



OFFICE OF MAYOR DONNA DEEGAN

HOMELESSNESS INITIATIVES COMMISSION MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, August 15, 2024
9:30 – 11:00 AM

Committee Members

PRESENT:

Dr. Megan Allyse
Rev. Kate Moorehead-Carroll
Christopher Crothers
Shantel Davis

Jitan Kuverji
Isaiah Oliver
Asst. Chief James Ricks
Councilmember Peluso

ABSENT:

Jolita Wainwright

COJ Staff Support:

Barbara Florio
Schnell Chin

Guests Present:

Ryan Jensen, COJ
Shannon Nazworth, Ability Housing
Brian Snow, Sulzbacher
Sandra Nester, COJ

Clarence Harper, COJ
Emanuel Prenete, Padsplit
Joshua Hicks, COJ

Call Meeting to Order, Welcome

9:35 - Barbara Florio, Commission Staff, called the meeting to order.

Councilmember Carlucci welcomed the Commissioners. He provided information regarding the enabling legislation, expectations and other details. He thanked the Commissioners for their service recognizing their contribution, dedication, and commitment to this Commission.

Barbara Florio brought forth the action of the election of officers to the Commission.

Chair – Shantel Davis volunteered herself as Chair. Motion was seconded by Dr. Megan Allyse.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

Vice Chair – Motion by Dr. Megan Allyse was made for Isaiah Oliver as Vice Chair. Seconded by Shantel Davis. *Motion Passed Unanimously.*

Secretary – Motion made by Dr. Megan Allyse for Jitan Kuverji as Secretary. Seconded by Shantel Davis. *Motion Passed Unanimously.*

- Joelle Dillard, OGC and Chair Davis reviewed the enabling ordinance 2024-111.
 - The ordinance has requirements for a 1-year plan to be submitted by September 1, 2024 and a 5-year plan by December 31, 2024.
 - There is a need for a waiver to be drafted and submitted to City Council for amendment to the ordinance 2024-111.



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- There were two suggested schedules recommended for the waiver:
 - Postpone the deadlines for this year but keep them as is for 2025-September 1, 2025 and December 31, 2025.
 - Change the deadlines to different dates

There was extensive discussion resulting in an agreement that keeping the deadlines as is for 2025. There will be an understanding within the Commission to work towards an earlier deadline for submission of these required plans.

Motion was made to submit a waiver to City Council to amend Ordinance 2024-111 to postpone the deadlines for this year and keep them as is for 2025. Motion made by Isaiah Oliver, Seconded by Chris Crothers. *Motion Passed Unanimously.*

Joelle Dillard, OGC and Chair Davis briefly discussed the need for the Commissioners to attend the ZOOM ethics training on September 19th. The Ethics Training Manual was provided to the Commissioners in their board packet and in the Commissioner's green permanent folder. There were several questions addressed and determined Ethics Department will need to be consulted. We will check the availability of Ethics staff to attend the next Commission meeting.

Chair Davis guided a discussion of the Commission's next steps.

- Barbara Florio has invited members of the Mayor's Homeless work group to present at the next meeting. Joshua Hicks was present and provided details of the group's activities and shared they had created a 1-yr and 5-yr plans. Tracye Polson and Josh will speak to Commission next month.
- Next month will also have a panel presenting information. Invitations will be issued to Dawn Gillman from Changing Homelessness, Cindy Funkhouser from Sulzbacher, and Shannon Nazworth from Ability Housing.
- Presenters for future meetings will be discussed further.

Commissioners made the decision to have a meeting on September 9, 2024 to gain additional information through review of existing documents. The following documents will be gathered and sent to the Commission prior to meeting in preparation for the meeting. The documents are:

- Local Ordinance 2024-111
- State Legislation – Joelle Dillard
- CQI – Chris Crothers
- Mayor's Transition Report – Chris Crothers

City Council Member recommended several resources to the Commission:

- Cindy Schwartz
- City Council Members
- Miami Dade Homelessness Trust
- National Continuum of Care
- Sarasota Homeless Trust

Public Comments:

Shannon Nazworth – Ability Housing. Spoke of the local homelessness issue, agencies, and programs in place. Shared the gaps in service and needs for the community.

Emanuel Prenete – Padsplit. Shared information about the company Padsplit and how they can partner with the non-profit agencies to address homelessness. Padsplit is a national company that uses a shared housing model to begin to reduce the housing gap.

Adjourn: 10:45 am