



Citizen Homelessness Commission Minutes

Thursday, November 8, 2018

Agenda

1. Call to Order – 3:09pm

2. Roll Call (see attachment)

- Chair Webb stated Metro Dallas Homeless Alliance (MDHA) hired a new CEO, Carl Falconer.
- Chair Webb mentioned next week is National Hunger & Homelessness Week and the Community Engagement Subcommittee will host a public forum.

3. Approval of October 11, 2018 Minutes

- A motion was made by Commissioner Crews to approve the October 11th minutes. Commissioner Culak seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Public Comment

Robert Ceccarelli

5. OurCalling

- Wayne Walker, Executive Director and Pastor, gave an overview of the services provided to their target audience of the unsheltered homeless.
- The organization is centered around 5 programs: Equipping, Recovery, 1:1 Mentoring, Support Services and Collaborative Network.
- Organization has an app that connects an individual to services and shelters specifically for their needs which is also being used in every state in the country. There is also a printed directory last updated 3 weeks ago.
- Limits the amount of resources people get so they won't enable them but encourages them to get in a shelter and become a part of a long-term program.
- Host mental health care providers within the facility and also does family reunifications.
- Commissioner McManemin asked Mr. Walker for his thoughts around criminal trespass, and publicly and privately funded organizations. Mr. Walker thinks it is a mistake to not enforce criminal trespass being that this may be the only tool available to keep out drug dealers and pimps. He believes both public and private organizations need more accountability and transparency. There should be a better gauge on evaluating the efficiency of the programs.
- Commissioner Ragan inquired about the organization's use of HMIS & IRIS. Mr. Walker responded that OurCalling uses its own system and said that some of the problems with HMIS & IRIS are that the systems don't work under bridges, have GPS coordinates, or show connections and progressive pictures taken of the individuals. They can't move to a system that will hinder their work and slow them down.
- Commissioner Garner reminded him of a statement he made to the Cedars Neighborhood Association (CNA) members about a plan for keeping OurCalling from looking like The Bridge. Mr. Walker stated a policy has been created to keep people from camping on the property and any adjacent property, or they will be denied services for a period of time.
- Since OurCalling is an outreach center, once evening arises, they connect the individuals with services and shelters. There have been discussions with shelters about transporting them from their facility to another.
- OurCalling is currently looking at opening another facility in the Harry Hines Corridor.

6. CHC Subcommittee Report

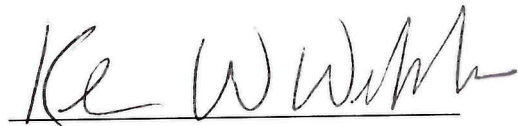
- Short-Term Solutions Subcommittee
 - Met on October 25th after the commission approved the subcommittee to move forward with prioritizing both the inclement weather and shuttle RFPs.
 - Routes, frequencies, hours of operation, various points of stop and whether there would be an inclement weather piece were all discussed.

- Office of Homeless Solutions (OHS) staff believes an RFP will be out by the end of November and will report back once information can be shared.
- The Inclement Weather RFP is harder to expedite and will not be seen this season, but outreach, an intake-outtake process of the various facilities and partnerships were all priority items to be included.
- Commissioner Mendelsohn questioned if there will be some leniency if some of the churches operate like an inclement weather shelter since the City has no solution.
- Commissioner Crews suggests having a conversation with the city, and if necessary, the Legislature to give them the flexibility to address opening the convention center as an emergency shelter.
- Housing Subcommittee
 - Held a public forum on October 23rd at the Walnut Hill Recreation Center for citizens to have input on the upcoming bond implementation.
 - Turnout wasn't great but would like to host a few more meetings to receive more citizen input before releasing the RFP.
- Community Engagement
 - OHS is excited to partner with subcommittee for National Hunger & Homelessness Week which is November 10th-18th.
 - Subcommittee will host a public forum that will center around street-level feeding and aims to address food insecurity within the complexity of Dallas citizens experiencing homelessness. It will be at Harry Stone Recreation Center on Tuesday, November 13th from 6:30-8pm.
 - Hope to gain insight on how street-level feedings affect: persons experiencing homelessness, feeders, homeless providers and neighborhoods. This knowledge will help to produce a more coordinated initiative to feed the homeless in an effective and efficient manner. It will also be used to come up with recommendations to the city on the current Homeless Feeding Ordinance.
- Commissioner Mendelsohn thanked all who participated in the internal collection drive for The Bridge.

7. Upcoming Events

8. Adjourn – 4:41pm

APPROVED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kenn Webb', written over a horizontal line.

Kenn Webb, Chair
Citizen Homelessness Commission

**CITIZEN HOMELESSNESS COMMISSION
MINUTES ATTENDANCE SHEET
DALLAS CITY HALL, 6ES
THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2018
3:00 PM – 4:30 PM**

Attendance Sheet

Commissioners Present

Kenn Webb, Chair
Chris Culak, District 1
Linda Garner, District 2
LeTitia Owens, District 3
Tanya Ragan, District 6
Chase Headley, District 9
Cara Mendelsohn, District 12
Casey McManemin, District 13
Chad Crews, District 14

Commissioners Absent

Louis Henry, District 7
Alan Tallis, District 11

Staff Present

DeWann Clark
Sarah Jacobson
Angelina Caudillo
Lori Davidson
Monica Young
Monica Hardman
Sireesha Chirala
Barbara Martinez
Charletra Sharp
Latrisce Johnson
Zena Palmer