

# Downtown Homeless Solutions Task Force

## Meeting Agenda #5 – Community Solutions

Wednesday, June 13, 2018, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Council Chambers, 555 Liberty St SE Rm 240

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

1. **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL** **Audio:** 00:00:00  
**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:00 p.m. **Welcome and Introductions** (Hr. Min. Sec)  
**ROLL CALL:** Councilors Cara **Kaser-Chair** (Ward 1), **Brad Compton** - Pioneer Trust Bank; **Tyler Jackson** - Jackson Jewelers; **Christy Wood**-Run-Away Art Studio; **Neal Kern**-CANDO, **Paul Logan**-NW Human Services, **Shannon Garcia**-Oregon Law Center, **Trevor Phillips**-Salem Hospital, **Steven Hill**- UGM  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Irene Bernards, Jon Reeves, Dana Vugteveen-Salem Center Mall, Evan Delgado-Governor’s Cup, Gayle Doty-Building Owner, Councilor Jim Lewis (Ward 8); and Matthew Ausec (Ward 5); Sandy Powell-Olivia’s  
**STAFF:** **Kristin Retherford** and Sheri Wahrgren-UD, Chief Gerald Moore, Sgt. Kevin Hill-SPD  
**GUESTS:** Larry Nasset, Greg Gregg, Kathleen Thorpe, Gary Miller, Hollie Miller, Frances Robbins, Keith Robbins, Steven Carrestraci, Lorrie Walker, Jean Brockelman-McInnis, Joyce Judy, Crystal Bender, Leon Christenson, Pamela Lyons-Nelson. Councilor Tom Anderson – Ward 2, Sam Skillern, Joan Tomlinson, Annie Potter, Cheryl Riggs, Crystal Bender, Lionel Wilcox, Angelina McNab, Janine Knight
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA** 00:01:45  
**Motion:** Move to approve the agenda for June 13, 2018, as presented.  
**Motion by:** Member Woods  
**Seconded by:** Seconded  
**Action:** Agenda for June 13, 2018, approved as presented.  
**Vote:** Aye: Unanimous **MOTION CARRIES**
3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** 00:02:00  
**Motion:** Move to approve the minutes for April 4, 2018, as presented.  
**Motion by:** Member Woods  
**Seconded by:** Seconded  
**Action:** Minutes for April 4, 2018, approved as presented.  
**Vote:** Aye: Unanimous **MOTION CARRIES**
4. **PUBLIC TESTIMONY** 00:02:15  
**Public Testimony on Proposed Solutions**  
**Presented by:** Kristin Retherford  
Procedures were reviewed for speaking. Overview of past meetings was provided.  
**Topics:**
  - a. Toilets
  - b. Sanitation
  - c. 2-1-1 Contact List
  - d. Showers and laundry facilities
  - e. Good Neighbor Policy
  - f. Assess codes and ordinances
  - g. Mentorship program/partnership between businesses & service providers

**Guest:** Larry Nasset **Topic:** “f”  
**Discussion:** Opined item “f” will lead to a “sit/lie” ordinance and would be a failure of the City to find a solution to homelessness.  
**Comments:** Nasset, Kaser

**Guest:** Greg Gregg- WSNA                   **Topic:** Tiny Home Community  
**Discussion:** Opined with a tiny home community everyone could have someplace to go with a central place for service providers.  
**Comments:** Gregg

**Guest:** Kathleen Thorpe – NESCA       **Topic:** “a”  
**Discussion:** Homeless folks are in trauma and need basic assistance.  
**Comments:** Thorpe

**Guest:** Gary and Hollie Miller           **Topic:** Un-housed, support infrastructure improvements  
**Discussion:** They opined people have a home “Salem” but are un-housed. People are un-housed because of capitalism and they feel the society should support these folks with infrastructure. Against criminalizing the un-housed.  
**Comments:** G. Miller and H. Miller

**Guest:** Frances Robbins - GRANT       **Topic:** “a”  
**Discussion:** Unisex toilets in multiple locations were recommended.  
**Comments:** Robbins

**Guest:** Steven Carrestraci – Hwy 22   **Topic:** “d”  
**Discussion:** Recommended mobile showers and laundry facilities.  
**Comments:** Carrestraci, Kaser

