

ITEM 5A

Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes November 17, 2021



The audio file for this meeting can be found at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - The November 17, 2021 meeting was called to order by Homelessness Committee Chair Christy Holstege, City of Palm Springs, at 10:00 a.m. on Zoom videoconference, pursuant to AB 361 and the guidelines for virtual public meetings.

2. **ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and it was determined that a quorum was present.

Members Present

Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
City of Blythe
City of Cathedral City
Desert Healthcare District
City of Desert Hot Springs
City of Indian Wells
City of Indio
City of La Quinta
City of Palm Desert
City of Palm Springs
City of Rancho Mirage
Riverside County – District 4

Councilmember John Preckwinkle III (*Arrived at 3*)
Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez (*Arrived at 6A*)
Councilmember Mark Carnevale
Board member Carole Rogers, RN
Councilmember Jan Pye
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik
Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon (*Arrived at 3*)
Councilmember John Peña, Vice Chair
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan
Mayor Christy Holstege
Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend
Assistant Director Carrie Harmon

Ex-Officio Members Present

Shelter from the Storm
Home Aid Inland Empire

Angelina Coe
Julie Reay

Members and Ex-Officios Not Present

City of Coachella
Martha's Village and Kitchen
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission

Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzales
Linda Barrack
Alice Salinas
Darla Burkett

Others Present

CVAG

Tom Kirk
Erica Felci
Joanna Stueckle
Anyse Smith
Peter Satin
Beverly Newton
Greg Rodriguez
Margaret Park
Officer James
Donna Craig

CVAG/ Riverside County
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Desert Hot Springs PD
Desert Healthcare District/ Foundation

City of Palm Desert
City of La Quinta
Kosmont Companies
RCP
360 Wellness Solutions
Individuals

Heather Horning
Jeremy Griffin
Joe Dieguez
Shelley Vedrode
Katherine Sullivan
Sybil Brown
Myrel Cabezon
Reyna Camerena
Becky Ruiz
Bruce Yeager

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

Katherine Sullivan of 360 Solutions discussed the launch of mobile behavioral health services, which related to Item 7C and the exploration of additional homelessness resources.

4. CHAIR / COMMITTEE MEMBER/CVAG STAFF COMMENTS

Assistant Executive Director Erica Felci provided an update on the launch of CVAG's mobile access center.

Palm Desert Councilmember Sabby Jonathan provided a recap of the ad hoc committee that had been created to explore the additional services for homeless individuals who have refused services or who are not being helped. He also highlighted a news article showing the policy shift in the City of Sacramento.

Cathedral City Councilmember Mark Carnevale noted that Riverside County Sheriff Chad Bianco presented at CVAG's Public Safety Committee, and that CVAG staff was reaching out to him after he expressed an interest in exploring additional approaches to address homelessness.

Assistant Director Carrie Harmon provided an update on plans for the 2022 Point-In-Time Count.

Indio Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon echoed the comments by Councilmembers Jonathan and Carnevale.

Chair Holstege announced the City of Palm Springs would be swearing in its new Police Chief, Andy Mills, at the next Council meeting.

5. CONSENT CALENDAR

IT WAS MOVED BY MAYOR PRO TEM TOWNSEND AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FERMON TO:

A. Approve the September 15, 2021 Homelessness Committee Meeting Minutes

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 11 AYES AND 2 MEMBERS ABSENT.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Councilmember John Preckwinkle III | AYE |
| Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez | ABSENT |
| Councilmember Mark Carnevale | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzalez | ABSENT |
| Director Carole Rogers | AYE |
| Councilmember Jan Pye | AYE |
| Councilmember Kimberly Muzik | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon | AYE |
| Councilmember John Peña | AYE |
| Councilmember Sabby Jonathan | AYE |
| Mayor Christy Holstege | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend | AYE |
| Assistant Director Carrie Harmon | AYE |

6. DISCUSSION / ACTION

A. CV Housing First: Update on Third Quarter Progress

Executive Director Tom Kirk and Management Analyst Anyse Smith provided the staff report. Member discussion ensued. Members asked that the program's one-year recap include lessons learned through the first year of CV Housing First operations.

