

Hartford Ad-Hoc Committee on Emergency Shelter

04/15/21 Meeting Minutes - 5:00 PM

Committee Attendance: Simon Dennis, Becca White, Tom Peltier, Ally Tufenkjian, Bryan Luikart, Michael Redmond

Community Attendance: Martha Hafner

Ally T. called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

Bryan moved passage of 3/18/21 and 4/1/15. Simon seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

We changed the agenda to allow for Committee Reports to come first so that Becca could join in the conversation about the letter.

Micro-Dwelling Development

Simon, Ally and Bryan reported about the walkthrough of the property on 00 Christian Street. Engineering Ventures Inc has been recruited and will be preparing a feasibility study that will be taken to the

EAD (Experimental Alternative Dwelling)

Bryan mentioned that we have not made progress on the EAD front in the past two weeks. Jon and Martha had a phone conversation about EAD to discuss a download of things happening in the Randolph area. There are 4 churches exploring emergency units of various kinds.

Simon reported that Hartford does not currently have a mechanism for allowing a single EAD, of any sort, and that for this to move forward, an opening would need to be made through making amendments to Hartford's Zoning Regs. Thus the EAD should be considered as part of the Cluster of 3 Committee until the Regulation Amendment process runs its course.

Cluster of Three

The committee discussed the letter that Becca White had written to send to the Planning Commission. See attached.

Michael led a discussion about substituting language regarding the Coordinated Entry, for "known by the service continuum to have experienced homelessness within the past

14 years.” It was evaluated that entering onto the coordinated entry master list is a lengthy process that may exclude some potential RV residents. The document was edited to include an additional sentence to reflect the Committee’s awareness of the process of editing the amendments that would likely follow. The document was also amended to removed the clause “by the service continuum.”

Bryan moved to approve the letter as amended. Simon seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed.

Ally recapped the work of each subcommittee.

Michael Moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:18. Bryan seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Our next meeting will be on April 29th at 5:00 PM. Please use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81522347053>

Submitted by Simon Dennis, Committee Secretary

See below for the letter to the planning Commission.

April 15, 2021

To the Planning Commission:

The Town of Hartford's Ad Hoc Committee on Emergency Shelter has been working diligently on its charge to find solutions for the pressing community issue of unhoused residents who are in need of safe shelter. In pursuit of solutions the committee has explored many possibilities, and one avenue we have identified is changes to our town's planning and zoning regulations. Specifically the regulations around recreational vehicles (RVs) and campgrounds.

We respectfully submit the following recommendations to our town's planning and zoning regulations:

Current Language:

§ 260-59 (Definitions) Campground:

Land used or intended to be used for temporary occupancy **by two** or more tents, trailers, or other movable dwellings.

Recommended Change:

Land used or intended to be used to temporary occupancy **by four** or more tents, trailers, or other movable dwellings.

Current Language:

§ 260-34 Recreational Vehicles ...

No more than two campers, boats or other recreational vehicles over 20 feet long may be parked in residential or rural lands district, unless screened from all adjacent properties and any public roadway passing within 200 feet of the vehicle or boat.

Except in permitted campgrounds, a recreational vehicle may not be used as sleeping quarters for more than 14 days per year.

Recommended Change:

Except in permitted campgrounds ***or when occupied by an individual or individuals who have experienced homelessness within the past three months***, a recreational vehicle may not be used as sleeping quarters for more than 14 days per year.

Thank you for your review of these suggested changes and we look forward to your process for considering these changes. We recognize there will be many questions and we hope that you will consider the spirit of these changes and suggest amendments as needed.

Humbly, Rebecca White, Chair of Ad Hoc Emergency Shelter Committee and members