

The Vision of the TC COH is that Tuolumne County has adequate safe, healthy, and affordable shelter and housing options for all of the people that live in Tuolumne County.



TC Commission on Homelessness
Housing Committee Meeting
Thursday, February 17, 2022

I. CALL TO ORDER - Chair called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM

II. ROLL CALL

Present Colette Such, Joe Bors, Rick Breeze-Martin, LeeAnn Hatton joined at 1:23 PM
Absent Tom Crosby (*excused absence*)
Commission Chair: Tina Welch (*ex officio Committee member*)

III. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

a) Colette Such moved approval of the Minutes of January 20, 2022, Joe Bors seconded
Ayes: Colette Such, Joe Bors, Rick Breeze-Martin
Noes: None
Abstentions: None

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Leonides Russel introduced herself as a member of the Mother Lode League of Women Voters (ML LWV) and observing, she also mentioned the League has a Study Group on Homelessness.

V. REPORTS

Officers:

- a) Chair none
- b) Vice-Chair none

AD-HOC COMMITTEES

(*See VII b) below*)

VI. SPEAKERS *None this meeting*

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) Continued consideration and possible action on potential speakers (*see previous list attached*)

Chair indicated that the Housing Committee is coordinating speakers with the Commission Chair to identify those speakers appropriate to speak to the whole Commission. After hearing a speaker at the Commission then the Committee can invite those it would like to hear more detail from to the Committee. Chair asked for any new names to add to the existing list. Colette Such indicated that her visit to the Merced Navigation Center introduced her to John Ceccoli - Deputy Director Human Services Agency and its Navigation Center Director Tina Welch spoke briefly on her approach to inviting speakers to the Commission. There was a brief exchange about asking the new Homeless Coordinator to speak and Tina Welch addressed this with an update on the new Coordinator hire.

b) Continued discussion for possible action of Jan. 20, 2022 items VII b) & c): draft Committee work plan tasks (b) and sanctioned outdoor shelter (c); (*see attached draft 2022 plan specific tasks*)

Committee Chair gave a brief update on these work areas being presented to the Commission at its February 10th meeting for review and approval. He indicated that the Commission approved 3 of the work areas for the Housing Committee, affordable housing; reviews of housing planning and permitting policies; and liaison and coordination with shelter and housing resource organizations. He indicated that for good reasons the Commission deferred sanctioned shelter to the existing Commission ad hoc committee which is to operate through October of 2022. Tina Welch gave a brief update on results of the Board of Supervisors strategic retreat for 2022 priorities and how it may affect the Commission and its Committees work. The Chair then indicated that all of the task assignments are to develop a work plan for the specific task work area listed below.

i. Opportunities for more affordable housing

Chair gave a brief summary of this task's formation language (given in the meeting agenda packet), and indicated that he is requesting that Tom Crosby accept the task of facilitating this ad hoc assignment to develop an affordable housing work plan. The Chair assigned himself as support back up to this task. After brief discussion – including the need to define affordable. The Chair indicated he was would contact Tom to see if he will accept this assignment.

ii. Review housing planning & permitting policies, procedures and regulations as they relate to homelessness;

Chair gave a brief summary of this task's formation language (given in the meeting agenda packet), and indicated that he is requesting that LeeAnn Hatton accept the task of facilitating this ad hoc assignment to develop a policies review work plan. LeeAnn accepted the ad hoc assignment to develop a review work plan. The Chair is assigned as support back up.

iii. Community partners based sanctioned outdoor shelter program;

Deferred to the existing Commission ad hoc outdoor shelter committee to October 2022,

iv. Liaison, communications and coordination with shelter and housing resource organizations in Tuolumne County.

Chair gave a brief summary of this task's formation language (given in the meeting agenda packet), and indicated that he is requesting that Colette Such accept the task of facilitating this ad hoc assignment to develop a resource organizations liaison work plan. Colette accepted the ad hoc assignment to develop a work plan for housing resources liaison. The Vice Chair is to be asked to accept support back up.

The Chair introduced an alternative work area to present to the Commission for affirmation – *opportunities for more shelter beds* (e.g. emergency and transitional housing, room vouchers, etc.). After a brief discussion the Chair indicated he will include this request of the Commission in the next Housing Committee report.

c) Continued discussion with possible action regarding the Housing Committee formation language and related scale and scope of work to be done by the Committee.

The Committee briefly discussed this item it was determined to end consideration of this item, for now to leave it for when or if it comes up in future.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

a) Discussion and possible action on Housing Committee input to the Homelessness Commission's Strategic Plan development

The Committee briefly considered input to the Commission's Strategic Planning efforts; Tina Welch gave a brief overview of her thinking on a long-range plan within the context of the Board of

Supervisor's strategic intention. The issue of the roles of staff and community volunteers in the Commission's work was considered; the Chair advocated for a significant role for community volunteers in the work of the Commission.

b) Discussion and possible action on housing availability and affordability in Tuolumne County

The Committee started a discussion on the need for and how to measure availability of affordable housing; a discussion to better understand affordability at different income levels in Tuolumne County. Examples were shared on the affects, pros and cons, of increasing housing price, and the need for addressing housing affordability in Tuolumne County. Leonides Russel shared that this is an issue that the ML LWV is considering along with the perception of the homeless. (Briefly shared was a website with Santa Cruz County homeless person interviews at <https://www.communityvoicesoutreach.org/>). This discussion on housing affordability is to continue.

c) Discussion and possible action on generating an initial list of potential non-voting participants appropriate for either the Committee and/or any of its specific task work efforts

The Committee briefly discussed this and the basic need for balance in selecting non-voting Committee members. It was also generally considered discussion of this item is premature for ad hoc tasks. This item is to be tabled for consideration until a later meeting to be determined.

IX. Committee Members' input to the next meeting agenda

Joe Bors asked that the new ad hoc task assignments be included to report to the Committer. The Chair assured him that the task assignments would be listed for reports.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee Members

LeeAnn Hatton announced that Chicken Ranch Tribe has available daycare spaces, they work with ICES for vouchers, and hours are extended and negotiable. She indicated that they are working with an apprentice program (involving Stanislaus Schools, MLJTA, etc.) to provide availability, and if we know of someone that could use this refer them to LeeAnn. She also offered meeting attendees a tour of the facility and to contact her to arrange a tour.

Tina Welch announced that the Board of Supervisors have approved a "Lived Experience" (homeless or formerly homeless person) and he will be seated at the next Commission meeting. She also announced that a Homeless Coordinator has been selected and is going through hiring procedures before a name is announced; and that Commissioner Wittney Hawkins has resigned to take the job of Homeless Services Social Worker.

X. ADJOURNMENT

Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:44 PM