

## Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force

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### Task Force Members

Councilor Kaser, Chair (Ward 1)  
Al Tandy, Salem Summit  
Angie Onyewuchi, Travel Salem  
Christy Wood, Runaway Art Studio  
Brad Compton, Pioneer Trust Bank  
Dana Vugteveen, Salem Center  
Evan Delgado, Governor's Cup  
Gayle Doty, resident/property owner  
Irene Bernards, Travel Salem  
Jason Myers, Marion County Sheriff  
Jim Lewis, Councilor (Ward 8)  
Jon Reeves, MWVCAA  
Matthew Ausec, Councilor (Ward 5)  
Neal Kern, CANDO  
Paul Logan, NW Human Services  
Sandy Powell, Olivia's  
Shannon Garcia, Oregon Law Center  
Steven Hill, Union Gospel Mission  
Trevor Phillips, Doctor

### City Staff

Kristin Retherford, UD Director  
Dan Atchison, City Attorney  
Jerry Moore, Salem Police Chief  
Andy Wilch, Housing Authority Administrator  
Kevin Hill, Salem Police Department  
Sheri Wahrgren, Downtown Manager  
Brady Rogers, Nbrhd Enhancement Manager

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### Meeting Agenda #3

Tuesday, March 20, 2018

6:00 p.m.–8:00 p.m.

Salem City Library

Anderson A & B conference rooms

585 Liberty St SE

1. Call to Order  
Welcome and Introductions
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of March 6 Minutes
4. Discussion
  - a. Recap of prior meeting
  - b. Review solutions suggested in community comments.
  - c. Brainstorm solutions for identified issues and impacts.
  - d. Identify needed resources for proposed solutions.
  - e. Identify any budgetary impacts of proposed solutions.
  - f. Identify any possible obstacles to implementation.
  - g. Discuss timeline for implementation and next steps.
5. Adjourn

Next Meeting: April 4, 2018

# Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force

## Meeting Agenda #2 – Put Yourself in Their Shoes

Tuesday, March 6, 2018, 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Salem City Library, Anderson A, 585 Liberty St SE

Action Agenda/Minutes complements the meeting audio recording attached to the online Minutes.

### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

**Audio:** 00:00:15

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:05 p.m.

**Welcome and Introductions**

(Hr. Min. Sec)

**ROLL CALL:** Councilors Cara Kaser-Chair (Ward 1), Tom Anderson-Ward 2 (for Councilor Lewis); and Matthew Ausec (Ward 5); Al Tandy-Salem Summit, Brad Compton-Pioneer Trust Bank, Dana Vugteveen-Salem Center Mall, Evan Delgado-Governor's Cup, Gayle Doty-Building Owner, Irene Bernards-Travel Salem, Jon Reeves-MWVCAA, Neal Kern-CANDO, Paul Logan-NW Human Services, Sandy Powell-Olivia's, Shannon Garcia-Oregon Law Center, Steven Hill-Union Gospel Mission, Trevor Phillips-Salem Hospital.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Jim Lewis-Councilor, Angie Onyewuchi, Jason Myers, Christy Wood

**STAFF:** Kristin Retherford and Sheri Wahrgren-UD, Dan Atchison-Legal, Mark Becketl-PW, Brady Rogers-CD, Andy Wilch-Salem Housing Authority, Ali – COG, Treven Upkes-SPD

**GUESTS:** Kenneth Houghton-Community Action, ARCHES, Homeless Veteran Outreach; Dave West; Darren Tunnell-Allied Universal; T.J. Putman-Family Promise; Ashley Marshall-Marion County; Pat Donenfeld; Jeanine Knight-Union Gospel Mission; Victoria Kelly and Brandelynn Heath-Project Able; Richelle Hiers; Mark Knecht-Veteran Advocate; Josh Lair, Matt Maceira and Gary Schreck -Be Bold Street Ministries; Jayne Downing-Center for Hope & Safety; Jake Houge-Gilbert House; Brad Nanke-City Councilor; Dave Russell-Wtlec; Jackie Leung-MIC; Micki Varney; Jane Aiken-Municipal Court; Joan Tomlinson-City Vibe; Ken Ploeser-Creek Walk Project; Kimberly Fanshier-Marion Polk Food Share; Sheryl Buchheit-NW Human Services; Melanie Zermer-KMVZ; Pamela Lyon Nelson-Salem Homeless Coalition; George Katsinis-Northgate Wesleyan Church; Pamela Olson; John Stadick-Pioneer Trust Bank; Susie D'Anna-Home Base Shelters; Virginia Green-Shine On Salem; Rod Jones-Court Street Legal; Bonnie Heitsch; Gary Miller-and Hollie Oales-Miller- DSA; Vincent Nistico; David Glennie-Telos; Jessica Munoz-NWHS; Yvonne Putze- Deepwood; Ed Smith; Kendra Taylor-Kindness Kloset; Larry Masset; Rene McConaha-Homeless Chef; Blake Bural –AC+CO Architecture; Pamella Watson, Delana Beaton and Kathleen Thorpe-Home Base Shelters.