**Guest:** Lorrie Walker - SCAN           **Topic:** “a” and “g”  
**Discussion:** Everyone needs a facility and locking them at 8 p.m. forces folks into parks. She recommenced mobile showers and laundry facilities. She recommended tiny homes and mentoring.  
**Comments:**

**Guest:** Jean Brockelman-McInnis       **Topic:** “g”  
**Discussion:** Suggested a new perspective – “intelligent compassion” – help them to help themselves (recovery). The short-term goals of the taskforce were discussed.  
**Comments:** Brockelman-McInnis, Kaser

**Guest:** Joyce Judy – Ward 2           **Topic:** “f”  
**Discussion:** She opined she would like to comment on Taskforce final recommendations. Comments can be made at City Council when the recommendations are presented.  
**Comments:** Judy, Kaser, female member, male member, Retherford

**Guest:** Leon Christenson - WSNA       **Topic:** “g”  
**Discussion:** Workers comp rules and hiring the homeless.  
**Comments:** Christenson, Kaser

**Guest:** Pamela Lyons-Nelson - Ward 1   **Topic:** “a”  
**Discussion:** Bathrooms are a health issue.  
**Comments:** Lyons-Nelson,

**Guest:** Tom Anderson - Ward 2       **Topic:** Storage  
**Discussion:** People need a place to store their goods instead of transporting them.  
**Comments:** Anderson

**Guest:** Sam Skillern – NEN & GRANT   **Topic:** “e” and “g”  
**Discussion:** Stuff is good, but it’s not the answer. Programs are good, but they are not the answer. “Friends are the answer.” Respect and friendship were suggested: “I to me.”  
**Comments:** Sam Skillern, Kaser

**Guest:** Joan Tomlinson -               **Topic:** Housing  
**Discussion:** As a prior homeless person she suggested having a place for folks to stay and jobs. She opined folks don’t have a choice.  
**Comments:** Tomlinson

**Guest:** Annie Potter – Ward 1                      **Topic:** Shelters  
**Discussion:** Shelter was discussed for vulnerable populations.  
**Comments:** Potter

**Guest:** Cheryl Riggs – Ward 1                      **Topic:** “b”  
**Discussion:** As a retailer downtown making downtown livable is a daily struggle. She gave a call to action.  
**Comments:** Riggs

**Guest:** Crystal Bender - Ward 1                      **Topic:** “f”, “a”  
**Discussion:** Suggested a sit-lie rule in the downtown area as well as restricting sales of alcohol.  
**Comments:** Bender,

**Guest:** Lionel Wilcox                                      **Topic:** “a” through “g”, plus storage  
**Discussion:** Infrastructure improvements for the homeless, codes to allow tiny homes and storage were discussed.  
**Comments:** Wilcox

**Guest:** Angelina McNab – Ward 7                      **Topic:** Affordable Housing  
**Discussion:** Affordable housing and employment were discussed.  
**Comments:** McNab

**Guest:** Janine Knight – Ward 1                      **Topic:** “a”  
**Discussion:** Opined combining laundry and bathrooms to allow for staffing; allow them to be used by everyone 24/7.  
**Comments:** Knight

## **5. TASKFORCE REVIEW**

### **Discussion and Comments:**

- Homeless may not move on or respect facilities if they are installed.
- Need a place for homeless with rules to deal with negative behavior.
- Location for facilities, keeping in mind to not marginalize the homeless – Marion Square Park was mentioned.
- Homelessness-houselessness is a citywide issue.
- Use of vacant properties was discussed, including that the City doesn't have a lot of vacant property.
  - Possible use of City properties
    - Parking garages.
    - Public/private partnership was discussed.
    - City parks
- Public/private partnership and creating long term relationships was discussed.
- Funding was discussed.
- Mobile laundry regulations were discussed along with rules for hiring homeless.
- 2-1-1 and contact lists were reviewed.
- Having Salem Police Department, and Salem Fire, involved in decision making was expressed.
- Portland Loo's were discussed.

## **6. ADJOURN**

**NEXT MEETING:** TBD

01:47:45