

# **Hartford Ad-Hoc Committee on Emergency Shelter**

1/7/20 Meeting Minutes - 5:00 PM

**Committee Attendance:** Michael Redmond, John Maclean, Dan Fraser, Becca White, Bryan Luikart, Brandi Briggs, Emma Behrens, Simon Dennis, Jon Chaffee and Tom Peletier.

Community Attendance: Martha Hafner

**Dan Fraser called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM** and called for amendments to the Agenda. There were none.

Simon gave a quick update regarding general conditions regarding homelessness in Hartford.

Each Committee Member introduced him or herself.

## **Subgroup Reports:**

### **Utilities and Permitting Subgroup**

Becca reported that the Group divided their work into water, security, safety and other categories. Next action items would be to divide up the cost. They will be meeting with Hartford's temporary permit specialist, Rick Oberkirch. Portajohns are priced at \$200/month. It was mentioned that there may be special precautions that could be put in place such as sterilization of public facilities to prevent the spread of communicable diseases.

Becca reported that other Subgroup Members (Martha Hafner and Emma Behrens) are rock stars, etc.

### **Governance Subgroup**

Jon reported that the Subgroup agreed that there needs to be a sponsoring organization and that there needs to be an advisory board made up of case workers from the Haven and LISTEN, as well as an onsite support person. To build buy-in, perhaps there could be onsite meetings or group activities.

The Subgroup considered a resident council, eviction process and selection process. It may be necessary to set up a temporary shelter to meet winter needs, and perhaps a permanent encampment that could take longer. These two tracks were a recurrent theme that surfaced throughout the conversation.

It was added that the form of governance would need to correspond to the nature and duration of the encampment.

The need to meet the need of both immediate and long term needs. It was expressed that it would be advantageous for the management to be seated in the non-profit sector.

### **Structure Design Subgroup**

George has reviewed the existing structures and is modifying the designs to meet with the approval of a structural engineer he is working with. He will report back as soon as he has answers.

### **Location Subgroup**

John reported that we have a couple of locations in mind and that we would visit them on Monday. We will be getting more information from Lori Hirshfield and Jo Ann Ells from Hartford's Planning Department. We will meet again with them on Thursday one week from today.

### **Discussion of any other business needed to come before the Committee**

Michael mentioned the immediate need of winter, but wanted to bring forward the sunset at the end of March. He foresees a community challenge if and when this money sunsets before the vaccine is widespread.

Martha mentioned the potential to use the corner of a farm. Simon concurred that this was worth pursuing.

**Becca moved to approve the minutes of 12/28/20. Emma seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.**

### **Subsequent Meetings**

It was agreed that HADCES would meet weekly for the next three meetings at 5:00 PM beginning on January 7th. The link is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83468740158> which can be used for the 1/14/21, and 1/21/21 meetings.

**Emma moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:58 PM. Becca seconded. The motion carried unanimously.**

Submitted by Simon Dennis, Committee Secretary