



City and County of San Francisco
Shelter Monitoring Committee

**MEETING MINUTES
 SHELTER MONITORING COMMITTEE
 March 16, 2016
 10:00 AM
 City Hall, Room 408
 San Francisco, CA 94102**

Present:

- Chair Jonathan Bonato*
- Vice Chair Matthew Steen*
- Secretary Terezie Bohrer*
- Committee Member Cindy Ward*
- Committee Member Gary McCoy*
- Committee Member Darcel Jackson*
- Committee Member Moses Mukami*
- Committee Member Anakh Sul Rama*

Excused:

- Committee Member Michael Kirkland*
- Committee Member Charles Morimoto*
- Committee Member Kendra Amick*

PUBLIC COMMENTS WILL BE TAKEN FOR EACH AGENDA ITEM AS INDICATED.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS *2 min*

I. MINUTES *ACTION*
A. February 2016 Minutes **Chair Bonato** *5 min*

The Committee reviewed the draft February 2016 Minutes.
Explanatory document- Feburary 2016, Committee Minutes
No public comment.
Proposed Action: Approve Draft February 2016 Minutes.
M/S/C: Bohrer/Ward/Unanimous
Draft February 2016 Minutes Approved

Proposed Action: Motion to table the Quarterly Report vote until after the Mayor's HOPE office presented to the Committee
M/S/C: Ward/Steen/Unanimous

III. REPORTS *DISCUSSION*
A. Mayor's HOPE Office **Emily Cohen** *10 min*

Emily Cohen, Deputy Director of HOPE, Housing Opportunity, Partnerships and Engagement, provided an update from her office. She presented information on

the new Department on Homelessness (still to be formally named), the Pier 80 shelter, the Navigation Center and Sup. Campos's Declaration of Shelter Emergency.

Committee Comment: Member Ward asked about the Housing Placements handout slide.

Emily Cohen explained that they were referring to Homeward Bound program participants.

Committee Comment: Member Steen asked what the positive outcomes slide was referring to, who would be responsible for the Department on Homelessness's supportive housing projects and if there were any updates regarding the shelter emergency resolution that has been assigned to the Land Use Committee.

Emily Cohen responded by stating that positive outcomes refer to PSH, Homeward Bound, HOT stabilization/treatment beds and any residential treatment. She also stated that CHP and SRO collaborative would be handle supportive housing for the new department that that she did not have any updates on the Board of Supervisors shelter emergency resolution.

Committee Comment: Secretary Bohrer asked if it was true that the Governor was also declaring a shelter emergency.

Emily Cohen responded by stating that she had heard about that possibility but she wasn't sure if it was definitive. She also stated that Sup. Kim has spoken about the status of homelessness in California and that it is a statewide crisis. She stated that they have been working with mayors from several West Coast communities to develop strategies on how to address increases in homelessness, especially street homelessness.

Committee Comment: Member Mukami asked about the percentages of homeless African Americans listed in the handouts and whether or not the new department would be focused on racial disparities in the homeless population.

Emily Cohen stated that the numbers in the handout referred to the fact that African Americans only make up 10% of the population in San Francisco but make up 40%. She stated that most of the research they have explored on these issues are based on national reports as there is not very much research focused on San Francisco.

Committee Comment: Member Jackson stated his belief that the new department should reflect the population that it is trying to serve. He also stated that while he supported the Navigation Center, he was concerned that there is no clear path to housing. He stated belief that the Navigation Center was pulling housing

resources away from the other shelters and that there should be more done to help homeless African Americans receiving tickets that they cannot pay.

Committee Comment: Member Sul Rama stated his concerns that there wasn't enough housing being developed for homeless clients once they are ready to leave shelters, whether or not people were being asked to leave the Navigation Center/if clients asked to leave were being blacklisted and if there was a correlation between the Navigation Centers and an increase in tent encampments.

Emily Cohen responded by stating that she agreed with those sentiments and that only a small number of people have been asked to leave the Navigation Center so far. She stated that only clients that have committed extreme offenses (such as acts of violence) are asked to leave, however she was unsure if those clients would be allowed to return to the Navigation Center. She stated that she was unsure if there was a correlation between tent encampments and the Navigation Center, but that the Controller's Office just did a six month evaluation of the Navigation Center which found that the exit options were extremely successful.

Committee Comment: Chair Bonato asked if there was resistance to Our Lady of Guadalupe as a Navigation Center site and if there were any prospects of setting up a Navigation Center in District 3. He also asked if there have been positive results in other cities that cleared a homelessness emergency and if the declaration would have any impact on the availability of supportive housing options for the shelters and the Navigation Centers. He also asked if resistance to building new market rate housing ended up cannibalizing existing SRO stock and suggested that the Mayor's Office look at the EARN program, which helped him get out of homelessness and made him into a homeowner.

Emily Cohen responded that there was not a lot of resistance to Our Lady of Guadalupe as a Navigation Center site and that they were looking all over the city for potential sites. She stated that the declaration of homelessness has had mixed results in other cities because it removes some of the barriers related to building shelters but not all of them. She stated that they are looking at developing additional supportive housing as a priority and that she was unsure if new market rate housing was cannibalizing existing SRO stock.

Committee Comment: Member Mukami asked if the new Homes for Heroes hotels would include mental health services as well as whether or not the city would continue to encourage upward mobility for clients with of a long term goal of self-sufficiency. He also stated that there was a group established by HOPE called the Bay Area Out Immigration Committee that did a lot of research on African American racial injustice, but that he believed that Committee faded away.

Emily Cohen stated that in the Homes for Heroes program, clients come in with VA mental health supportive services.

Committee Comment: Member Sul Rama stated that if there were to be more Navigation Centers, he would love to see a shelter for clients working full time to be considered.

