

MINUTES
Commission on
Homelessness June 5, 2023

A. ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

On Monday, June 5, 2023 at 4:00pm, the regular meeting of the Commission on Homelessness convened in-person at the Oxnard City Council Chambers located at 305 W. 3rd Street, Oxnard, CA 93030. Commissioners Alejandro Fregoso, Jack Villa, Rene Camper-Stewart, and Ruby Durias were present. Staff members present were Emilio Ramirez, Housing Director; Michael Skinner, Homeless Assistance Program Associate; Christian Lopez, Commission Secretary. Commissioner Ruby Durias presided and called the meeting to order at 4:09pm.

B. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. SUBJECT: Minutes of the meeting of March 6, 2023.
RECOMMENDATION: Approve.
ACTION: The approval of meeting minutes for March 6, 2023 was deferred to the next meeting of the Commission on Homelessness.

C. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Sharon Crane: Disclosed that she considered applying to be appointed to the Commission on Homelessness, but is currently does not have the capacity to sit on the Commission due to other obligations. Thanked the Commission for their support and consideration.

D. REPORTS

1. SUBJECT: Update of homeless related activities from the Housing Director
RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission receive and file an update from the Housing Director on homeless activities overseen by the Housing Department
DISCUSSION: Housing Director Emilio Ramirez provided an update on the following homelessness related activities: Homeless Solutions Center (2nd and B), Potential “Day Drop In Center” at the former Del Playa Inn, Vanguard and Rose Site RFP, Homeless Assistance Coordinator recruitment, Vacancies on the Commission on Homelessness, Homelessness Empowerment Labor Program (HELP), and Homeless Encampment Grant Application.

E. COMMISSION BUSINESS

1. SUBJECT: Election of Chair and Vice Chair
RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission elect a Chair and Vice Chair to serve for 2023.
ACTION: The Commission unanimously voted to defer the election of Chair and Vice Chair to a future meeting, due to the current vacancies on the Commission.
2. SUBJECT: Election of Annual Calendar
RECOMMENDATION: That the Commission vote to adopt a meeting schedule for 2023.
ACTION: The Commission unanimously voted to defer the election of Chair and Vice Chair to a future meeting, due to the current vacancies on the Commission.

3. SUBJECT: Homeless Empowerment Labor Project (HELP) Vocational Program Proposal
RECCOMENDATION: That the Commission receive and file an update on the proposal for a vocational program for people experiencing homelessness in the City of Oxnard.

F. AD-HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. SUBJECT: Housing First Plan Update from the Housing First Ad-Hoc Committee.
RECCOMENDATION: That the Commission receive and file an update from the Housing First Ad-Hoc Committee on the development of a Housing First Plan to create more affordable housing in the City of Oxnard.
2. SUBJECT: Foul Weather Shelter Program Update from the Foul Weather Ad-Hoc Committee.
RECCOMENDATION: That the Commission receive and file an update from the Foul Weather Ad-Hoc Committee on the work being done to recommend a foul-weather shelter program to the City Council.
3. SUBJECT: Safe Parking Program Update from the Safe Parking Ad-Hoc Committee.
RECCOMENDATION: That the Commission receive and file an update from the Safe Parking Ad-Hoc Committee on work being done to recommend a Safe Parking Program to the City Council.

G. REPORT OF THE COMMISSION SECRETARY

H. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

1. Commissioner Fregoso: Requested more information about the Project Homekey Grant Application site in South Oxnard.
2. Commissioner Villa: Discussed the opportunity of a Project Homekey Grant Application that was withdrawn in the City Camarillo.
3. Commissioner Camper-Stewart: No comment(s).
4. Commissioner Durias: Discussed her support and efforts for coordination for the upcoming 2023 Juneteenth Celebration to be held at Plaza Park in Oxnard.

I. ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Housing Director Emilio Ramirez invited the Commission to consider efforts to support the proposal for a small cottage village (often referred to as “Tiny Homes”) similar to the project developed by Dignity Moves in Santa Barbara, CA.

J. ADJOURNMENT

At 4:58pm Commissioner Villas moved the meeting adjourn. Commissioner Durias seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Christian Lopez, Secretary

Ruby Durias, Commissioner