



ROSEBURG HOMELESS COMMISSION AGENDA
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 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. October 25, 2021 – Regular Meeting

IV. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. HTAG Update (Wayne Ellsworth)

B. Navigation Center Update (Nikki Messenger/Amy Sowa)

C. RV's on Public Property (Jeremy Sanders)

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, November 19, 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, December 27, 2021

VII. INFORMATIONAL

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

IX. EXECUTIVE SESSION ORS 192.660(2)(E): Real Property Discussions

**MINUTES OF THE ROSEBURG
HOMELESS COMMISSION MEETING
October 25, 2021**



A meeting of the Homeless Commission was called to order by Chair Larry Rich at 11:00 a.m. on Monday, October 25, 2021, electronically via zoom in Roseburg, Oregon.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None

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, Aviva Health Vice President of Community Health Christin Rutledge and Management Assistant Koree Tate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Commissioner Briggs Loosley moved to approve the August 23, 2021 meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Pritchard and approved with the following vote: Commissioners Brigham, Bolton, Briggs Loosley, Eichman, Fieldman and Pritchard voted yes. No one voted no.

HTAG VERBAL UPDATE – WAYNE ELLSWORTH

Mr. Ellsworth reported that the Homeless Transitions Action Group, HTAG, met on September 22, 2021 for a leadership meeting. They had representatives from the City, Housing First Umpqua, United Way, Carry it Forward out of Eugene, concerned citizens, local businesses, HIV Alliance, UCAN, Roseburg Schools, Umpqua Health Alliance, Aviva Health, Onward, Douglas County, local advocate, activists, Salvation Army of Eugene and Adapt. They discussed the HTAG Coordinator position and job description. The committee was looking for a two-year commitment and the means to fund it initially. The sub-committee met with the City to seek funding for the position and would hire immediately once funding was acquired. Aviva Health offered to hire, supervise and house the position once funded.

Mr. Ellsworth continued that they received a presentation from Eugene St. Vincent DePaul who talked about funding that was mainly through their County, but with some assistance from the City. They had a dusk to dawn tent community, ran two motels through the County for people who were at high risk for COVID, they had parking and RV programs, and safe sleep sites. They said it had been years in the making and started small. They had initial struggles with staffing, talked about obtaining the Lane County fairgrounds for sheltering, and had key partnerships that helped them gain some successes. He knew the City did not receive any request for proposals for the Navigation Center, but were looking at the Coos Bay Devereux Center as an option.

Mr. Ellsworth said they then discussed immediate needs. Tents, tarps and sleeping bags could be found at the Salvation Army with a limited supply. The HIV Alliance and Onward programs had been allotted funding to purchase those items and were in the process of

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ordering. KN95 masks were offered by Aviva Health and HIV Alliance offered to distribute them through the local organizations. They moved the discussion on how they could make sure the items given would stay out of the environment instead of getting collected by the City. People were being moved every day and people on the streets did not know what to do. Supportive organizations were having a harder time coordinating efforts to offer their services. Until people had a place to be, they were going to continue to throw away expensive items and time spent acquiring them to provide the assistance. They looked to develop a plan for the County Fairgrounds and present it to the Commissioners. He also met with Ms. Messenger and Ms. Sowa to determine where people could be and who would take on the leadership of that and what it would look like. He also met with Commission Boice on October 22, 2021.

Mr. Ellsworth continued that the engagement center/low-barrier shelter group met on September 30, 2021 with a presentation from Carry it Forward out of Eugene to discuss their organization and what kind of impact they had on sheltering and engagement in Eugene. The group decided to start a homeless media project to show homelessness in Douglas County and Mercy Foundation and UHA agreed to help with the coordination of the project. The committee also met with Rogue Retreat to better understand their programs by participating in a tour. Commission members Pritchard, Briggs Loosley and others attended. In response to Commissioner Briggs Loosley, Mr. Ellsworth explained they were in the beginning stages for the video featuring homelessness and youth. He would like to go to the camps and talk to people about their struggles, help get them connected to services and determine any gaps that might exist. Commissioner Briggs Loosley was concerned that being on camera may scare some of the homeless from participating. Mr. Ellsworth agreed, but noted that some felt like their voices were not being heard elsewhere and this was a chance to tell their story. He hoped this could create compassion from others in the future.

