

MINUTES
MALIBU HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING
MARCH 15, 2022
TELECONFERENCED – VARIOUS LOCATIONS
2:00 P.M.

The following meeting was held pursuant to AB 361 and fully teleconferenced from various locations during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Roven called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance via teleconference by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Chair Ian Roven; and Task Force Members Deborah Benton, Wayne Cohen, Paul Davis, Terry Davis, Scott Dittrich, Chris Frost, Kelly Pessis, and Bill Sampson

ABSENT: Vice Chair Bill Winokur

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Manager; Luis Flores, Public Safety Liaison; Parker Davis, Media Technician; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Task Force Member Paul Davis led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Task Force Member Dittrich moved, and Task Force Member Terry Davis seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Vice Chair Winokur absent.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Executive Assistant Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on March 10, 2022.

ITEM 1 CEREMONIAL/PRESENTATIONS

None.

ITEM 2.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2.B. STAFF UPDATES

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated she was contacted by the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services (DHS) about providing a mobile health clinic for homeless in Malibu. She stated it would complement services provided by Venice Family Clinic. She announced the City Council Special meeting scheduled on Thursday, March 24, at 6:00 p.m. when the Task Force's recommendation on Alternative Sleeping Locations (ASL) would be presented. She stated Vice Chair Winokur and Chair Roven would present the report and answer questions from the Council.

Public Safety Liaison Flores stated The People Concern (TPC) provided a report to the Homelessness Working Group today announcing that seven individuals from Malibu were housed in February. He stated TPC hoped that level of success would continue into the summer months.

In response to Task Force Member Benton, Public Safety Liaison Flores stated the individuals were placed in the Los Angeles area wherever housing was available. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated two were reunified with their families.

Task Force Member Benton asked if they would be tracked through the process. Public Safety Liaison Flores stated TPC followed them until they could, hopefully, be placed in permanent housing.

In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated staff could ask TPC for a list indicating who was housed and where they were placed. She stated she had asked TPC if beds could be reserved for Malibu homeless.

Task Force Member Terry Davis stated housed individuals were transferred to another form of support once they were placed in temporary housing.

ITEM 2.C. TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS

Task Force Member Dittrich stated he was aware of seven or eight programs with available temporary housing. He stated whatever could be done quickly should be the focus of the recommendation to the Council.

ITEM 3 CONSENT CALENDAR

Item No. 3.A.1. was pulled by the Task Force.

MOTION Chair Roven moved, and Task Force Member Terry Davis seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar with the exception of Item No. 3.A.1. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Vice Chair Winokur absent.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

B. New Items

1. Approval of Minutes – February 15, 2022

Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Homelessness Task Force Regular meeting of February 15, 2022.

The following item was pulled from the Consent Calendar for individual consideration.

ITEM 3A PREVIOUSLY DISCUSSED ITEMS

1. Approval of Minutes – February 1, 2022 (continued from February 15, 2022)

Recommended Action: Approve minutes for the Homelessness Task Force Special meeting of February 1, 2022.

Task Force Member Terry Davis requested the last sentence in her statement on page 4 of the minutes of February 1, 2022 be stricken.

MOTION Task Force Member Terry Davis moved, and Commissioner Dittrich seconded a motion to approve minutes for the Homelessness Task Force Special meeting of February 1, 2022, as amended. The question was called, and the motion carried 9-0, Vice Chair Winokur absent.

ITEM 4 OLD BUSINESS

None.

ITEM 5 NEW BUSINESS

A. Proposed Revision of Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives

Recommended Action: 1) Review the Strategic Plan Review Ad Hoc Committee's proposed revision of the Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives and provide edits, if appropriate; and 2) Approve the revised Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives for submittal to the City Council.

Task Force Member Paul Davis presented the report on behalf of the Strategic Plan Review Ad Hoc Committee (Ad Hoc Committee).

Task Force Member Dittrich suggested speaking with Kay Gabbard about continuing meal programs. Task Force Member Paul Davis stated those providing meals would be able to redirect their efforts to any ASL established in the community.

Task Force Member Dittrich discussed differing opinions within the community regarding placing an ASL in Malibu.

Task Force Member Terry Davis suggested changing language to “at large meals will be discouraged.” She stated the further outside Malibu an ASL was located, the less physical support would be provided by Malibu volunteers. She stated they would instead continue to take care of people in need who remained in Malibu.

Task Force Member Pessis stated the City could not rely on meal programs to feed those in an ASL. She stated the reporting of crimes involving homeless was inconsistent and vague. She suggested asking for more detailed reports identifying incidents that involved a non-housed person and the nature of the crime.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas expressed concern that some might consider that profiling. In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated she would ask the Sheriff’s Department.

Task Force Member Sampson stated he never encountered a Malibu citizen who wanted an ASL in Malibu or who supported the meal programs.

Task Force Member Pessis agreed with Task Force Member Sampson that most residents did not want an ASL in Malibu.

In response to Task Force Member Terry Davis, Task Force Member Paul Davis stated a Homeless Coordinator would be within the ASL.

Task Force Member Dittrich agreed with Task Force Member Sampson that the residents do not support an ASL in Malibu.

Task Force Member Paul Davis stated the revised Strategic Plan was consistent with the ASL recommendation that would be presented to the Council on March 24. He stated the Laguna shelter had all dinners provided by third party volunteer groups.

