

Hartford Ad-Hoc Committee on Emergency Shelter

1/27/22 - Meeting Minutes - 5:00 PM

Committee Members present: Bryan Luikart (Chair), Ally Tufenkjian (Vice-chair), Simon Dennis (Secretary), Scott Sablan, Tom Peletier

Bryan called the meeting to order at 5:06.

Ally moved passage of the HADCES minutes of 1/13/22. Scott Sablan seconded. All were in favor and the minutes passed.

Discussion of Proposed Charge for a Standing Committee on Homelessness

The Committee reviewed a draft charge that was proposed by Bryan, Simon and Scott.

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xHrO2G4_g7OcTDprAJhJM83TfQ_aEi_EDxpECVRNZOE/edit?usp=sharing

The topic of how much to make the Charge focused on unhoused and unsheltered members of the community or how much to focus the charge on housing stock more generally. Keys to the Valley, and Twin Pines were identified as members of the community with expertise related to increasing the stock of affordable housing.

The Committee discussed the potential to extend our existing charge and decided to advance both this Charge and the extension of the Committee's work when it comes before the Selectboard on Feb 22.

Both Ally and Bryan spoke in favor of the Charge's current dual focus on Affordable Housing and Homelessness. Scott mentioned that it may be difficult to accomplish progress regarding affordable housing.

Ally requested the word "regional" be added to item #3, and it was agreed that we would make this amendment.

Updates on the RV Policy

The code regarding rental housing requirements was reviewed. The idea was discussed as to whether the RV. The definition of 4.2 "Dwelling" was examined in detail. It was

agreed that we would discuss how broadly this term is defined with the Town Health Officer.

Ally announced that due to recent action by the State Legislature, we would be permitted to meet entirely remotely. It was agreed that we would hold future HADCES meetings remotely and post it at the top of agendas going forward.

Other Business

Bryan suggested creating a workgroup to write up a final report to the Selectboard. It was agreed that we would create a 3-page report that would draw from some information that was included in the previously-submitted Final Report on Homelessness.

Simon moved to nominate a workgroup constituted by Bryan, Ally and Simon to create a Final Report that would be reviewed by the HADCES committee at our next meeting. Scott seconded. All were in favor and the motion carried.

Ally moved adjournment. Simon seconded and all were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 6:22 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Simon Dennis

Hartford Committee on Housing and Homelessness

Term:

This Committee shall be a standing committee and shall serve until discontinued by motion of the Selectboard

Constitution:

This advisory committee will be constituted by one Selectboard Member and no more than seven individuals with expertise regarding the subject matter, up to one member of staff at the discretion of the Town Manager. Each member shall have equal weight in discussion and voting.

Charge:

To increase Hartford's affordable housing stock and reduce the suffering experienced by unhoused and unsheltered Hartford residents by:

1. Identifying, tracking and reporting metrics regarding housing stock in Hartford and the state of Hartford's unhoused and unsheltered communities.
2. Identifying regulatory obstacles within State and local legislation to the creation and occupation of affordable housing in Hartford.
3. Assessing strengths and gaps regarding Hartford's housing stock and local and regional services and opportunities for people experiencing homelessness
4. Identifying opportunities for Hartford to play a role in facilitating the creation of affordable housing and in meeting the needs for unhoused Hartford residents
5. Supporting the integration of unhoused Hartford residents into the municipal process
6. To submit an report annually or as needed which includes recommendations for action by the Hartford Selectboard in alignment with the above goals

In order to conform with the open meeting laws, committee meetings will be warned, recorded and open to the public.