### 2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

00:03:45

**Motion:** Move to approve the agenda for March 6, 2018, as presented.

**Motion by:** Member Vugteveen (

**Seconded by:** Member Doty

**Action:** Agenda for March 06, 2018, approved as presented.

**Vote:** Aye: Unanimous **MOTION CARRIES**

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

00:04:00

**Motion:** Move to approve the minutes for February 06, 2018, as presented.

**Motion by:** Member Phillips

**Seconded by:** Member Kern

**Action:** Minutes for February 06, 2018, approved as presented.

**Vote:** Aye: Unanimous **MOTION CARRIES**

### 4. DISCUSSION

#### A. Future Meeting Schedule

00:04:18

**Presentation by:** Councilor Cara Kaser

**Comments and questions:** Kaser,

**Consensus:** Hold a fourth meeting (April) and extend meetings to two hours.

- B. **Revisit issues and causes from prior meeting** 00:06:00  
**Presentation by:** Kristin Retherford and Trevin Upkes  
**Comments and questions:** Retherford (Art-A-Potties-Non-profit program); Upkes (Homeless camp near Gilbert House-ODOT property)
- C. **Put yourselves in their shoes** 00:10:45  
**Handout:** *Guide to Services*  
**Presentation by:** Kristin Retherford  
**Comments and questions:** Retherford (overview); Houghton (offered homeless statistics from ARCHES);
- I. **What are we solving for? Downtown Issues** (Full list in 02/06/18 minutes)  
**Top Items** (per dots placed by audience):
1. Bathrooms/toilets/hygiene
  2. Behavioral expectations
  3. Safe Downtown for everyone
  4. Clean-up garbage/human detritus
- **New items added from email comments:**
    - Customers avoid downtown due to aggressive behavior from homeless individuals.
    - Inappropriate comments by homeless individuals
    - Aggressive panhandling
    - Business have extra exterior cleaning on a daily basis and have to ask campers to move on
    - Uncertain sources of food
- II. **Potential Causes of the problem:** (see full list in 02/06/18 minutes)  
**Top Items** (per dots placed by audience):
1. Substance abuse and mental health
  2. Low housing stock over the past 10 years (for low-income persons)
  3. Lack of transitional housing
  4. Lack of personal resources/toilets/showers
- **New items added from email comments:**
    - Domestic violence
    - Economics and job loss
    - Skyrocketing rent
    - Disabling injury
    - Medical issues
    - Mental illness
- III. **Who is impacted by the problem? How many people/groups does this impact?**
- Families of homeless
  - Homeless
  - Retailers/business/customers/property owners impacted due to safety, cleanliness, especially after dark
  - Economic impact
  - Put/donate funds towards clean-up
  - Visitors (out of town) world-wide problem
  - City government - not limited to downtown
  - Police- unfairly burdened
  - All first responders
  - Health care & charity organization
  - Residents
  - Civil, criminal justice system

- Recreational users of parks/paths
- IV. Who needs to be involved in solving the problem, who are the players?**
- State agencies
  - Hospital
  - County
  - Homeless representative
  - Faith organizations – street ministries
  - Council
  - Business/Retailers
  - Service providers
  - Higher learning
- V. How do they relate to the problem?**
- More need than resources
    1. Meals & laundry
  - Funding resources:
    1. City Council
    2. Marion and Polk Counties
    3. State agencies
  - Forming relationships (each situation is unique)
    1. Homeless
    2. Churches
    3. Business
  - Homeless representatives
  - Elevated sensitivity
  - Educational institutions: Willamette University, Western Oregon University, Chemeketa Community College, Corban, Salem Keizer School District
    1. Skill training
    2. Fundraising
  - Cleanliness/self-policing – taking responsibility
  - Keeping, attracting tenants
  - Staff resources to address tenant issues
  - City services – How they are used to address issue
  - Education on resource list – manage expectations of list
  - Partnerships between service providers & business
  - Police, communication opportunities, include warm handoff in the process
  - Provide services to businesses (search & rescue)
  - Fear, what can people do to help?
  - Compassion, but request to do something
  - Property value impacts
- VI. Imagine that you are a stakeholder that has impacted the problem.**
- **How does their day, or experience, start?**
    1. Safety issues (city is **inviting**)
    2. Overwhelmed by life
    3. Uncertainty - different individuals in front of business
    4. Picking up trash, debris from overnight sleeping by building, businesses
    5. Hopeless/traumatized – need mentors to show them a different way
    6. 20-40 people lined up at shelter door for shower, shelter, clothes, food, and case management

- **What happens along the way – are there painful points?**

1. Potential eviction
2. Difficulty navigating processes
3. High stress levels
4. Difficulty of living in public
5. Survival – food, cleanliness
6. Traumatized

- **Moments of opportunity to make connections?**

1. Mentors/navigators
2. Shelter/service providers
3. Businesses could offer lunches
4. Resources with support (navigator) to work through process consistently
5. Compassionate relationships
6. Give five minutes of undivided attention: ask: “how are you doing?”
7. Communication/education – between businesses and homeless
8. Non-familial approach to offering assistance – often accepted better

5. **ADJOURN** 07:35 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** March 20, 2018

01:29:20