



**ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, OCTOBER 25, 2021**

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**11:00 A.M. Regular Meeting
Electronic Meeting**

Public Access: Facebook Live at www.Facebook.com/CityofRoseburg

NOTE: IT IS UP TO EACH OF YOU AS COMMISSIONERS TO CALL 541-492-6866 AND LET STAFF KNOW BEFORE THE DAY OF THE MEETING IF YOU WILL NOT BE ATTENDING. THANK YOU.

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. ROLL CALL:

Chair: Larry Rich
Commissioners: Gregory Brigham (Adapt) Shaun Pritchard (UCAN)
 KC Bolton (Aviva Health) Brent Eichman (Umpqua Health Alliance)
 Shelley Briggs Loosley Mike Fieldman

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. August 23, 2021 – Regular Meeting

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

- A. HTAG Update (Wayne Ellsworth)
- B. Contract with Aviva Health for Homeless Transition Action Group (HTAG) Coordinator Position (Amy Sowa)
- C. Navigation Center Next Steps (Nikki Messenger/Amy Sowa)
- D. Property Search Update (Larry Rich)

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION – *Comments on Agenda Items Only can be provided via email to the City Recorder at info@cityofroseburg.org or hand delivered to City Hall, 900 SE Douglas Avenue in Roseburg, prior to 4:00 p.m. on Friday, October 22, 2021. Comments must include the person's name and address for the record. Comments received by the deadline will be provided to the Commission prior to the meeting. The Commission reserves the right to delay any action requested until they are fully informed on the matter.*

V. BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

VI. NEXT MEETING DATE: Monday, November 22, 2021

VII. INFORMATIONAL

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEBURG
HOMELESS COMMISSION MEETING
August 23, 2021**



A meeting of the Homeless Commission was called to order by Chair Larry Rich at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, August 23, 2021, electronically via zoom in Roseburg, Oregon.

ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Gregory Brigham, Shelley Briggs Loosley, Brent Eichman, Mike Fieldman and Shaun Pritchard.

Absent: Commissioner KC Bolton

Others Present: City Manager Nikki Messenger, Assistant City Manager/City Recorder Amy Sowa, Police Captain Jeremy Sanders, Community Development Director Stuart Cowie, HTAG Outreach Coordinator Wayne Ellsworth, and Management Assistant Koree Tate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Briggs Loosley moved to approve the July 26, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Fieldman and approved with the following vote: Commissioners Brigham, Briggs Loosley, Eichman, Fieldman and Pritchard voted yes. No one voted no.

HTAG VERBAL UPDATE – WAYNE ELLSWORTH

Mr. Ellsworth reported that HTAG met with the sole purpose of deciding if the body wanted to steer all conversations toward homeless immediate needs. With the current disbanding of the Immediate Needs Ad Hoc group, they voted and agreed through collaboration with partners, HTAG could help with immediate needs. HTAG was not an organization and did not have funding, employees or a building. They were a group of helpful and kind people who liked to see things get done. Most of the homeless initiatives that had come to fruition were out of HTAG initiatives. At this point, there was a conversation to incorporate direct funding to appropriate properly for immediate needs.

Mr. Ellsworth continued that conversation went towards the idea of acquiring funds, personnel, or administration to develop a plan on where to focus when it came to immediate needs. They then switched gears to develop a plan for the most acute need at the time which was a cooling center. Ms. Messenger met with Ruth Smith from the Roseburg Senior Center to discuss what it would take to develop a sustainable cooling center. With the recent rise in COVID-19 numbers, the Senior Center Board was unable to come up with a plan to open for a cooling center. HTAG then reached out to the Roseburg Rescue Mission, local businesses, the faith based community, and Douglas County. Through that they discovered there were no plans for a cooling or warming center. HTAG formed a task force to start coordinating resources for the homeless. He worked with Trina from the Adapt Sobering Center, Erica from UCAN, Ms. Messenger from the City, Kimetha Stallings from Onward, Max Stafford and Chris Hutton to coordinate needed items such as water, Gatorade, tents, backpacks and whatever else they could obtain to impact the community in a positive way.

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

09/27/2021

HTAG still determined a top priority was to have a place where people could be. Tim Edmondson from the Dream Center had said to him that people were feeling lost because they were losing hope, felt confused, and were emotionally and mentally drained. Mr. Ellsworth and a committee met with Rogue Retreat to discuss a homeless navigation center and low barrier shelter. From that meeting, they planned to develop what a budget would look like and what leadership would be needed in order to make it happen. The next meeting was planned for August 25, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. Their regular HTAG meeting would be the same day beginning at 11:30 a.m.

Mr. Cowie questioned that if people followed the rules, the Roseburg Rescue Mission and Samaritan Inn would they take people to cool down during the extreme temperatures. Mr. Ellsworth said they would be allowed if they adhered to the rules, but with the uptick in COVID-19 numbers, people needed to be screened. They focused more on the people that were staying there and not just there temporarily. In response to Ms. Sowa, Mr. Ellsworth confirmed the two meetings on August 25, 2021 would have separate zoom meeting links. Commissioner Fieldman asked for a link so he could attend. Chair Rich asked if there was discussion on personnel or funding direction. Mr. Ellsworth noted there was a discussion for the need, but they were going to dive into that a little further to see what it would look like. Commissioner Fieldman said they were trying to find someone to handle all coordination and legwork necessary while putting together logistics. He felt the best model for an example was the LPSCC group. He was impressed with the administration and follow-up of those meetings. He felt the Commission and the City needed to be engaged and actively involved with the process to move the needle forward.

