HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC) HOUSING COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Date

March 7, 2023

Time

2pm-3:30pm

Location

Room 356, County of San Luis Obispo Department of Social Services, 3433 South Higuera St, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401. Members of the public were able to participate via Zoom.

Members Present

Anne Wyatt Brenda Mack Elaine Archer Gary Petersen Ken Trigueiro Mark Lamore Yael Korin

Members Absent

Kathy McClenathen

Staff and Guests

George Solis Glenn Silloway Greg Jeff Al-Mashat Jeff Eckles Marge Castle Morgan Torell Rita Holland Russ Francis Shaun Baxter Skylar Caldwell Teresa McClish Tim Siler Trisha Raminha

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Elaine called the meeting to order at 2pm.

2. Public Comment

Yael commented on the closing of the Oklahoma Avenue Safe Parking site, raising the issue that people may have to return to the street if they have nowhere else to go. Gary added that the safe parking model trialed at Oklahoma Avenue had potential but the program was not structured for success, and the cost of services is likely too high. Brenda added that there are other safe parking models besides the one used at Oklahoma Avenue.

Teresa commented that the City of San Luis Obispo is looking to their City Council for final approval of their homelessness response strategic plan in March. The Council will also be considering a flexible density ordinance (a housing initiative to encourage small units downtown).

Greg commented that the solutions discussed often address symptoms rather than the source of the problem, which is housing costs and inflation.

3. Consent: Approval of Minutes

Brenda made a motion to approve the minutes, seconded by Yael. The motion passed with none opposed and no abstentions.

4. Action/Information/Discussion

4.1. HSOC Administration

4.1.1. Discussion: Feedback from Executive Committee on Committee Jurisdictions

Laurel reported that the HSOC Executive Committee has considered the roles of committees after discussion at the last Housing Committee meeting. The Executive Committee has designated the Housing Committee to focus on infrastructure installations, capital projects and buildings. Services, including services at sites, are within the purview of the Services Coordinating Committee. The Housing Committee discussed this and there was agreement among members that housing and services should not be separated. County staff will follow up with Elaine on a statement to take to the Executive Committee.

4.2. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 1 – Create Affordable and Appropriately Designed Housing Opportunities and Shelter Options for Underserved Populations

4.2.1. Tiny Houses on Wheels: Reporting Back on Policies and Barriers in Different Jurisdictions

Laurel reported that County staff and the Housing Committee will be responsible for the quarterly analysis referenced in the Strategic Plan. Currently, the County is still working on recruiting new staff for the Homeless Services Division, but can provide the data that currently exists at the next Committee meeting.

Anne reported that Tiny Homes on Wheels (THOWs) are only allowed in two of the eight jurisdictions in the county. Four THOWs have been permitted in SLO City. Teresa reported that around 100 Accessory Dwelling Units (ADUs) have been permitted, and 82 finalized, in SLO City. Anne shared that the primary issues with ADUs are electrical hookups, sewer upgrades, and general risk and uncertainty. The advantage of THOWs over ADUs is cost in terms of time, development and foundation.

4.3. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 4 – Create, Identify, and Streamline Funding and Resources

4.3.1. Discussion Item: Federal and State Grants – Update on Opportunities

> George reported on the 2023 Action Plan grants and HHAP 2 (Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 2). The next steps are for the full HSOC to review recommendations from the Grant Review Committee at its March 15 meeting, then for housing reservation letters to be reviewed by the Board of Supervisors on March 21. Following this, County staff will have the letters sent to applicants so they can be used for California Tax

Credit Allocation Committee applications. Funding recommendations for HHAP 2 will go to the Board of Supervisors on April 4, and recommendations for the Action Plan grants will go to the Board on April 18.

George also reported on the Encampment Resolution Fund, which is a 4 year state grant. A second round of funding has been released for the 2022-23 fiscal year. The state is prioritizing encampments on state rights of way. ERF funding is intended to create pathways to move people out of encampments and ultimately into permanent housing.

4.4. Implementing Five-Year Plan Line of Effort 6 – Build Public Engagement Through Information-Sharing and Partnership

4.4.1. Discussion Item: Housing Developers Roundtable

Elaine shared that the Housing Authority of the City of San Luis Obispo (HASLO) and People's Self Help Housing are in the process of adding 437 units throughout the county. 267 will be coming online in 2023, and a further 170 in 2024.

5. Future Discussion/Report Items

6. Next Regular Meeting: April 4, 2023

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:53pm.