

Notice of Historic Highland Park Homesless, Renters, and Homeless Committee Meeting and Agenda

February 24, 2021 @ 7:00 P.M.

Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

Dial (669)900-6833 to Join the Meeting Then Enter This Webinar ID: 827 5849 0084 and Press #

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome, Call to Order, and Roll Call
7:05 P.M.

Committee Member	PRESENT	ABSENT
Renee Garcia	X	
Duncan Gregory	X	
Sasha Rappaport	X	
Robert Diaz	X	
MaryLeigh Roohan	X	

QUORUM ESTABLISHED

ACTION ITEMS (Abstentions are neither counted in favor or in opposition)

- 2. Discussion and possible action to approve the HHPNC Outreach Committee agenda.
Public Comment: None

MaryLeigh motions to approve, Robert seconds. Motion approves

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
Sasha Rappaport	X					
Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	5					

Motion carries

- 3. Discussion and motion to appoint a chair (5 min)

Robert: Motion to appoint Sasha as chair, MaryLeigh seconds

Public Comment: Rose: is it ok to appoint Sasha if he's not on the board? Recommends to look at bylaws.

Duncan: Will bring this up at Rules meeting on Saturday.

Vote:

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
Sasha Rappaport	X					

Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	5					

Motion carries.

4. Discussion and motion to appoint up to four stakeholders to the committee (Limited to 10 min, max 2 min per speaker)

Public Comment:

- 1) Steve Crouch: Was on previous committee would like to join.
- 2) Rose: Would like to be on this committee, is a tenant member of LA Tenant’s Union, has done lots of outreach work w/unhoused neighbors, very passionate about this.

Motion: MaryLeigh motions to elect Steve & Rose to committee, Renee seconds

Vote:

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
Sasha Rappaport	X					
Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	5					

Motion carries.

5. (5 mins) Discussion and motion to determine regular meeting time and date and committee roles (minute taker, posting agenda, moderator).

Board discussion: Sasha this was last minute if there is a better day including the new committee members. Wednesdays are best for Sasha. Duncan: recommends 2nd or third Wednesday of the month. MaryLeigh: recommends 3rd Wednesday so that it doesn’t coincide with public safety & ensures we can get items in.

Public Comment:

Sarah Flaherty: recommends Wednesdays and can offer wifi service to unhoused community members so that they can join us.

Steve: Please promote call-in user 2 to panelist, as long as doesn’t Sasha: Cannot promote

Motion: Sasha
 MaryLeigh Seconds
 Vote: Yes

Committee roles:
 MaryLeigh can moderate
 Renee Garcia - minutes

Robert - can post agenda

Public Comment: None

Sasha motions to approve above, Duncan Seconds

Vote:

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
Sasha Rappaport	X					
Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Rose Serna	X					
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	7					

Motion carries.

6. General Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items—Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction ((Limited to 10 min, max 2 min per speaker)

Rick - there was a Board voted to eliminate the committee in the past, what can be done to ensure this committee doesn’t end after this term could we bring it up to the Rules Committee. City of LA has \$15 min wage, he feels city should have \$20 min wage and be progressive. LA resources aren’t filtering down to homeless population, wants to see the Committee undertake this.

Jane: Just completed the Homelessness Liaison elections webinar would like to share information. (Duncan: please add to New Business)

7. (10 mins) Presentation on SELAH Eagle Rock Chapter’s Homeless Outreach and Distribution Program for Highland Park (Cooper Kenward, Volunteer with SELAH)

Related to NPG passed in January to bring SELAH into HP to bring weekly distribution (food, hygiene) to our unhoused community members. Cooper is here to give an overview.

Cooper Kenward: Has done food distribution and connecting services to those experiencing homelessness in Eagle Rock and wanted to bring the same thing to Highland Park. Works on basis of earning trust, becoming familiar with the community. Take all leftover food plus purchase extra water, bread, snacks, and any leftover Eagle Rock donations like sweatshirts and drive around to give to those who they are connected with on the Arroyo, near Senior Center. Volunteer opportunities: For now it’s only Natalie and Cooper after NPG comes through will have more volunteers they would shadow them and do training with outreach. From there they can hand out bags and take over roles that they do, build a team with two team leads, one collecting data, and additional people to hand out bags. Would like to build two teams of 4+ people.

MaryLeigh: What is contact information, Public Safety concerns: discomfort with unhoused neighbors. Sees an opportunity for SELAH to be a bridge to bring more understanding into the

Public Safety - in addition to bringing food and housing and building that trust is that another way for SELAH to be of service in this scenario.

