



Dane County

Minutes - Final Unless Amended by Committee

City-County Homeless Issues Committee

Monday, October 2, 2017

6:30 PM

CCB 357

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A. Call To Order

Present 6 - LINDA KETCHAM, DEEDRA ATKINSON, ULYSSES WILLIAMS, MICHELE RITT, BRIAN AUSTIN, and MAURICE CHEEKS

Absent 4 - HEIDI WEGLEITNER, KATHRYN (KAT) KOSKI, KRISTOPHER WACHOWIAK, and LARRY PALM

OTHERS PRESENT: Sarah Lim, Jim O'Keefe, Lynn Green, Dave Peters, Ronnie Barbett, Andrew Glickman, Brenda Konkell, Jeanne Erickson, Erik Femrite, Casey Becker

A.1. City members of the body should make any required disclosures or recusals under the City Ethics Code

B. Consideration of Minutes

[2017 MIN-236](#) 2017_0814 City-County Homeless Issues Committee Minutes & Registration Slips

Attachments: [2017_0814 CCHIC Minutes](#)
[2017_0814 City-County HIC Registration Slips](#)

A motion was made by ATKINSON, seconded by CHEEKS, that the Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - KETCHAM, ATKINSON, WILLIAMS, RITT, AUSTIN and CHEEKS

Absent: 4 - WEGLEITNER, KOSKI, WACHOWIAK and PALM

C. Action Items

1. Discussion and Possible Action on Recommendations for Availability and Accessibility of Public Restrooms

Public Comments:

David Peters spoke in favor of installing a public bathroom in the downtown area. People experiencing homelessness can benefit from permanent structure combining showers and toilets.

Jeanne Erickson pointed out the Beacon closes at 5pm. Women sleeping outdoors especially need restroom facilities available overnight.

Brenda Konkel said there is no overnight restroom option available for people experiencing homelessness. Concerned with people's human dignity and wants to see a solution to this issue.

Erik Femrite said he experienced homelessness himself and we can help people by taking an interest. More resources are needed.

Ronnie Barbett advocated for the placement of one portable toilet at the State Street Capitol Garage to serve individuals who sleep at the top of State Street. Proposed that Operation Welcome Home could maintain the portable toilet through an adopt-a-block program. Wants City and County staff to look into the issue.

Committee discussion of barriers to overnight public restroom access, current resources available to address the issue. County has \$5,570 in funds for portable toilets in 2017. \$300,000 in City of Madison capital funds for a public restroom is no longer available following an ad hoc committee study's findings.

A motion was made by CHEEKS, seconded by ATKINSON, to direct the County Human Services to work with the appropriate city department to use existing dedicated funds to site and install a temporary bathroom facility in the next 60 days in the immediate downtown area. The motion carried by the following vote:

Ayes: 6 - KETCHAM, ATKINSON, WILLIAMS, RITT, AUSTIN and CHEEKS

Absent: 4 - WEGLEITNER, KOSKI, WACHOWIAK and PALM

[2017
RPT-451](#)

2017_1002 Public Restrooms Report

Attachments: [2017_1002 Public Restrooms Report](#)

2. Discussion and Possible Action on Recommendations for the City/County 2018 Budget

Wegleitner could not attend the meeting but sent an e-mail advocating for a substantial increase in City and County capital and operational spending to enable Dane County to reach functional zero for chronically homeless, prioritizing investments in housing over jail spending, and for the City of Madison to increase its contribution to The Beacon, contingent on implementing a plan to provide long-term storage.

(The committee took no formal action on this item).

D. Presentations

1. Dane County Human Services Department 2018 Budget Proposal – Lynn Green, Dane County Department of Human Services

2017 programs continue with cost living adjustment. New or additional funding includes \$100,000 for Safe Haven, one time only funding to figure out the next step in 2018; \$172,000 for the Beacon; increase in the Salvation Army for Rapid Rehousing Program, and \$40,000 in Diversion. Moving Out's \$59,000 was transferred to housing/homeless area. There is other funding in the area for homelessness: increase support for Rethke; Porchlight Brooks Street and group home; family reunification program.

[2017
RPT-450](#)

2018 Department Housing and Homeless Support Budget DRAFT

Attachments: [2018 Department Housing and Homeless Support Budget DRAFT](#)

2. Community Development Division 2018 Budget Proposal – Jim O'Keefe, City of Madison Community Development Division

City agencies were instructed not to seek additional funding, but affordable housing development will continue. 4.5 million investment resulting in 650 new affordable housing units. Rethke Terrace (60 for homeless singles), Tree Lane project (45 units for homeless families), Stone House (8-9 units on Mifflin reserved for people experiencing homelessness in partnership with the Road Home), and Park St project. Heartland Housing failed to secure the tax credit for the Park St. project. The City has since acquired the property. Additional \$500K will be requested to support a renewed bid for the project as well as some supportive services startup funds. Supportive services key for these projects.

E. Reports to Committee

1. Beacon (Day Resource Center) Update

Construction is going well. Substantial completion on September 15. Catholic Charities is planning on soft opening in the first two weeks of October. Community Open House is scheduled on October 13, 2-6 p.m.

2. Messner Property RFP Update

Proposals have been submitted and are under review by an evaluation team.

3. NOFA (Federal) Funding Process

The CoC application was submitted on September 26. The changes in the funding matrix included Safe Haven (not applying for renewal), ICA's Coordinated Entry proposal (new), and Tenant Resource Center Rapid Rehousing Program proposal (new).

F. Future Meeting Items and Dates

Next meeting scheduled for Monday, November 6, 6:30pm, City County Building Room 357. Anticipated topics per committee work plan: Federal Changes Affecting Section 42 and other Affordable Housing Incentives, update on 2018 City/County budget process, Community Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness, and Panhandling ordinance. Presentations: County Affordable Housing Development Fund Update – David Phillips, Dane County, Office of Workforce and Economic Development; City of Madison Affordable Housing Update – Matthew Wachter, City of Madison, Community Development Authority

G. Public Comment on Items not on the Agenda

Ronnie Barbett asked City and County staff to bring the following stakeholders to the table to address public restroom issue: DMI, University, Parks Department. Advocated for additional funds and use of park facilities overnight.

H. Such Other Business as Allowed by Law

I. Adjourn

8:58 p.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Sarah Lim and Casey Becker.