Task Force Member Pessis stated the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) would not provide funding unless the ASL had a low barrier of entry. Task Force Member Paul Davis explained drugs and alcohol could be prohibited onsite.

Task Force Member Sampson expressed concern about the City partnering with a faith-based or religious group. Task Force Member Paul Davis stated it was not a legal or contractual partnership.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas agreed with Task Force Member Paul Davis. She stated partners were simply people or groups working with you.

Task Force Member Dittrich suggested changing Item 4.a. to remove the reference to local ASL since it might confuse residents into thinking it was in Malibu.

Task Force Member Sampson stated he agreed with Task Force Member Dittrich about removing the word local. In response to Task Force Member Sampson, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the City was not required to provide them jobs.

Task Force Member Benton agreed with removing the word local. She expressed concern that the goals to help them find jobs would pull them back into Malibu where they could not afford to live and may not have transportation.

Task Force Member Paul Davis agreed with Task Force Member Benton that they would probably have to be housed in more affordable locations outside Malibu where they could be more self-reliant.

Task Force Member Pessis suggested reaching out to organizations like Homeboy Industries that were skilled in rehabilitating people to get back into the workforce.

Task Force Member Dittrich suggested an ASL allow people to stay only long enough to get into an established program with all the services they may need. He stated the Plan should include how long they could stay in the ASL.

Task Force Member Paul Davis agreed time in an ASL should be very temporary.

Task Force Member Cohen stated partner had a unique meaning. He stated a relationship between a government and a faith-based entity could provoke issues. He stated many non-profits and government agencies would not be local. Task Force Member Paul Davis stated he would remove 'local' from 4.b.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas asked if Goal 4.a. included a coordinated care system outside of LAHSA.

Task Force Member Benton left the meeting at 3:25 p.m.

Task Force Member Dittrich asked if and where a safe parking program could be included in the Plan. He suggested pressuring other government agencies that were not helping the City's efforts.

Task Force Member Sampson stated homelessness was a national issue, and the City did not have the resources to lobby at a national level.

In response to Task Force Member Paul Davis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas discussed issues addressed with the assistance of organizations, such as California Contract Cities Association.

In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the Las Virgenes-Malibu Council of Governments (COG) had a homeless working group comprised of City staff primarily focused on how to spend Measure H funding. In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated there was no legislative ad hoc committee watching for new legislation.

In response to Task Force Member Paul Davis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated this Plan could not be presented at the City Council Special meeting on March 24. She suggested tabling the item until after the March 24 meeting to see if other changes would come from the Council's direction. She discussed the upcoming budget cycle and a request for proposals (RFP) to be issued for homeless services.

MOTION Task Force Member Dittrich moved to adopt the Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives, as revised, with the addition of an opening clarification that the Homelessness Task Force recommended that Council direct staff to find an appropriate location outside the City for an Alternative Sleeping Location (ASL) to be a short-term, transitional facility to place individuals while attempting to get them into a long-term program where they would receive the services they need.

Task Force Member Paul Davis suggested the language suggested by Task Force Member Dittrich could be incorporated into Goal 3.d. He suggested letting the ASL recommendation already agreed upon stand on its own.

Task Force Member Pessis seconded the motion.

Task Force Member Terry Davis agreed with Task Force Member Paul Davis that these were two different documents. She stated the Emergency and Temporary Services Ad Hoc Committee's recommendation was approved by the Task Force for presentation to the Council. She stated ASL was only one piece in the overall Strategic Plan. She expressed support for approving the Plan with the changes suggested today.

Task Force Member Pessis stated she agreed with including Task Force Member Dittrich's suggested language about ASL.

Task Force Member Paul Davis suggested Task Force Member Dittrich's proposed language could be added into the description of Goal 3.d.

Task Force Member Cohen expressed support for tabling the item so all members could see the exact language being presented for approval.
Commissioner Dittrich withdrew the motion.

MOTION Task Force Member Pessis moved, and Task Force Member Terry Davis seconded a motion to continue this item to the April meeting. The question was called, and the motion carried 6-0-1, Task Force Member Sampson abstaining, and Vice Chair Winokur and Task Force Member Benton absent.

B. Future Agenda Items

Recommended Action: Review items tentatively scheduled for upcoming meeting agendas and provide feedback to staff.

In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated Chair Roven and Vice Chair Winokur would present the Task Force's recommendation to the Council at the March 24 meeting and answer questions. She stated other Task Force members could speak under public comment as residents, but not representing the Task Force.

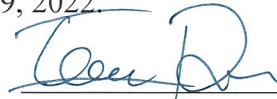
Task Force Member Pessis requested a report from the Fire, Health and Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee be on the next agenda. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated that report should be consistent with the Strategic Plan.

In response to Task Force Member Terry Davis, Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the results of the recent homeless count would not be available before the next meeting. Public Safety Liaison Flores confirmed the County advised that the final numbers were not expected before Summer 2022.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 4:09 p.m., Task Force Member Terry Davis moved, and Task Force Member Dittrich seconded a motion to adjourn. The question was called, and the motion carried 8-0, Vice Chair Winokur and Task Force Member Benton absent.

Approved and adopted by the Homelessness Task Force of the City of Malibu on April 19, 2022.



IAN ROVEN, Chair

ATTEST:



MARY LINDEN, Executive Assistant