

Hartford Ad-Hoc Committee on Emergency Shelter

1/21/21 Meeting Minutes - 5:00 PM

Committee Attendance: Michael Redmond, Dan Fraser, Bryan Luikart, Emma Behrens, Simon Dennis, and Tom Peletier.

Community Attendance: Martha Hafner, George Abetti, Janice Chen

Dan Fraser called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM and called for amendments to the Meeting Minutes of 1/14/21. There were none. **Bryan moved approval of the 1/14/21 Minutes without amendment. Emma seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried unanimously.**

Subgroup Reports:

Utilities and Permitting Subgroup

Emma reported that the group is scheduled to meet with Rick Oberchirk. They are going to meet with him next week to discuss possible alternative approaches to water other than a full well and hand

They have talked to a Port-a-john company about handwashing and potable water structures, if those can be permitted. Martha had reported that a different shelter had reported a bill for \$50/mo electricity for heating.

George mentioned that it may be much better to do something portable for political reasons. He also said that some of the shower trailers are really nice. Emma agreed and said that she was unsure if a portable system would be legal with the State of Vermont.

Martha mentioned that the Haven has showers available. Someone in Manchester NH, is working on a shower trailer.

Simon mentioned that the regulatory structure that we are considering is a "Planned Development" structure which may alter the conversation with Rick.

Emma asked the question about timing. The Planned Development structure may take more time than we have.

Governance Subgroup

Michael reported that the Governance Subgroup is waiting for greater specifics before refining their work on Governance Structure.

Structure Design Subgroup

George reported that he sent plans to an Architect who is registered in Vermont. And has heard back with positive feedback. George is optimistic.

It included an FDR laminate that can be used as the fire barrier on the interior of the structures. This product is inexpensive and has the needed fire retardant properties. The Architect agreed that this product would work for this purpose. This could be glued to the foam using a foam adhesive.

The auger anchor is being investigated as a solution to securing the structure. Simon asked about the next step. George reported that the next step is to submit plans which report about fasteners in greater specificity.

Location Subgroup

Simon reported we are going towards a Planned Development off River Road and discussed the possibility that we would be submitting to the Zoning Board. He said that this strategy would take several months before it is ready to house individuals and would require coming before the Zoning Board and passing through the State Permitting Process. He reported that the water requirements at the State level may be prohibitive to completing this strategy.

Emma mentioned that we should collaborate around the meeting with Rick.

George mentioned that Lani and Kathy Janisey of Praise Chapel could be good resources, perhaps for showering facility. George and his wife Susanne will follow up with them to better understand

Simon mentioned that the drawback of the proposed property is that it is a long way from the nearest Advance Transit Stop. (Perhaps greater than 1 mile, depending on which way you go.)

Discussion of any other business needed to come before the Committee

Emma questioned what is the appropriate time horizon for the work of this Committee. Simon said that he felt it might make sense for the Committee to continue its work in earnest at least until the project had passed the permitting process. Michael mentioned that the focus had transitioned from emergency care for those currently camping.

Bryan said that he is interested in making plans around a specific space. How many units are going to be there? What will the day to day activity be like? Bryan said that he would be interested in engaging that process. Michael said that it may help to have an engineer walking the land to develop this plan. George said he would be interested in engaging this process. George mentioned that he has a go-to person for land use planning: David Hamleton of Middlebury, VT.

It was agreed that Bryan, Simon, George, a Design Professional, David Hamleton will collaborate to make a sketch that can go to the Zoning Board ASAP.

The next meeting will be 1/28/21 at 5:00 PM. The link to participate is

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82243570522>

Michael moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:13 Bryan seconded. All were in favor and the motion passed unanimously.

Submitted by Simon Dennis, Committee Secretary