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

Ms. Sowa discussed that HTAG members had been meeting for a number of years working to address the needs of the unhoused in the community. Staff from the City attend and participated in those meetings. Recently, HTAG had 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 included a number of community members and non-profit organizations, there was 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.

Ms. Sowa explained that Aviva Health 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 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. The request from Aviva to fund this position was for \$140,000 or \$70,000 per year. This was an eligible expense under the American Rescue Plan Act

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(ARPA). The City had received half of its \$5.2 million allocation of ARPA funding, with the second payment scheduled for next fiscal year. Funds were budgeted for contracted services and could be used to enter into a contract with Aviva for this purpose.

Typically, it was less expensive for other entities to hire employees than it was 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 was also an opportunity to strengthen the partnership between the City, Aviva and other community partners on working towards improving outcomes for those living outdoors. HTAG was 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. In response to Commissioner Fieldman, Ms. Sowa confirmed the \$70,000 included employee benefit costs. In response to Chair Rich, Ms. Rutledge explained they would hold interviews with their Human Resources team. She was open to the idea of having some Homeless Commission members present during interviews. Chair Rich and Commissioner Briggs Loosley volunteered to participate in interviews. Mr. Rutledge continued they would advertise on Indeed for two weeks and see how much interest they receive. If approved by City Council, she could begin advertising the next day. Ms. Messenger added that this would be an Aviva employee and they needed to be cognizant of not overstepping their process.

Commissioner Fieldman thanked Commissioner Bolton and Aviva Health for stepping up and handling this process to hire a coordinator. Commissioner Eichman moved to recommend the City Council authorize the City Manager to negotiate and enter into an agreement with Aviva Health to pay up to \$140,000.00 for Aviva to hire and employ an HTAG Coordinator for two years. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Briggs Loosley and approved with the following vote: Commissioners Brigham, Briggs Loosley, Eichman, Fieldman and Pritchard voted yes. No one voted no. Commissioner Bolton recused himself from the vote due to a conflict of interest.

NAVIGATION CENTER NEXT STEPS

Ms. Messenger explained that City had sent out a request for proposals, held a pre-bid meeting with several in attendance, but did not receive any proposals by the closing date. This was not the end of the search, and if there was a qualified entity to step forward then they could ask Council to exempt the proposal from competitive bidding. She and Ms. Sowa continued to reach out to other organizations to seek interest. Ms. Sowa added that she sent a letter to the Coos bay Devereux Center for them to present to their Board. In response to Commissioner Briggs Loosley, Ms. Sowa explained the Devereux Center was a nonprofit that had been active for many years and recently put up a shelter with pallet shelters. They had wrap around services and a center for people to obtain needed services. Ms. Messenger added they had a housing project last year with some success.

PROPERTY SEARCH UPDATE

Chair Rich shared that he reviewed property after the last Commission meeting and was waiting for a response from the owner, but had two more locations to review this week. He wanted to find a good site and location. They were still searching for property or a location and asked that if others had ideas, to please share them with Ms. Sowa.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

No comments were received prior to the meeting.

BUSINESS FROM THE COMMISSION

Commissioner Briggs Loosley said she and Commissioner Pritchard and Wayne Ellsworth went to Rogue Retreat on Friday, October 22, 2021 for a tour. Commissioner Briggs Loosley shared photos while discussing the different programs that were available. Tents were underneath a shelter to allow for double protection from the elements. There was a kitchen on one corner of the property so temporary residents could warm their food. Commissioner Pritchard added they had one heater onsite, but basically only provided sleeping bags. Mr. Ellsworth discussed how the structures were joined together from end to end and it was wonderful to see how well people got along with each other. All items were brought to the campers and they had 24-hour surveillance. Nothing was created at the location, all was brought in, garbage taken out and local nonprofits assisted with behavioral health and offered group therapy.

