

**CITY OF NEW HAVEN HOMELESS
ADVISORY COMMISSION
JUNE 14,2018**

MEETING AGENDA

Attendance:

Members Present: J. Huettner, D. Ecton, N. Hogan, J. Hardy, A. Roth, E. Robinson, V. Wilson,

Ex- Officio: V. George, N. Torres

Staff: V. George

Guest: P. Kosowsky, B. Huang, V. Aleizer, A. Schear, O. Johnson

Members Excused Absence: C. Phillips, J. Branham,

Members Absent: E. Lynn-Green

0.0 J. Huettner called the meeting to order, welcomed everyone and began with introductions.

1.0 The May 10, 2018 Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved

NEW BUSINESS

2.0 Evictions and Homelessness

B Huang of New Haven Legal Services shared a very robust presentation on the state of evictions in New Haven. He referenced Matt Desmond's work in Milwaukee and Princeton Eviction Lab. B Huang shared that his research showed that 53% of New Haven residents reported being housing cost burdened. He also shared that Top causes of eviction are loss of subsidy, nonpayment of rent, and tenant / landlord issues. Billy identified the hot spots throughout the city for evictions. He stated that due to the streamlined eviction process, the average length of time for an eviction is 45 days. B Huang also shared the correlation between representation and no representation. Landlords tended to prevail at eviction hearings because they were represented by legal counsel. Tenants that were represented by counsel fared better than tenants who were not represented. He also shared that the New Haven Housing Authority did the most evictions in the city. The goal of his research is to develop a predictive model/ metric, and to leverage a platform that would decrease housing instability.

O. Johnson, Fair Rent Commission spoke to the inequities that tenants face and the work that his office and commission are doing to assist tenants.

3.0 Youth Shelter (Grand Ave.).

P Kosowsky of Youth Continuum & students of Y2Y shared a presentation on the proposed youth shelter which is fashioned after a similar shelter in Boston at Harvard Square. This shelter is a partnership between Youth Continuum and Yale students (Y2Y), it will serve youth ages 18-24. Youth Continuum

received a grant from HUD for \$450K to do this project. Their goal is to create a safe space for youth to stay off the streets, while connecting them to necessary services to stabilize their health, housing, and economic outlook. Even though Y2Y students are currently spearheading this project, the goal is to integrate other students from Albertus, Gateway and Southern to be a part of the leadership team.

John entertained a motion to support this project. The commission voted unanimously to support the Youth Continuum Youth Shelter.

4.0 Update on Homeless Bill of Rights

V. George shared that she had secured the Aldermanic Chambers for September 13, 2018 at 6pm to host a Public Hearing on the Homeless Bill of Rights. In preparation for that meeting, the commission will invite the Chief Administrative Officer – M.Carter, the Police Chief – A.Campbell, and representatives of the LEAD program to the July meeting for their feedback.

5.0 Homeless Shelter Counts

V. George shared that family shelters remain at capacity with growing requests for shelter. Families are being diverted to open beds in neighboring towns – Milford and Shelton. Due to the nice weather, there are men's beds available. This is evident in the uptick of homeless encampments.

6.0 Update on CAN 2017-18 Goals/Progress--T. Clark – not present.

7.0 YHHAP Update E. Lynn-Green, et. al.- not present.

8.0 Membership Update

J. Huettner notified the group that J. Branham has resigned from the commission due to his new work schedule.

9.0 Announcements/News/Events - none

10.0 Adjournment