

# **THE CITY AND BOROUGH OF JUNEAU, ALASKA**

Meeting Minutes - July 24, 2017

## **I. Call to Order**

Chair called the meeting to order at 5:02PM.

Members Present: Chair Debbie White, Norton Gregory, Maria Gladziszewski, Ed Mercer, Bruce Van Dusen.

Other Assembly Members: Mayor Ken Koelsch, Loren Jones

Staff Present: Scott Ciambor, Bryce Johnson

Members of Public: Patty Ware

## **II. Approval of Agenda**

Agenda Approved, no objections.

## **III. Approval of Minutes**

A. Approval of Minutes

The July 11, 2017 minutes were approved, no objection.

## **IV. Agenda Topics**

### **A. Mission & Organization of Task Force**

Mayor Koelsch presented a couple of ideas for the Task Force to consider: 1) winter campground and 2) warming center in addition to items that the task force may come up with.

Maria Gladziszewski asked for definition of warming center. Mayor Koelsch said that a warming center would be open for people to sleep when temperatures were below a certain level. Also, discussion on Salvation Army efforts in the past.

Debbie White discussed Task Force mission and goal. The Task Force agreed on focusing on the next 2 or 3 items to help unsheltered homeless and present to the Assembly. Goal to complete work by the end of September.

## **V. Public Participation on Non-Agenda Items**

Patty Ware noted that she was in attendance to listen and had been thinking about when it would be appropriate to bring homeless folks into the conversation, considering that is conversation taking place without people here.

## VI. Staff Reports

### A. Basic Sanitation

Scott Ciambor reviewed the information provided in the Task Force binders.

Scott Ciambor discussed the status of the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority subport property. There was no indication of any change in status although the property has been in the midst of a sales process with no details known.

Discussion on bathrooms and dumpster options to handle increase in needs especially in subport area across from KTOO.

**Maria Gladziszewski moved for staff to look into pricing for additional bathrooms and dumpster. Also, contact Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority about putting this items on their property to handle demand.**

### B. Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Request

Scott discussed the grant application to the Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority for a Housing and Homeless Services Coordinator position. He state that this position is similar to those funded in Fairbanks and Anchorage. The position would work extensively with the local Continuum of Care (Juneau Coalition on Housing and Homelessness) as it makes changes to become a Coordinated Entry system and to identify and fill gaps that would assist more homeless. Also, person would serve as a liaison for the Task Force and Assembly.

Debbie White asked if this would be an additional position to the Chief Housing Officer. Scott answered yes.

Maria Gladziszewski asked if this grant request of \$100,000 was sufficient. Scott noted that he'd run the initial numbers past Mila Cosgrove and that it seemed to be the appropriate range for Juneau - in the middle of Anchorage and Fairbanks requests.

Bruce Van Dusen asked about success of other coordinators. Scott mentioned that Anchorage is please as the staff in the Mayor's office who was chosen was a long-time AMHTA employee and in Fairbanks the coordinator has been in place in the fall but already the local agencies have made good progress.

Ed Mercer asked about the effectiveness of these positions. Scott noted from experience on the state level that knowledge and use of best practices to address homelessness is

something that has been missing at the local level. These positions are really helpful in that regard -- but really hard to say in Fairbanks since they really just started.

### **C. Emergency Shelter Operator Meeting**

Emergency Shelter Operation Meeting July 25, 2017

Scott discussed the scheduled staff meeting on July 25 with all local emergency shelter operators. He noted a survey was provided to operators asking about their capacity, impacts of SB 91, and for suggestions for the CBJ to better address unsheltered homeless persons.

Debbie White brought up items from the previous meetings and asked about locker storage update. Scott updated the storage lockers; calls in with Juneau School District and will pass along information. Mariya Lovishchuk discussed experience with lockers and that the Glory Hole would not be interested in pursuing lockers. Staff time, rodents, and other sanitation concerns.

Scott updated previous research on other municipalities and storage. One example, Berkeley, California has about 120 tubs outdoors, with 2 full-time staff monitoring that cost about \$400,000/year. To be effective the hours have to be long 6am-11PM.

Norton asked about security at the Glory Hole. Mariya reviewed policies and that for patrons that stay they can put items on the bed upstairs that is locked.

Discussion on outreach, who is out on the streets. Scott discussed the May 2017 Housing First survey and the results of outreach and assessment for the 32 residents. Maria asked to see additional data on those not housed by Housing First(#s 33-97) to see what their needs might be.

Discussion on Rainforest Recovery. Norton Gregory noted feeling somewhat misled about Rainforest Recovery Center. People who are homeless, hard drug users are not being helped. After talking with staff, staff noted being able to handle 250 patients by herself for treatment. Mariya said that might work for people that are stabilized, but difficult if using on the street. Bruce Van Dusen said that she may be licensed to do so but not necessarily the resources to treat.

Maria asked about status of Downtown Business Association member for the Task Force.

Scott to ask DBA for a representative for the Task Force

Ed asked for clarification on Task Force goal; winter campground and warming center. Affirmed. Discussion on winter campground. Bryce mentioned that working with current

shelter operators about warming center might be the better immediate option.

**Motion to task staff with finding a location, land, parameters for a winter campground, including outside of downtown.**

## **VII. Adjournment**

Meeting was adjourned at 6:48pm.