Proposed Action: Move the Quarterly Report to be the next agenda item
M/S/C: Bonato/Ward/Unanimous

- II. NEW BUSINESS** **DISCUSSION/ACTION**
- A. Quarterly Report** **Chair Bonato** 10 min
- The Committee reviewed the 2nd Quarter Report for fiscal year 2015-2016 and made necessary changes and edits.
- Explanatory document: Draft of 2nd Quarter Report FY15-16*
- Proposed Action: Approve 2nd Quarter Report FY15-16 with edits***
- List of 2nd Quarter Report Edits:*
- *Change the percentage of completed site visits on the 2nd paragraph of Page 2 to be 81% in order to be consistent with the percentage listed in the Executive Summary*
 - *Change “15-16 FY” at the bottom of the second paragraph of the Executive Summary to state “FY 15-16”*
 - *Insert the phrase “representing a significant delay” after “Site Responded: 3/14/16” from A Woman’s Place Drop In’s site visit on Page 2*
- M/S/C: Ward/Mukami/Unanimous**
2nd Quarter Report FY15-16 approved with edits

- III. REPORTS** **DISCUSSION**
- B. Policy Subcommittee Report** **Subcommittee Chair Mukami** 10 min
- Policy Subcommittee Chair Mukami provided an update on the work of the Policy Subcommittee. He stated that the Subcommittee would be focused on shelter vacancies and attempting to identify ways to reduce shelter vacancies. He also stated that the Policy Subcommittee had agreed to create a document that will go out to agencies explaining their focus on reducing shelter vacancies and requesting proposal/suggestions (Terms of Reference). He also stated that the Policy Subcommittee is recommending that the Committee support the resolution from Sup. Campos declaring a state of emergency. He stated that the next step for the Imminent Danger policy was for the Subcommittee to reach out to Sup. Katy Tang’s office to see if they could start advocating for actual legislation to ensure that victims of domestic violence are not further victimized. He concluded by recommending an information request on the Interfaith winter shelters/pop-up shelters and by describing some options he would like to explore in developing additional programs at the Providence shelter.

Committee Comment: Vice Chair Steen explained that the Policy Subcommittee was also working on restarting the Shelter Utilization Review process that originally came out of the Shelter Access Workgroup.

Committee Comment: Chair Bonato asked if the Policy Subcommittee was taking a look at emergency shelter/pop-up shelter vacancies.

Committee Comment: Subcommittee Chair Mukami answered that the vacancy rates of temporary shelter beds was not currently being looked at by the Policy Subcommittee.

No public comment

C. Shelter Status Reports **Cindy Ward** *10 min*

Human Service Agency (HSA) Report

- Shelter Vacancy Report
- Shelter Turn Away Report-Family Shelter-Hamilton Emergency
- Family Waiting List-Connecting Point
- Winter Shelter for Single Adults and Families

Committee Member Ward gave an update from HSA on the status of shelters, including single adult occupancy rates, pop-up winter shelters and the Domestic Violence policy.

Secretary Bohrer, Vice Chair Steen and Committee Member Ward discussed the possible effect that recent weather conditions may have had on shelter occupancy rates.

Committee Comment: Member Mukami asked if it would be possible to change the report to show monthly data as well as the highest and lowest occupancy rates.

Public Comment: Cathy Perdue (HSA Adult Shelter System Program Manager) stated that it would be possible to add a page to the reports so they show highest and lowest occupancy rates, but unfortunately that the format is set in the CHANGES system and cannot be modified.

Committee Comment: Secretary Bohrer asked if it would be possible to have the reports show monthly data or just for a specific time period.

Public Comment: Cathy Perdue stated that it would be possible to do reports in a daily or monthly format for a specific time period.

Committee Comment: Vice Chair Steen asked if it would be possible to add two extra columns to the report that would show monthly or quarterly percentages.

Committee Comment: Member Ward replied that it would require a new report because the existing format is already set in CHANGES. She also pointed out that the reason

why the reports contain daily data is that it was requested by the previous Shelter Monitoring Committee.

Committee Comment: Member Mukami stated his belief that having quarterly data would be useful for the Committee to use to identify trends or anomalies in occupancy rates.

No public comment

D. Standard of Care and Staff Report **Committee Staff** *10 min*
Committee staff reviewed the February 2015, Standard of Care and Staff report.

Committee Comment: Member Sul Rama stated that was considering resigning his seat and that he agreed that there needed to be more women, people of color and bilingual members on the Committee.

No public comment

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT **DISCUSSION** *3 min*

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NO PUBLIC COMMENT

V. INFORMATION REQUESTS **DISCUSSION**
A. Information Requests **Chair Bonato** *5 min*

The Committee will put forward any items discussed during the meeting requiring an Information Request from a City & County of San Francisco agency or contracted agency. The Committee will also review the response from past Information Requests

Vice Chair Steen presented the following information request:

“Please provide data on clients served by the Inter-Faith winter shelters in FY 2014-15 and 2015-16? Also please provide data on clients served to date by the storm shelter program (MSC South, Next Door, Providence, Gene Friend Recreation Center, Polk Hall, Hall of Flowers) and any other sites. Please provide the Committee data on number of clients served to date at Pier 80.”

Committee Member Ward stated that she believed HSA had already provided some of that information to the Committee and asked for staff to double check to make sure there was no duplication of information requests.

Committee Member Mukami stated that the Policy Subcommittee had voted to approve this information request.

Committee Member Ward asked for what specific data the Committee would be asking for with this information request.

Vice Chair Steen responded by saying they were looking for data on unduplicated shelter clients if possible, if not then just total number of clients served.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 11:45 due to lack of quorum

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Administrator
Sunshine Ordinance Task Force

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