

MINUTES

Clallam County Homelessness Task Force
Clallam County Courthouse
Virtual and In Person
BOCC Meeting Room 160
March 7, 2023
2:30 pm-4:00 pm

Members Present: Cheri Tinker, Leonard Hitz, John DeBoer, Sharon Maggard, Jenny Oppelt, Sarah Woodward, Ann Simpson, Loni Greninger, Paul Cunningham, Sandra Allen, Vicki Lowe, Tim Fletcher, Sam Schroeder, Tiffany Dunaway (Debbi Tesch alternate) and Christy Smith

Absent: Johnny Ankrom, Debbi Tesch, Kathy Morgan and Navarra Carr

General Attendance: Commissioner Randy Johnson, Christine Dunn, Kevin LoPiccolo, Dana Ward, Beverly Lee, Amy Miller, Viola Ware, Jennifer Pelikan, Joseph Mocerri, Tom McCullough, and Nancy Jacobson

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

- The meeting was called to order at 2:33pm.

2. AGENDA

- Majority approved the agenda as presented.

3. MINUTES – December 6, 2022

- Majority approved the minutes as presented.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- **Election of Officers**
 - Chair – Majority approved Sharon Maggard for chair.
 - Vice Chair – Majority approved Cheri Tinker for vice chair.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Respite Care Update – Jenny Oppelt and Viola Ware * See attached slide presentation.
 - Jenny Oppelt shared how Clallam Respite Care originated and the process involved in getting it started.
 - Viola Ware shared that medical respite care is acute/post-acute care for people experiencing homelessness. Of note, 50% receiving respite care have been

veterans. Respite care is off to a successful start, with a reduction in ER visits by participants.

- Discussion followed.
- 2023-2025 Homelessness Program Funding RFP – Christine Dunn *See attached slide for funding.
 - Christine Dunn shared that applications were collected with a total requested of \$2,202,440 a little over \$1,002,440 over what was budgeted for this year.
 - Jenny Oppelt shared the process of the review committee. A binder was created with each application and scoring form. Volunteers will pick up the binder and review during the 3-week period. Interviews will then begin and funding recommendations will be brought to the HTF for vote. The Commissioners will make final funding decisions.
 - Review Committee Volunteers – Christine Dunn asked for volunteers. Leonard Hitz, John Deboer, Christy Smith, Loni Greninger and Amy Miller all volunteered.
- Recommendation on New Member – Christine Dunn
 - Charlie Commeree was interviewed for the Law and Justice position. He is a Public Defender in our county, has been a volunteer at TAFY and represented many homeless defendants in court. Majority approved Mr. Commeree for the board.
- Safe Parking Discussion Continued –
 - Viola Ware shared the importance of safe parking in that it provides the space to find people to continue to provide services.

6. FUTURE MEETING AGENDA ITEMS

- RFP Funding Recommendations
- Begin Elder Housing Discussion.
- Continue Safe parking discussion.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

- Joseph Mocerri – started a non-profit and will be in a property that comes available June 1st of this year, will house 14 men, run with volunteers and is just looking for direction and help getting some start-up funds.
- Martha Bell – wondered what happened to the program that was connecting seniors with homes to people to live with them. Commissioner Johnson stated that The Olympic Area Agency on Aging is working with that and they need to get the information out to more seniors.

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Cheri Tinker –received a donation of money from Lieutenant Colonel James Minsky’s Estate. That aided in purchasing an 8 bedroom home in Sequim, it is going to be converted into a 6 bedroom adult home. Also purchased the old VFW hall in Forks, which will be the new location for the 2nd hand store. This building has a kitchen and will employ veteran’s there as well.
- Sharon Maggard –Serenity House started a program with the County Sheriff to begin visiting the jail and juvenile detention. The goal is to meet up with individuals before they are released, so they will have a place to live and the supportive services around them. Sharon is reaching out for Emergency solution grants at the Federal level and will be asking for letters of support from other agencies.
- Christy Smith -Sequim Health and Housing Collaborative is working on having a convening again, late May with a consultant to help lead that process. Timothy Dalton is doing a great job with The Housing Solutions Committee.

9. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 4:04 pm

Next meeting: April 4, 2023
Clallam County BOCC Meeting Room

Members of the Homelessness Task Force

Cheri Tinker, Sarah Woodward, Paul Cunningham, Johnny Ankrom, Sam Schroeder, John DeBoer, Sandra Allen, Kathy Morgan, Debbi Tesch, Navarra Carr, Vicki Lowe, Tim Fletcher, Jenny Oppelt, Sharon Maggard, Leonard Hitz, Ann Simpson, Christy Smith, Lisa Haugh and Loni Greninger

NOTE: These meeting notes are not verbatim