

**City of New Haven
Homeless Advisory Commission
January 11, 2023**

Attendance:

Members Present: J. Edwards, U. Muley, J. Huettner, S. Bass, A. Jaramoga

Ex- Officio: V. George-James, N. Torres,

Staff: S. James

Guest: Y. Chauca,

CAN- No representative

YHHAP-J. Simmons

Members Absent: t. Streeter

Excused Absent:

The meeting was called to order by V. George-James at 6:05pm.

Minutes: Review of Minutes were tabled .

NEW BUSINESS:

Welcome:

V. George-James introduced the new commissioner, A. Jaramoga.

Public Bathroom Update:

J. Huettner shared with the commission an overview of the public bathroom project. He shared that the public bathroom project is part of the Homeless Bill of Rights Resolution that was sent to the Board of Alders in 2019. J. Huettner emphasized that the public bathroom project is not a city responsibility but a community responsibility due to the various entities that will benefit from this service. In addition to the unsheltered population, the group agreed that tourist students, and visitors would all benefit. The group identified stakeholders and possible partners Yale, Chamber of Commerce, Downtown Green Proprietors, and business owners. V. George-James shared the fiscal impact study that was done in 2019. She shared that prices have significantly increased since the pandemic so a new study would need to be done.

Shelter Updates:

V. George- James shared that the Foxon hotel is the first non-congregate shelter in the region.

This program had a soft launch a week before Christmas and will be onboarding staff and clients in phases. She shared that Continuum of Care is still hiring staff. As a stop Gap measure, V. George-James loaned S. James out to this project to provide case management services two days per week.

V. George shared that the governor has declared an extreme weather protocol due to low temperatures and a snowstorm approaching. The ground floor of 200 Orange St will be opened to serve as overflow space for unsheltered individuals.

V. George-James also shared that Hamden recently opened their warming center which relieves some of the pressure on New Haven. V. George-James shared that all New Haven warming centers have been running at or above capacity since they opened. All New Haven warming centers operate from 7pm-7am seven days a week. V. George-James shared that other cold weather spaces are available in Milford and Shelton providing no freeze service. V. George shared that families experiencing homelessness are currently being housed but will transition to triage space at 209 Terminal Lane. She shared while in triage, families will receive case management services.

CAN Update:

No representation.

YHHAP Update:

J. Simmons- Shared no updates since students were on winter break.

Commission Elections:

V. George officiated the annual elections to fill the following seats

Board Chair

Co-Chair

Parliamentarian

V. George James opened the floor to begin the voting process. Motion was made as follows: by Joseph, seconded by U. Muley.

Voting Results / 2024 HAC Officers:

Board Chair: U. Muley

Co-Chair: J. Edwards

Parliamentarian: S. Bass

Announcement:

V. George-James shared that due to the uptick with covid and the flu virus, the HAC meetings will continue on Zoom for now and will be re-visited in the spring.

Adjourn– 7:06pm

