

CITY OF NEW HAVEN HOMELESS ADVISORY COMMISSION

July 8, 2021

Meeting Minutes

Attendance

Members: Present: D. Ecton, C. Spears, E. Robinson, M. Krasniqi

Ex-Officio: V. George

Staff: V. George

Guests:

Members Excused Absent:

Members Absent: - C. Phillips Jr., N. Torres,

Chair D. Ecton called the meeting to order at 6:04pm

Minutes:

July 8, 2021 meeting minutes were reviewed. There was no quorum, so the vote on the minutes was postponed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Emergency Shelter Management RFP Results

V. George shared how the results of this RFP intersected with the components of this office's 5 Year Housing plan. More specifically she highlighted focus on expanding navigation hub services to intentionally engage unsheltered homeless individuals and connect them to housing. She went on to share the importance of having hubs in strategic areas to meet the needs. V. George shared that she was hoping to add capacity to existing hubs and create hubs in the Fair Haven and Westville areas. These hubs would extend hours of operation to evenings and weekends as well as enhance services to include employment training, job and housing searches etc.

V. George went on to share that ESMS contract was not renewed due to extenuating circumstances and Columbus House would be assuming management of the ESMS clients at the hotel. In addition, Columbus House missed the RFP deadline to provide overflow shelter services. These two changes directly impacted cold weather bed capacity on top of COVID-19 diminished capacity. She assured the group that her office is working with the CAN and DOH to address this vacuum in services. She also shared that she is working with other city departments to explore options within the city's portfolio to provide other non-congregate options. We are looking at decommissioned schools and other city owned properties. We are also exploring constructing a pallet shelter village.

V. George also shared that funds were approved by the BOA to hire a staff person to coordinate the needs of unsheltered individuals while managing the complaints of residents around encampments.

Shelter Update:

V. George shared that there were currently 180 clients still in hotel beds. There were 31 families in shelter, with 20 additional families on the stabilization list. All 31 families in shelter were matched to housing. On the youth side, there were 14 youth in shelter and 5 on the stabilization list.

There were no CAN updates available at this meeting.

There were no new YHHAP updates available at this meeting.

No Announcements.

Meeting adjourned 7pm