Cooper: selahnhc@gmail.com; Phone (323) 539-7570 & asks Sasha to pass details on to MaryLeigh to connect in Public

Renee: Data/Demographics

Cooper: They don't pressure folks too much to give information, started out with only 25 people which was a small fraction, down at the Arroyo number ballooned, they don't have specific numbers,

Duncan: What longevity can we provide would it work through continuous NPGs, how has this worked with Eagle Rock NC?

Cooper: Original NPG was based off rough 6 mo plan for 30 bags per week, that won't cover everything and will change as the program grows it is a test number.

Duncan: please invite the unhoused community members to come to these meetings

Public Comment:

Sarah Flaherty: Grateful to have SELAH as partners, and looking forward to becoming partners with upcoming Bridge housing program.

Jane Demian (SELAH): Recommends field deputy reports to communicate with unhoused neighbors if needed for Public Safety concerns. Previously received monthly stipend through a credit card and fed folks in HP & ER, then eventually formed SELAH.

8. (10 mins) Discussion and possible motion to approve CIS in favor of CF 19-0774-S1 TEMPORARY HOMELESS HOUSING for Highland Park unhoused community members (Sasha Rappaport)
Sasha: KDL put motion to put forth tiny homes bridge housing one on Arroyo in Highland Park and the other is Arroyo Drive by park near 134 freeway off Figueroa.

Steve Crouch: How are people chosen, what is architecture?

Robert: How long do they stay there: Cooper: Nine month stay with goal of getting them into permanent housing after.

Public Comment:

Jane Demian: Please ask Sarah about the answers to these questions.

Sarah Flaherty: Prioritization and design questions: Company is Pallet Shelter 8x8x8 shelters have two beds during COVID will be single occupancy unless couples or families want to be together. Sarah is working closely with Jane, Cooper, Natalie to have list of Eagle Rock unhoused. Up to provider if folks will be moved into Section 8 or master lease situation or already constructed or soon to be constructed housing project. It is all pre-fabricated modular housing and kitchen and administrative buildings will also pre-fabricated, construction will be very fast because of this. Will update on timeline with Bureau of Engineering but target is Fall if not sooner. Would like to organize a town hall with Highland Park to inform/educate folks.

Robert: Will there be resources for folks with substance abuse addictions?

Sarah: Yes, someone will be on site. Mental health resources as well.

MaryLeigh: motions to approve CIS
Renee Seconds

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
Sasha Rappaport	X					
Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Rose Serna						X
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	6					

Motion Passes

- (10 mins) Discussion and possible motion to approve CIS in favor of CF 21-0113 PROJECT ROOMKEY EXPANSION (Sasha Rappaport)

Sasha: FEMA has stepped up to reimburse this program 100% this specific CIS is around making sure that this motion is currently ni City Council is addressed, could provide more opportunities for the unhoused, is another program proved successful in pathway to permanent housing. Urgency around this is that this program will now be fully reimbursed by the federal government and will essentially have unlimited resources and could take in.

Renee: suggests to add in who letter is being addressed to.

Steve: Substance issues should prioritize those who are new to homelessness and those victimized by economic conditions.

Public Comment:

Jane: Helped write this, FEMA reimbursement until September 2021, Mayor is asking for upfront payment because we have limited City funds because revenue is slow low because of COVID. This could stall this motion a bit. Requirements for FEMA funding have to do with eligibility for those 65+ and those imuno-comprimised, one of the recommendations is to ask FEMA if possible for 55+ because those unhoused age faster by 15 years.

Sasha: Motion to approve the CIS and move to General Board

Duncan: Interesting point about the Mayor, do we want to mention whether we are in favor of the pay for now get reimbursed as a City. Sasha: City could petition to get zero-interest loan from the state until they are reimbursed with Federal Government. Roomkey is a State program. Not sure about other cities and how they've taken advantage of full reimbursement from FEMA.

Duncan: Motion to approve CIS, Sasha will second

Vote: Motion carries.

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
Sasha Rappaport	X					

Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Rose Serna						X
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	6					

Motion passes.

10. (5 mins) Discussion and possible motion to send a CIS regarding Council File 20-0197 supporting a study on Social Housing (Sasha Rappaport)

Sasha: This CIS is not in favor of the Land Use measure, not in favor or against, asks that the City creates study for alternative housing specifically around mixed-income adequately funded housing built on models of places like Viena, Singapore, etc. These are permanent affordable housing where no one would ever spend more than 30% of income on rent. Asks the City to create study around alternative housing specifically social housing as an option to support low-income and housing insecure folks across Los Angeles and includes a paper from Occidental College.

Steve: Concerns around the term social housing.

Sasha: This CIS is pointint to mixed income public housing, this is upgraded models that have been shown to work outside the U.S.

