



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Advisory Commission
SUMMARY MEETING MINUTES
February 7, 2018
FINAL



Call to Order

The Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Advisory Commission was called to order at 4:30 pm at the Department of Health and Human Services, 825 L Street Room 423, Anchorage, Alaska. The meeting was staffed by the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Housing & Community Services Division (HCSO), Community Safety and Development (CSD).

I. Roll Call

Doug Lamkin, Chair Nikole Nelson, 2 nd Co-Chair Claire Waddoup, 1 st Co-Chair Niki Burrows Kenny Petersen Nelta Edwards <u>DHHS Staff</u> Nancy Anderson, CSD Program Manager	E = Excused U = Unexcused	Ruth Schoenleben, Nine Star Sara Drummond, Visitor
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There was a quorum

II. Approval of February 7, 2018 HHAND Agenda

<u>MOTION:</u> Commissioner Burrows
<u>SECOND:</u> Co-Chair Waddoup
<u>DISCUSSION:</u> No Discussion
<u>VOTE:</u> Unanimous

III. Approval of HHAND November 1, 2017, December 6, 2017 & January 3, 2018 Minutes

<u>MOTION:</u> Commissioner Petersen
<u>SECOND:</u> Commissioner Burrows
<u>DISCUSSION:</u> No Discussion
<u>VOTE:</u> Unanimous

IV. Conflict of Interest Declarations & Annual Disclosure of present Economic Interest

There were no conflicts of interest.

V. Public Comment

There were no public comments. Visitor Sara Drummond was asked to comment on what she knows and what she would like to know. Ms. Drummond explained that she used to work for Anchorage Community Mental Health Services' program named the Permanent Housing Program which worked with people who had been or were homeless but the program was shut down in September 2016. She noted the struggle of being homeless and how hard it was to

get out of homelessness plus maintaining housing after acquiring it. Ms. Drummond stated the last few years have been disappointing and she was also disappointed how the Mayor has dealt with the issue of homelessness, driving people out of camps with nowhere else to go. She does not believe enough is being done by this administration and she thought the HHAND Commission may be a place to see if there is more being done than she is aware of.

Chair Lamkin suggested that Ms. Drummond sit in on ACEH meetings which would be a good start and also she would be welcome to sit in on the Assembly's Committee to End Homelessness where Nancy Burke gives an update on statistics.

VI. Old Business

- A. Nine Star's employment pilot program, "Fighting Homelessness with the Net and Ladder".

The last action was taking the letter of recommendation to the Assembly Committee on Homelessness. Chair Lamkin reported that Assemblyman Rivera would be happy to look at the letter. Commissioner Burrows responded that if the letter has not been sent yet, then the commission should send the letter to Assemblyman Rivera. It was noted Chair Lamkin sits on that committee. The commissioners voiced doubts regarding the committee whether they would do anything with the information. It was decided to re-write the letter as a resolution and send it to the Assembly. Co-Chair Nelson made the move to forward a resolution to the Assembly and the Mayor requesting their influence to gain financial assistance for the "Fighting Homelessness with the Net and Ladder" program.

<u>MOTION:</u> Commissioner Nelson
<u>SECOND:</u> Commissioner Burrows
<u>VOTE:</u> Unanimous decision

- B. Aging Out of Foster Care.

The commission did a follow up and reported there are advocacy groups for foster care, but what they needed was helpers and these groups are working towards meeting those needs, but they do need allies.

- C. United Way's Financial Stability Partnership

Commissioner Petersen commented on the work group that was discussed during January's meeting, they received \$50,000 from Providence and are developing a model to create a system change in homelessness.

VII. New Business

- A. Alaska Railroad Corporation Land – See handout

Chair Lamkin gave the commissioners a hand-out regarding Alaska Railroad and informed them about the land they own, but they are not able to use or sell this land without legislative approval. NeighborWorks Alaska has a large affordable housing project on Government Hill of 238 units which Alaska Railroad owns the land; in 22 years if NeighborWorks Alaska cannot own the land they will have to demolish these 238 units of affordable housing. Alaska Railroad is bringing back Senate Bill 86 to change the language. Chair Lamkin is asking to do a resolution or a letter of support with other organizations for the senate to promote senate bill 86. Chair Lamkin asked

the commissioners to look at it and to put it on the agenda for next month. Co-Chair Nelson put forth the question who would be against Alaska Railroad selling this land and will look into it and also find out what the opposition would be before voting to send it forth with a recommendation to the Mayor and Assembly

VIII. Reports

A. Subcommittee Reports

There were no subcommittee reports.

B. Commissioners' Comments

Commissioner Petersen suggested that Covenant House Foster Care be removed from new business.

Commissioner Petersen informed the commission that he is resigning from the HHAND Commission as of February 7, 2018. Commissioner Petersen will continue on the commission until his replacement is approved.

Chair Lamkin will re-new.

Commissioner Edwards will not be able to attend but will call in for the March and April meetings, then stated she would resign from the commission.

C. MOA Representative's Report

Ms. Anderson spoke of the National Housing Trust Fund. The Municipality has an executed grant agreement with Alaska Housing Finance Corporation for both 2016 and 2017 National Housing Trust Fund which is a little over \$1,000,000 that will go towards development of extremely low income rental housing, 30% below the area median income; that's the criteria for using those funds to develop housing. It must go through a competitive bid process, but before the bid process MOA will go out for a public comment to amend our 2016 and 2017 Action Plans.

IX. Adjourn

Chair Lamkin asked for new agenda items, Co-Chair Nelson suggested to re-visit Chair Lamkin project of the letter of support/resolution for Nine Star's "Fighting Homelessness with the Net and Ladder".

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Next meeting March 7, 2018 at DHHS, 825 L Street Room 423 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm.