

STATE OF TEXAS  
COUNTIES OF POTTER & RANDALL  
CITY OF AMARILLO

On the 28<sup>th</sup> day of January 2016, the Continuum of Care (CoC) Ad Hoc Subcommittee met at 1:30p.m. at the Downtown Library on the second floor in Rooms A & B for review of agenda items, and consideration of future agenda items.

**MINUTES**

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Tanner, Nancy - Chairperson	No	4	3
Reyher, Grant – Vice Chairperson	Yes	4	4
Williams-Trice, Virginia	Yes	4	4
Johnson, Harvey	Yes	4	4
Gonzales, Raymond	Yes	4	4
Harlan, Brent	No	4	2
Stephens, Kelly	Yes	4	4
Fox, Gary	No	4	3
Rogers, Susan	Yes	4	3
Jones, Anne	No	4	0
Coble, Warren	Yes	4	4
Mills, Clint	Yes	4	4

NON VOTING ADVISORY MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD SINCE APPOINTMENT	NO. OF MEETINGS ATTENDED
Fuller, Sean	Yes	4	4
Lane, Donnie	No	4	0
Gilmore, Diann	Yes	4	3
Alexander, Mercede	No	4	0
Huddleston, Chris	Yes	4	1
Gilmore, Perry	Yes	4	4
Walker, Juliana	No	4	2
Redus, Reed	No	4	3
Batchelor, Melinda	Yes	4	4
High, Carolyn	No	4	1
Durham, Marc	Yes	4	4
Tucker, Terry	No	4	3
Steelman, Sonja	Yes	4	4
Thornton, Carolyn	Yes	4	4

There were 10 citizens in attendance

Also in attendance were:

<u>James Allen</u>	Community Development Administrator, CITY OF AMARILLO
<u>Kathryn Foster</u>	Program Coordinator, CITY OF AMARILLO
<u>Kelly Robinson</u>	HMIS Coordinator, CITY OF AMARILLO
<u>Summer McCampbell</u>	Administrative Assistant III, CITY OF AMARILLO

- I. **Call to Order.** Vice-Chair Grant Reyher established a quorum and called the regularly scheduled meeting of the Ad Hoc Subcommittee to order at 1:30 PM.
- II. **Approve minutes from January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting.** Vice-Chair Reyher requested review of minutes from previous meeting. Kelly Stephens moved to approve the minutes from January 22<sup>nd</sup> with no corrections. Motion seconded by Major Harvey Johnson. Unanimous vote 8-0 to accept the minutes.

- III. Report from work group presented by Diann Gilmore.** Vice-Chair Reyher asked for report from Diann Gilmore and the work group that met to address solutions to gaps in services. Diann Gilmore submitted a report from the work committee presenting a list of possible solutions to the identified areas of need such as more street outreach to get individuals to shelters, overnight shelters specific to those under the influence, a jail diversion program, and even a Housing First pilot program for the chronically homeless. It has been determined that this will be an ongoing committee that will meet weekly and continue to work on solidifying plans that will work to eliminate the gaps in services for the homeless.
- IV. Discussion and consideration of public comment process.** Vice-Chair Reyher addressed how public comments will be handled going forward; individuals will come forward and give their names and address. Also a set time limit of 3 minutes will be allowed for each citizen to comment. Floor was opened for public comment: Georgia Romig, an Amarillo citizen, doesn't see the purpose in having the ordinance when she sees individuals "camping" in various public areas during the day and the ordinance is not being enforced. Another citizen, Chris Seawright, believes that the police officers are exercising more humane approaches to handling the "camping" situation; however he is in support of a repeal of the ordinance. Also believes that this committee was formed simply to assess how the ordinance affects the homeless and it is outside of their scope of expertise to try to create a new ordinance/law. Eric Savage, another Amarillo citizen, read from the second paragraph of the Declaration of Independence to point out that in his opinion that Ordinance 7333 takes away an individual's liberty and even rights to peaceful protest. He states that he has several ideas on how to help the homeless and is open to meeting with any social service representatives to discuss.
- V. Propose and consider revisions to Ordinance 7333.** Vice-Chairperson Grant Reyher changed the order of the agenda and decided to present a new set of amendments to Ordinance 7333 to the committee. Stated that a repeal of the Ordinance 7333 is needed and a new ordinance needs to be instituted that will decriminalize homelessness. Virginia William-Trice believes that the ordinance needs to target protecting people's properties but not target any individual's human rights. Susan Rogers asked who helped Vice-Chair Reyher in the preparation of the new ordinance recommendations because she questions the legal jargon used. Vice-Chair replied that he prepared the document himself. Kelly Stephens moved to have 5 minutes of silence to review the document. Major Johnson seconded the motion. 7-2 vote to allow five minutes to review the amendments presented. Several other committee members were not comfortable voting on a document they were not included on helping to prepare and not having sufficient time to review. Susan Rogers and Perry Gilmore suggested breaking down the original ordinance and making suggestions to address what subsections that they have issue with. The areas of Ordinance 7333 that the committee recommends clarification or amending are: Sec 10-3-45. Camping on Public Property, subsection (a) (1) on "sleep at a place" to clarify verbiage and a weather provision should be included. Susan Rogers moved to recommend to City Council to clarify verbiage of "sleep at a place". Raymond Gonzales seconded the motion. 7-1 in favor of submitting recommendation for clarification of verbiage "sleep at a place". Grant Reyher moved to recommend to City Council that a weather provision be included in Ordinance 7333. Major Johnson seconded the motion. 4-4 resulted in weather provision will not be submitted as a recommendation.
- VI. Compilation of report to City Council.** Vice-Chair Reyher provided an outline of what information to submit to City Council as a formal report from the Ad Hoc Subcommittee: clarification to verbiage "sleep at a place", the identified existing services, identified gaps in services and possible solutions, minutes from all previous meetings, and notes from each task force meeting. Also will include in the report that the taskforce that is focusing on solutions to identified gaps in services will continue to meet and then once a final report is ready the Ad Hoc Subcommittee will have a final meeting and present a final report to City Council. Major Harvey Johnson moved to accept the outline for the report to be submitted to City Council. Warren Coble second the motion. 8-0 vote to accept recommendations to submit in a report to City Council.
- Kelly Stephens then made a motion to have the ongoing taskforce be made up of no more than 5 committee members, 2 of which need to be voting members from the Ad Hoc subcommittee. Also this task force can call for subject-matter experts to attend specific meetings for guidance and this committee should not exceed 6 months in creating a final report. Susan Rogers seconded the motion. 8-0 vote to accept the terms and conditions of the taskforce expectations.
- VII. Adjournment.** Vice-Chair Reyher announced that the next meeting will be scheduled once the taskforce is ready with their final reports. There, being no further business, Major Johnson moved to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded

by Susan Rogers. The meeting adjourned at 3:30pm. This meeting was recorded and all comments are on file with the City Community Development Department.

  
Nancy Tanner, Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
James Allen, Community Development Administrator