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS FOR NON-PROFIT UPDATE

Ms. Sowa reported a request for proposals was sent out July 29, 2021 with a scheduled closing date of September 9, 2021. An optional conference was scheduled for August 26, 2021 via zoom to speak with agencies interested in submitting a proposal. The meeting would be a time to obtain feedback and answer any questions. She asked if the Commissioners knew people who might be interested to please contact her so she may provide a link to the meeting. She did receive contact by an outside agency who might be interested. If people wanted to review the RFP or any addenda they could go to the City website, click business and then bidding opportunities. In response to Commissioner Fieldman, Ms. Sowa confirmed just the one agency reached out to her. Bids would be opened September 9, 2021, a review panel would be established and she would contact Commissioners for assistance.

PROPERTY SEARCH UPDATE

Chair Rich shared that he reviewed property after the last Commission meeting and would not know the outcome from the owner until possibly mid-September. There was another offer for the property. He had two more locations to review this week.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No comments were received prior to the meeting.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Fieldman discussed potential funding for tiny homes that the Governor reviewed and signed a couple weeks prior. The funding was not guaranteed, but he

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

09/27/2021

would work with the Oregon Housing and Community Services to try and make sure funding would come to Roseburg. In response to Chair Rich, he was unaware of when a decision would be finalized.

EXTREME HEAT MEASURES UPDATE

Ms. Messenger, as previously discussed by Mr. Ellsworth, said she worked with Christopher Hutton of the Dream Center to help with shopping from City funds to provide items needed for the unhoused. They had volunteers to help hand out all the items. With the current COVID-19 numbers, the Senior Center was unable to assist as a cooling center. They had a vulnerable population to protect and she understood their decision.

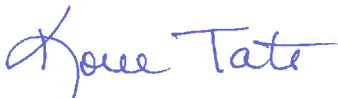
Commissioner Fieldman added that extreme heat seemed to be an ongoing issue and would be moving forward. The extreme heat was something that would impact the homeless, low income and elderly. It was unfortunate so many people died in Oregon from the heat this summer. He suggested they put some real thoughtful planning on how to deal with this in the community as a whole and not just for the homeless. He would like to see the fairgrounds used for something like this. The City had plans for floods and earthquakes, but it was time to look at extreme heat like the other events because it was not going to go away.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Brigham shared the Sobering Center had opened and was operational. They were still within their startup phase and trying to fulfill staffing vacancies. While acquiring new staff, they had to adjust hours and operations based on availability. Mr. Sanders said the Police Department had already utilized the Sobering Center. There were a couple minor quirks being ironed out, but he was very grateful it opened and was available. Commissioner Fieldman congratulated Commissioner Brigham for opening the Sobering Center and was excited to see it come to fruition. Commissioner Brigham said it was a community effort to get it started and to keep it going.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:24 a.m.



Koree Tate
Management Assistant

ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM SUMMARY



CONTRACT WITH AVIVA HEALTH FOR HOMELESS TRANSITION ACTION GROUP (HTAG) COORDINATOR POSITION – ARPA FUNDING

Meeting Date: October 25, 2021
Department: Administration
www.cityofroseburg.org

Agenda Section: Discussion Items
Staff Contact: Amy Sowa
Contact Telephone Number: 541-492-6866

ISSUE STATEMENT AND SUMMARY

The Homeless Transition Action Group (HTAG) is made up of community members and non-profits working to address the needs of the unhoused community. To help coordinate those efforts, a dedicated staff person is needed. The Homeless Commission is being asked to make a recommendation to the Council regarding a contract with Aviva Health to pay for an HTAG coordinator.

BACKGROUND/ANALYSIS

HTAG members have been meeting for a number of years working to address the needs of the unhoused in our community. Staff from the City attend and participate in these meetings. Recently, HTAG has focused their attention on identifying the immediate needs of the unhoused with the City's support. This work was previously undertaken by the City Manager's Immediate Needs Ad Hoc Committee.

Although HTAG includes a number of community members and non-profit organizations, there is not a dedicated person to help with coordination of the meetings and initiatives identified by the group. An HTAG Coordinator could support the goals, visions, projects and functionality of HTAG, and act as a liaison between HTAG and the community, cities, county, service providers and other partners. This position could also make connections throughout the community and apply for grants to enhance the initiatives.

Aviva Health has agreed to hire the person to serve as HTAG Coordinator, provide supervision and management of the position, and provide office space and supplies to support the position. HTAG has requested the City fund the salary portion of this position using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the next two years, with the expectation that sustainable funding would be identified to keep this position in place.

FINANCIAL/RESOURCE CONSIDERATIONS

The request from Aviva to fund this position is for \$140,000 or \$70,000 per year. This is an eligible expense under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The City has received half of its \$5.2 million allocation of ARPA funding, with the second payment scheduled for next fiscal year. Funds have been budgeted for contracted services and could be used to enter into a contract with Aviva for this purpose.

Typically, it is less expensive for other entities to hire employees than it is for governmental agencies due to PERS costs alone. By Aviva performing the hiring, training, supervision and housing of the employee, there may be significant savings over the City doing the same. It is also an opportunity to strengthen the partnership between the City, Aviva and other community partners on working towards improving outcomes for those living outdoors.

TIMING CONSIDERATION

HTAG is looking at opportunities to provide services and possibly a warming center for the unhoused as winter approaches. Having a coordinator assist with those efforts will provide a better chance of success in getting these things in place before the weather turns colder.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends the Commission forward a recommendation to City Council to authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into an agreement with Aviva Health to pay for an HTAG Coordinator for two years using ARPA Funds.

SUGGESTED MOTION

"I MOVE TO RECOMMEND THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO NEGOTIATE AND ENTER INTO AN AGREEMENT WITH AVIVA HEALTH TO PAY UP TO \$140,000 FOR AVIVA TO HIRE AND EMPLOY AN HTAG COORDINATOR FOR TWO YEARS."

ATTACHMENTS

None