft minutes prepared by Angelica Navarro)