Public Comment:

Jane Demian: Please correct council file number and title of the motion; the correct council file is 20-057. Social housing/international housing models is the name. Comment on social housing: higher income folks subsidize lower income folks and it becomes a self-maintained development vs. affordable housing that has expiring covenant, this is usually for the life of the building. This is not segregating poverty nor people of color, this is a much more equitable system of housing.

Rick: Concern is that we are approving a CIS that doesn't have a price tag on it; Clty of LA may contract out things like this. We are in a financial crisis in LA and not an open check approach on this. Thinks we should limit funding on studies because of budget deficit.

Gemma Marquez: Is hesitantly supportive, is concerned about the amount or percentage for the lower tier who are in more need of housing rather than those who help to subsidize the housing, would like to know there is a guaranteed larger chunk for our neighbors who are being priced out.

MaryLeigh: motion to make those adjustments and bring the adjusted letter to the General Board. Sasha: Will edit to include a statement about making sure there is a high allotment for people that are in the lowest income brackets. Jane said there is an existing motion, this was built off another CIS in Silverlake and will adjust to ensure that it is appropriate.

Motion to approve CIS with updated title and number and including focus on lower income bracket. - Robert, MaryLeigh Seconds

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
-------------------------	------------	----------------	----------------	----------------	-------------------	---------------

Sasha Rappaport	X					
Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Rose Serna						X
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	6					

Motion Carries.

11. (5 mins) Discussion and possible action regarding bringing unhoused stakeholders into this committee

Steve: Had three unhoused neighbors will try to relocate them.

Sasha: Will follow up with Councilmember KDL office to find pathways that could be provided to give items necessary.

Jane: Is very concerned not just for election but throughout COVID.

Renee: After we receive info from Sarah, could we create flyer to give to SELAH to pass out and possible get the printing cost paid for through NC budget.

Duncan: Could we find a middle ground and think of infrastructure in place before Board turns over to create more back and forth communication even if they don't make it to live meetings. Could there be a form of comments for them, could we pass out a newsletter or the minutes.

Sasha: Ability to submit videos ahead of time for public comment.

Rick: There is a policy especially with City of LA all kinds of public comment through email. Ability for our unhoused community to have access to internet. We have Senior Center with Wifi, Library with WiFi. Try to get them to open up their bandwidth to the community like LAUSD did.

12. (5 mins) Discussion and possible action regarding clothing donations for unhoused community
Sasha: Issue: finding storage.

Jane: Did winter drive during COVID had only accepted NEW blankets because of bed bug infestation. Would quarantine the items for 72 hours. Some folks wash clothes before handing them out. Socks and underwear must be new. Emphasizes NEW items donations.

Robert: we can use HPNC storage, Renee will look into LAUSD storage.

13. (5 mins) Discussion and possible action regarding clothing donations for unhoused community

Public Comment; Jane: SB91 new state law - extended AB 3088 there is controversy about what those 2 bills offer including those with rent debt at end of June. Suggests NC should talk about this and educate our community.

14. New Business

Duncan: \$21,000 available

Jane: How can we do this with COVID how will our unhoused people know about what an NC is they are worried about survival and are sick and don't have access to computers and

education they don't have phones. Each NC should have an access center. Region 8 (includes HP) we have three provider areas one of which is Ramona Hall on Figueroa, field office CD14 in Eagle Rock, El Sereno community garden. With the help of Sarah she will place paper applications under table under canopy outside the council office. Will from there need to get to City Clerk, or Council office could scan them but they need to figure out how to do this. They can put the intersection where they live it is self-certified. City Clerk will mail ballot to the mailing address the unhoused person has provided, in Eagle Rock unhoused person will have to go back to get their ballot and will have to drop to drop box or mail it. No stamp required. Suggests St. Ignatius as an access center (they serve food every day).

Duncan: Could apply for additional funds for outreach for elections. Suggests finding out how City is allocating the money after these elections are over. Would like to connect with Jane further. Jane's email: jane.demian1@gmail.com. Nowhere in our Bylaws says that "X Director" can chair the meeting, is an issue because of changing board term and losing half the board.

Steve & Gemma: Previous Board issues ByLaws needed to be changed and were outdated however the previous Board did not include stakeholders.

15. Adjournment.

Motion to adjourn: Renee 9:17 , Robert will second

Public Comment: None.

Committee Member	FOR	AGAINST	ABSTAIN	RECUSED	INELIGIBLE	ABSENT
Sasha Rappaport	X					
Duncan Gregory	X					
Renee Garcia	X					
Robert Diaz	X					
Steve Crouch	X					
Rose Serna						X
MaryLeigh Roohan	X					
TOTAL	6					

Motion passes.