



SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING COMMISSION TO END HOMELESSNESS

Wednesday, August 16, 2023 1:00 P.M.

County Conference Center
Room 104/106
425 West Santa Ana Boulevard, Santa Ana, CA 92701

Don Wagner, Third District Supervisor, Chair	Monique Davis, Business Representative
Vicente Sarmiento, Second District Supervisor	Jack Toan, Business Representative
James Vanderpool, North Service Planning Area	Jason Ivins, Orange County Sheriff's Department
Kristine Ridge, Central Service Planning Area	George Searcy, Affordable Housing Industry Representative
Debra Rose, South Service Planning Area	Richard Afable, Behavioral Health Representative, Vice Chair
Sue Parks, Philanthropic Representative	Paul Wyatt, At Large Member
Robert Dunn, Chief of Police Representative	Milo Peinemann, At Large Member
Sean DeMetropolis, Municipal Fire Department Rep	Todd Spitzer, District Attorney
Christy Cornwall, Hospital Representative	Maricela Rios-Faust, Continuum of Care Board Representative
Vacant, Faith-based Community Representative	Robert Morse, Continuum of Care Board Representative

ATTENDANCE: Commissioners Afable, Cornwall, Dunn, DeMetropolis, Morse, Parks, Peinemann, Rios-Faust, Ridge, Rose, Sarmiento, Searcy, Spitzer, Wagner and Wyatt

ABSENT: Commissioners Davis, Ivins, Toan and Vanderpool

PRESENT: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR Doug Becht, Director of Care Coordination
CLERK OF THE COMMISSION Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk

Call to Order

CHAIRMAN WAGNER CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 1:00 P.M.

Pledge of Allegiance

COMMISSIONER MORSE LED THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Roll Call

THE CLERK CALLED THE ROLL AND CONFIRMED QUORUM WAS MET

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DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Office of Care Coordination Update
 - a. Membership Updates
 - b. 2023 Homeless Survey

- (a) COMMISSION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR BECHT PROVIDED AN UPDATE ON THE COMMISSION MEMBERSHIP, INCLUDING WELCOMING KRISTINE RIDGE AS THE CENTRAL SERVICE PLANNING AREA REPRESENTATIVE AND THE RECRUITMENT TO FILL VACANT AND EXPIRING SEATS THAT WILL CLOSE AUGUST 31. THE MEMBERSHIP AD HOC COMMITTEE WILL REVIEW APPLICTAIONS RECEIVED AND BRING BACK RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE COMMISSION AT THE OCTOBER MEETING.
- (b) THE 2023 HOMELESS SURVEY DATA IS CURRENTLY BEING FINALIZED AND THE OFFICE OF CARE COORDINATION IS COMPILING A REPORT WHICH WILL BE PRESENTED TO THE COMMISSON AT THE OCTOBER MEETING.

PRESENTATIONS

2. California Statewide Study of People Experiencing Homelessness Presentation by Tiana Moore, Ph.D, Policy Director, Benioff Homelessness and Housing Initiative, University of California San Francisco

DR. MOORE PROVIDED AN IN-DEPTH PRESENTATION OF THE STUDY'S FINDINGS INCLUDING DATA ON WHO EXPERIENCES HOMELESSNESS IN CALIFORNIA, THE PATHWAYS TO HOMELESSNESS, EXPERIENCES DURING HOMELESSNESS, BARRIERS AND FACILITATORS OF RETURNS TO HOUSING, POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS AND IMPACT.

ACTION ITEMS

3. Approve Commission to End Homelessness minutes from the June 21, 2023 regular meeting

ON THE MOTION BY COMMISSIONER AFABLE, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SARMIENTO, AND COMMISSIONER RIDGE ABSTAINING, THE COMMISSION APPROVED THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 21, 2023 REGULAR MEETING.

4. Approve Cold Weather Emergency Shelter Ad Hoc Recommendations
 - a. Commission to End Homelessness to send a formal letter to Mayors of all 34 cities in Orange County to explore options for Cold Weather Emergency Shelter programs in their cities
 - b. Examine County, Cities and contracted street outreach providers' policies and procedures related to extreme weather event preparation and response, beyond cold weather, and create a set of recommended policies and procedures to incorporate best practices and alignment with the Homeless Service Pillars

ON THE MOTION BY COMMISSIONER DUNN, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER SEARCY, THE COMMISSION APPROVED ITEM AS RECOMMENDED.

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5. Approve recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to update the Commission to End Homelessness Bylaws to incorporate a voting member seat for a Medi-Cal Managed Care Health Plan representative.

ON THE MOTION OF COMMISSIONER SPITZER, SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER DUNN, THE COMMISSION APPROVED ITEM AS RECOMMENDED WITH DIRECTION TO STAFF TO CONSULT WITH COUNTY COUNSEL FIRST AS TO ANY POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Gina Cunningham - Oral re: HomeAid Orange County owns a shelter for families experiencing homelessness in the City of Orange which is operated by Mercy House called the Family Care Center ; the shelter currently faces potential closure by the end of the year due to shrinking revenue base; asks the Commission to consider families experiencing homelessness in the discussion.

Carrie Buck – Oral re: Executive Director of Family Solutions Collaborative; focus on families; the Conditions of Children in Orange County report was released and identified areas of priority, including physical fitness and nutrition, behavioral health, chronic absenteeism, child welfare, preventable youth deaths and housing; housing improves all of those other priority areas; with stable and secure housing children can attend school regularly, do better in school, have access to meals; funding is shrinking to continue providing services to families.

Madelynn Hirneise – Oral re: CEO of Families Forward; State of family homelessness and harsh trends being seen; COVID-19 funding is going away and the need is higher than it was at peak of pandemic; family homelessness is growing; need to increase the flow through shelter into housing opportunities

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

ADJOURNED: 3:12 P.M.

NEXT MEETING: October 18, 2023, 1:00 P.M.

Signature on File

SUPERVISOR DON WAGNER
Chair

Signature on File

Valerie Sanchez, Chief Deputy Clerk
Clerk of the Commission