No action was taken as this was an informational item.

B. CV Housing First Program in 2022

Ms. Felci presented the staff report. Members briefly discussed the item, and noted the impact that the program was having in the community.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN AND SECONDED BY MAYOR PRO TEM FERMON TO ENDORSE THE CV HOUSING FIRST STRATEGY FOR 2022, INCLUDING THE REFRESH OF THE CV200 PROSPECTIVE CLIENT LIST AS COMPILED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AND LOCAL HEALTHCARE PARTNERS.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 1 MEMBERS ABSENT.

| | |
|------------------------------------|--------|
| Councilmember John Preckwinkle III | AYE |
| Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez | AYE |
| Councilmember Mark Carnevale | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzalez | ABSENT |
| Director Carole Rogers | AYE |
| Councilmember Jan Pye | AYE |
| Councilmember Kimberly Muzik | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon | AYE |
| Councilmember John Peña | AYE |
| Councilmember Sabby Jonathan | AYE |
| Mayor Christy Holstege | AYE |

| | |
|---|------------|
| Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend | AYE |
| Assistant Director Carrie Harmon | AYE |

C. REAP Revenue Stream Feasibility Study for Housing and Associated Transportation Needs

Peter Satin presented the staff report and presented a modified staff recommendation that included authorization to accept additional funding from SCAG for the project.

A robust member discussion ensued with several members opposing the narrowed focus of the proposed scope of work. CVAG staff addressed questions about the proposal and budget constraints.

Based on the Homelessness Committee members' input and feedback, CVAG staff provided a new recommendation that included having staff work with Kosmont to revise the proposal before it is presented to the Executive Committee, particularly to prioritize non-tax funding alternatives for affordable housing.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER JONATHAN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO MOVE FORWARD WITH AN AGREEMENT WITH KOSMONT COMPANIES SO LONG AS THE PROPOSAL REFLECTS THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ON ALTERNATIVES TO BE STUDIED AND ALLOW THE HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE PROPOSAL PRIOR TO IT BEING PRESENTED TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE.

THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 12 AYES AND 1 MEMBERS ABSENT.

| | |
|---|---------------|
| Councilmember John Preckwinkle III | AYE |
| Councilmember Johnny Rodriguez | AYE |
| Councilmember Mark Carnevale | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Josie Gonzalez | ABSENT |
| Director Carole Rogers | AYE |
| Councilmember Jan Pye | AYE |
| Councilmember Kimberly Muzik | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Waymond Fermon | AYE |
| Councilmember John Peña | AYE |
| Councilmember Sabby Jonathan | AYE |
| Mayor Christy Holstege | AYE |
| Mayor Pro Tem Charles Townsend | AYE |
| Assistant Director Carrie Harmon | AYE |

D. Development of a Navigation Center in the City of Palm Springs

Greg Rodriguez, contract staff, provided an update on the City of Palm Springs' actions to work with Riverside County to develop a navigation center for homelessness services. Member discussion ensued. No action was taken on this informational item.

7. INFORMATION – The following items were provided for the Committee's information, and the Chair asked ex officio members for input on 7B:

A. Attendance Record

B. Ex-Officio Updates

No ex officio updates were presented.

C. Exploring Additional Homelessness Resources in the Coachella Valley

D. Point-in-Time Data from Riverside County

E. Operations Hub for CV Housing First

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Katherine Sullivan of 360 Solutions expressed interest in partnering with CVAG and other programs to provide services to the homeless.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Meetings:

The next meeting of the **Homelessness Committee** will be held on Wednesday, January 19, 2022, at 10 a.m. via Zoom webinar.

The next meeting of the **Executive Committee** will be held on Monday, December 6, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom webinar.

10. ADJOURN - The meeting was adjourned at 11:27 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Erica Felcí

CVAG Assistant Executive Director