

**CITY OF SILVERTON
HOMELESS/HOUSING TASK FORCE MINUTES**

Zoom Web Conference Platform

September 22, 2021, 6:00 p.m.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Kyle Palmer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The task force members and staff were present through the virtual meeting platform Zoom. Chair Palmer explained the meeting is being held through Zoom in accordance with House Bill 2560.

Present	Excused	
X		Kyle Palmer
X		Rachel-Anne Rapoza
X		Sara White
X		Helen Thomas
X		Connie Yoder
X		Dana Smith
X		Jennifer Hannan
	X	Sarah DeSantis
X		Hilary Dumitrescu
X		Karen Garst
	X	Joseph Schmaus

Staff Present:

City Manager, Ron Chandler and Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk, Melissa Molek.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Member Smith made a motion to approve the minutes from the meeting held on May 26, 2021. Member Garst seconded the motion. There was no discussion and the motion passed unanimously (9-0).

III. PUBLIC COMMENT – None

IV. DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEM – NEW BUSINESS

4.1 Legislative Update – Shelter and Homelessness Bills

Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk Melissa Molek presented a legislative update.

HB 2004 provides \$9.7 million to the Oregon Community Foundation to support Project Turnkey emergency shelters throughout the state. It becomes effective September 25, 2021.

HB 2006 requires local governments to approve an emergency shelter regardless of state or local land use laws if it meets certain criteria. ORS 446.265 (2) was defined. This law became effective May 12 2021.

HB 2008 requires local governments to approve the development of affordable housing on property not zoned for housing, without requiring a zoning change and provides a tax exemption if the property is owned or purchased by a religious organization. It becomes effective September 25, 2021.

HB 2544 appropriates \$3.6 million in one-time funding to the Oregon Department of Human Services to award 2-year grants to organizations that provide services to or operate host home projects for unaccompanied homeless youth. It becomes effective September 25, 2021.

HB 3115 requires that any city or county law regulating the acts of sitting, lying, sleeping, or keeping warm and dry outside on public property must be "objectively reasonable" based on the totality of the circumstances as applied to all stakeholders. It became effective June 23, 2021, but the implementation date has been delayed to July 1, 2023.

HB 3124 states that law enforcement must provide written notice before removing homeless individuals from an established camping site 72 hours before removal and notices must be posted at all entrances to the site. It became effective June 23, 2021.

Discussion included:

- The City needs to coordinate a solution or have a plan to address homelessness. The City of Woodburn is an example.
- Sheltering Silverton could put all 4 pallet shelters at one religious location as long as they are emergency shelters.
- Insurance and oversight are some barriers to providing shelters.
- Exploring strategic partnerships.
- Community support for a long-term project using grant funds.
- Pallet shelters at the RV park. The city requires that the shelters be hard-wired, not powered by an extension cord.
- There is an urgent need to solve the homelessness problem, but few resources are available and Sheltering Silverton is a young organization.

4.2 Community-Wide Homelessness event scheduled for 10/10/21

Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk Melissa Molek shared some information on World Homeless Day.

Discussion included:

- Ways to publicize information about homelessness.
- Ideas such as providing statistics, having Melissa Wagner do a series on homelessness, and social media.

4.3 Implementation of HB 3115 – develop recommended code language for City Council

Skipped for discussion at a later date.

4.4 Brainstorm ways to further City Council Goal 4.2

Skipped for discussion at a later date.

V. TASK FORCE UPDATES

5.1 Sheltering Silverton

Member Dumitrescu shared that, since reopening on July 15, they have seen 72 unique visitors and had 313 interactions.. They are open Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm. They have hired a new staff member who helps them collect data. They know of 20 people who are in need of and would take advantage of winter shelter, which will be temperature-activated when the temperature falls below 33 degrees. 29 of the 72 unique visitors are housed and they're working with them to make sure they can remain housed. The group that camps at Tractor Supply does not want help from Sheltering

Silverton. She recommends the film Nomadland. There are 14,655 homeless in Oregon, so every community needs to shelter 61 people. Sheltering Silverton helps people make connections to find housing.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Member Smith made a motion to adjourn and Chair Palmer adjourned the meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Melissa Molek".

/s/ Melissa Molek, Assistant to the City Manager/City Clerk