In response to Commissioner Fieldman, Mr. Ellsworth explained there were tents to one end designated for services, but he was unaware if they were meeting one on one or providing telehealth. Commissioner Briggs Loosley added there was a shower truck available with bathrooms. Commissioner Pritchard explained they did have paid staff and it cost \$60,000 a month to support that type of program. Commissioner Briggs Loosley said the program would need to be done right and have proper fencing to have it somewhat concealed. As far as distance to their downtown, she thought it would be similar to Roseburg's Stewart Park to the downtown area. Mr. Ellsworth added the property was leased. In response to Chair Rich, Commissioner Pritchard explained they had propane heaters and the property was leased because the City had a lien against it and this was an alternate way for the owner to get out from that with the city.

Commissioner Briggs Loosley continued that the pallet shelter community service officer was present and spoke with them and it was a fairly new site. They had electricity, but no running water. Commissioner Pritchard noted that program was on the same site and was visible to help the homeless aspire to the next level. In response to Ms. Messenger, Mr. Ellsworth confirmed that program also had staff and mentorship. Commissioner Briggs Loosley said they also toured the Kelly Shelter and were shown guidelines on what it would take to start a shelter. They had bunkbeds and a non-commercial kitchen. Many organizations within the community routinely brought meals for the shelter. Commissioner Pritchard added that the shelter fit in with the downtown area and did not stand out as a shelter. They were not allowed to congregate at the site which helped with getting along with the neighbors. In response to Commissioner Fieldman, Commissioner Briggs Loosley confirmed there was one large room, bathrooms and showers. Mr. Ellsworth added there were a few other rooms to the side that were more private for families. They had an old post office mailbox that was used for prescriptions and had totes to store items.

Commissioner Briggs Loosley discussed the Hope Village and noted each resident had responsibilities and charts for chores. Commissioner Pritchard said the area was well kept, clean and fenced. They called it a gated community and it was peaceful with a common area for people to store their own items in refrigerators. Mr. Ellsworth explained

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that tiny homes were not free to the resident; there was a small charge. They had one bed, a window and electricity. Many homes were sponsored and had a plaque naming the donating entity. The residents have three-hour shifts, everyone had jobs, and they had a full laundry set up that cost \$2.50 a load. He noticed many elderly folks staying there who had been priced out of the market. Chair Rich said many City Councilors participated in the same tour and noted the success of the program to help get people where they needed to be out on their own. Commissioner Briggs Loosley said Rogue Retreat had a tiny home on a trailer that could move around and promote their program for events and parades. They also wanted to help Roseburg succeed. Commissioner Pritchard said Rogue Retreat was helping UCAN in Grants Pass. They were stretched really thin so he asked the Commission to be realistic and was happy to see City staff reaching out to others for options. Mr. Ellsworth added that in a twelve-month period, Rogue Retreat helped over 900 unduplicated folks last year.

In response to Chair Rich, Commissioner Brigham provided a brief update on the Sobering Center. Since opening, they served 39 people, 20 were referred to community services and some had gone on to substance abuse services. They recently purchased a motel on SE Stephens Street for transitional housing that would be used to engage in recovery services. It was intended for a 6-9 month usage with the goal of having a person engaged in services and transition to permanent housing. There were 12 units and 19 beds. The hotel used to be the Travel Inn at 1627 SE Stephens Street. In response to Commissioner Briggs Loosely, Commissioner Brigham confirmed the motel would no longer provide lodging tax to the City due to their nonprofit status.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

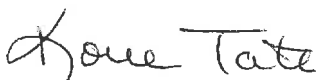
Commissioner Eichman asked if there was anything the Commission could do to help expedite the identification and acquisition of land for a navigation center and/or shelter. Chair Rich explained the process was difficult because owners did not want the information public at this time. They needed to negotiate a dollar amount and then the Commission could say yes to move it on to City Council for a decision. Ms. Messenger added that if any Commissioners had properties in mind to please let them know. They could also schedule an executive session to take a closer look at properties. The property could also be a lease option and may need to be a phased approach before acquiring a permanent location.

NEXT MEETING DATE

Monday, November 22, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:52 a.m.



Koree Tate
Management Assistant

HTAG homeless commission presentation 11-22-2021

I. HTAG meeting 10-27-2021

A. Attendance:

1. Amy Sowa assistant city manager city of Roseburg, Andrea Zielinski city councilwoman city of Roseburg, Christin Rutledge Aviva Health, Dane Zahner HIV Alliance, Abby Drummond DHS, Erica Kimrey UCAN, KC Bolton AVIVA, Kimetha Stallings ONWARD, Philip Suarez Ministry, Sarah Raine HIV Alliance, Shaun Pritchard UCAN, Allen Sjogren , Tara Johnson Devereux Center, Trina Wheeldon Adapt Sobering Center, Vicki Brown Presbyterian Church, Betsy Cunningham Housing First Umpqua, Catherine Paul Citizen, Marion Pearson Mercy Foundation, Juliana Marez Roseburg Schools, Christopher Hutton downtown business owner, Kat Cooper Umpqua Health Alliance.

B. HTAG coordinator position

1. Approved by the city
2. Want it to be hired by November 22nd. Great feedback no concerns.
3. This position will be coordinating all the efforts from HTAG. It is an Aviva position, but it is dedicated to HTAG full time. Fundraising, grant writing, and proposals.
4. They interviewed 6 people for the position. They have made an offer, but if not accepted they start second interviews.

C. Immediate needs

1. Tara from the Deveraux Center did a presentation on the model they have.
 - a. Navigation, case management, peer support and low barrier warming, tent, pallet, and tiny home sheltering
 - b. Hot meals, breakfast, lunch, showers, laundry, peer support case management, quick to refer out. Resource brokers. Work closely with Bay Area First Step, Adapt, DHS, the hospitals, case manager onsite, case manager that works in the village.
 - c. They also have homes and other rooms for rent.
 - d. Pallet shelters and tiny homes based off Rogue Retreat model. 19 pallet shelters.
 - e. People usually transition in 3 to 6 months.
 - f. They gave us structural, budget, and financial information
 - g. They will continue to give us consulting help to develop our own initiatives.
2. Rogue Retreat model
 - a. Very impressed with this model
 - b. Did a presentation on all that Rogue Retreat has to offer

3. The immediate needs sub-committee met on 11-17-2021

a. We established a co-op where we can store all the items that are collected that can be handed out to our folks on the street. This will be a container that will be at the UCAN Mill St. address. As of right now, there are "Kits" from UCAN that are tents, sleeping bag, and tarp. Onward has hats, thermals, gloves, scarfs, and some jackets.

b. We established that there are MOU's that can be filed to obtain this gear for your own organization, and those requests will all be done through Kelly Wessels at UCAN.

c. We are looking into using the Counting Us app, that was used for the annual point in time count, to help us keep track of the information needed for these MOUs, plus it could be used to collect data to better address needs.

d. Warming centers were not established yet. The Four-Square Church in Winston was willing to use their location. Philip and his ministry have written a letter to the local churches looking for interest in coordinating warming. Those letters will go out as soon as they can. Amy, Nikki, and I did a live video with Be One Umpqua explaining changes in ordinance that would allow for car or RV camping, warming centers, and other homeless initiatives in the attempt to give more information, break down barriers, and to show support.

e. Philip, from the ministry, and Dane, from HIV alliance will be reaching out to Pastor Gabe from Carry it Forward to connect with local pastors here to give information.

4. Places for people to be

a. We have people who participate in HTAG that are interested in leasing Amacher Park and a piece of Gaddis Park's parking lot in the attempt to create a tent situation with warming and mobile engagement through the winter months.

b. One group that is interested in Amacher can be ready by December 1st

c. Betsy Cunningham, Danny Quinn, Paul, and I met at Gaddis to talk about what it would look like if there was a camping situation in the parking lot. It was agreed that 75% of the folks currently along the river would migrate to this new environment and would be open to engagement and resources.

d. Any proposals for these locations would all need to go through proper channels and that potentially wouldn't be able to be completed until after the first of the year.

5. Homeless media project met on 11-17-2021

a. We developed a plan, defined the need, and who our audience will be

b. We established what kinds of homelessness we will dedicate this to.

c. Marion will be talking to the production company with these notes to give us an estimate. Then we will look at what funding we have to accomplish this.