



MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood
Development (HHAND)
Advisory Commission
SUMMARY MINUTES
January 07, 2026



Call to Order

The Housing, Homeless and Neighborhood Development (HHAND) Advisory Commission meeting reached a quorum and was opened by Chair Dave Rittenberg at 4:05 PM. The meeting was staffed by the Anchorage Health Department (AHD), Human Services Division (HSD), Community Safety and Development (CSD).

A. Roll Call & Introductions (*virtual attendance italicized*):

Commissioners

Present: Chair Dave Rittenberg, *Vice Chair Jessica Parks, Michelle Baker, Julie Greene-Graham, D. Sheneé Williams, Laura Reijns, Dr. Marvin Johnson*

Absent: Daniel Sager

MOA Staff

AHD: Jed Drolet, CSD Program Manager; Chase Burghgrave, CSD Lead Planner; Kyle Mielke, Community Development Specialist; Valerie Mahugh, Community Development Specialist; Frankie Dahl, Senior Office Associate; Leila Taylor, Housing Services Division Manager; *Kimberly White, Housing & Homelessness Program Manager; Makenna Bacon, Homelessness/Behavioral Health Research Analyst*

Other Departments: Thea Agnew Bembem, Special Assistant to the Mayor

Guests or Presenters

B. Approval of Order of Business –Chair entertained a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

MOTION: Michelle Baker
SECOND: Dr. Marvin Johnson
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: No Opposition

C. Approval of December 2025 minutes

MOTION: Dr. Marvin Johnson
SECOND: Laura Reijns
DISCUSSION: None
VOTE: No Opposition

D. Disclosures

None

E. Action Items

1. Review and Approve changes to the HHAND Commission Rules & Procedures:

MOTION: Jessica Parks

<u>SECOND:</u> Dr. Marvin Johnson
<u>DISCUSSION:</u>
<u>SUBSIDIARY MOTION to Amend the current draft:</u> Dave Rittenberg
<u>SECOND:</u> Dr. Marvin Johnson
<p><u>DISCUSSION:</u> The following amendments were proposed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Section II. Meetings, under “Quorum”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Rephrasing the second sentence as “A quorum is considered to be 5 commissioners.” ○ Moving the third sentence to the first bullet of the section and rephrasing it to read as “A meeting may be cancelled after 10 minutes if a quorum cannot be established, subject to the judgement of the Chair.” ○ Adding a bulleted statement directly after that reads “If a quorum is not established, and there is no Chair or Vice Chair present, then after ten minutes the meeting will be automatically cancelled.” ○ Striking the second and third bulleted statements • In Section II. Meetings, under “Resolutions”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In the second sentence, rephrasing the sentence to read as “A Commissioner shall prepare the resolution, and it shall be signed by the Chair.” • In Section II. Meetings, under “Agenda”: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Strike “the secretary” and add “the staffer” instead.
<u>VOTE:</u> No Opposition
<u>VOTE:</u> No Opposition

F. Informational Items

1. Ongoing Business

- a. **Update from the Mayor’s Office:** Special Assistant to the Mayor Thea Agnew Bemben gave updates about the temporary addition of shelter beds in response to cold weather, provider coordination, outreach, and the Microunits project.
- b. **Update from Housing and Homelessness:** Housing Services Division Manager Leila Taylor did not have any updates to share outside of what Thea Agnew Bemben shared.
- c. **Update from Community Safety and Development:** Program Manager Jed Drolet gave updates about 2025 HUD grants, starting the 2026 Action Plan process, and working on priorities for upcoming projects.
- d. **Request for HHAND Commissioner advice about basic needs for unhoused community members:** Commissioners discussed their experience with coordination of volunteer services and distribution of basic necessities. A general consensus was reached that there needs to be a higher level of coordination to make this goal more achievable.

<u>MOTION to extend the meeting until 5:40 PM:</u> Jessica Parks
<u>SECOND:</u> Dr. Marvin Johnson
<u>DISCUSSION:</u> None
<u>VOTE:</u> No Opposition

G. General Public Comments —

1. Jamie Lopez provided public comment.
2. Duke Russell provided public comment.

H. Commissioner Comments —

None

I. Reports—

None

Meeting adjourned at 5:40 PM. No motion for adjournment was made as the agreed upon time for adjournment had passed. The next HHAND Commission meeting is scheduled for February 4th, 2026, from 4:00 – 5:30 pm., at 825 L Street, Conference Room #423, and through Microsoft Teams.