



**HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE
MINUTES
THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2023
6:00 – 8:00 P.M.
CITY COUNCIL ROOM-(MUSIC HALL)**

CALL TO ORDER:

PRESENT:

Rev. Kate Forer (Co-Chair), Tom Roohan (Co-Chair), Stephen Towne, Hannah Hurley, Lindsey Connors, Dean Devito, , Kate Halliday, Aneisha Samuels, Maggie Fronk

ABSENT: Sherie Grinter, Jules DeAngelo, Andrea Love Smith

ANNOUNCEMENT OF RECORDING OF PROCEEDING:

The proceedings of this meeting are being recorded for the benefit of the secretary. Because the minutes are not a verbatim record of the proceedings, the minutes are not a word-for-word transcript of the recording.

NEW BUSINESS:

Chair Rev. Kate Forer the floor to Public Comment. No Public comment was received.

Aneisha Samuels's shares 11 potential locations were identified at the last meeting. Aneisha explained the matrix given to the taskforce members to evaluate the locations. An image is shared that includes the buffer where schools are located, and the areas that permit shelters locations. The potential shelter locations are as follows:

260 Maple Avenue: This location does not fall within the buffer. It falls outside the permitted zones where a shelter is permitted. It currently inhabits a hotel that is not in use.

Church Street: This location is considered a PUD, and it does not fall within the buffer. This location would need a use variance, or have an amendment to the PUD.

Finley Street: This location falls within a permitted district. It may be a feasible location based on a zoning perspective. It does not fall within the 1000 ft. buffer. This location has available infrastructure (Sewer, water), and is somewhat close to other social services. Currently, there is no building on this parcel.

2356 RT 50: This location is not within the 1000 ft. buffer. There is no available infrastructure. The Town of Ballston Spa would provide water to this location.

3 Aletta: This parcel is within the 1000 ft. buffer, therefore it would not be a feasible option. It is also not within the permitted zones. This will be removed from consideration.

East Beekman: This location is not within the 1000 ft. buffer. It has infrastructure, and is in a permitted zone.

Federal Street: This location is in a permitted district, but falls within the 1000 ft. buffer. This will be removed from consideration.

58 Washington Street: This location also falls within the 1000 ft. buffer. This will be removed from consideration.

68-72 Washington Street: This location also falls within the 1000 ft. buffer. This will be removed from consideration.

Ballston Avenue: This location also falls within the 1000 ft. buffer. This will be removed from consideration.

Stephen Towne puts a motion on the table to remove the locations that falls within the 1000 ft. buffer.

Kate Halliday Seconds the Motion. Motion passes with no opposed.

3 Aletta, Federal Street, 58 Washington, 68 Washington, and Ballston Ave have been removed from Consideration.

260 Maple Ave, Church Street, Finley Street, 2356 Rt. 50, and East Beekman remain for consideration.

Lindsey shares that the hospital property would pose a challenge being zoned a PUD. Lindsey makes a motion to remove the Church St. Hospital Location within the PUD.

Maggie Fronk Seconds the Motion. Motion passes with no opposed.

Stephen Towne shares another location on Finley that holds vacant land, and the Southside of Canfield Street could be possible locations.

Tom Roohan states that he spoke to both property owners, and those locations have current projects in Motion.

Maggie Fronk Shares Pinegrove church is no longer a viable option for them.

Dean Devito states someone brought the location East Lake Avenue to his attention as a location option.

Lindsey and Tom agree that properties should have about an acre of land at minimum.

Rev. Kate Forer motions to take the Beekman location off the table due to the small square footage. Dean Devito Seconds the motion. Motion passes with no opposed.

Tom Roohan mentions the location 3290 Rt.9. The location includes a 1.6 acre motel that is for sale for \$1,900,000.00. It has 27 parking spots, and 19 rooms. It is zoned GCR, and is a permitted zone. Tom encourages to add this property to the list.

Rev. Kate Forer opens up the discussion of a RFP to sell William Street to assist in funding in a housing solution.

Lindsey Connors recuses herself from this discussion. RISE has been in discussion with the City to use that property to assist in their Children's services. She wants to add that in her time with the City, it has come to staff's attention that there was not enough property owned by the City itself.

Tom Roohan shares the RFP process. The City would have an appraisal done on their property, and give a criteria for the bid, a deadline would be set for sealed bids, and then a bidder would be chosen.

Dean Devito states there is grants for capital funding. Maggie Fronk thinks HHPA funding would also be an option.

Stephen Towne feels the sale of Williams Street would be a beneficial to the overall financial plan of a permanent shelter. Stephen motions for the City to move forward with preparing an RFP for the sale of William Street.

Kate Halliday seconds the motion.

Tom Roohan shares that the motion will get the Council thinking about the process of the RFP. It is up to them to decide if they want to move forward.

Rev. Kate Forer calls for vote on the motion. Vote passes with no opposed, 2 abstentions.

Tom Roohan reflects on previous talk about launching two subcommittees. The discussion of the first subcommittee would include what we would look for in an agency, and the second would include design/build of the shelter.

Hannah Hurley asks to include that task members on a different committee can share knowledge with other committees.

Stephen Towne shares he recommends adding a committee to focus on funding, and that just assigning individuals to a specific committee may be beneficial.

Rev. Kate Forer takes over assignment of roles. Maggie, Rev. Kate Forer, Jules, and Hannah are asked to be on the Subcommittee for agency. Dean, Tom, Andrea, and Lindsey were asked to be on the design/build subcommittee. Stephen, Sherrie, and Kate Halliday were appointed to the funding committee.

Rev. Kate Forer shares the next meeting will be June 8th.

The Mayor shares that the bid for the RFP on the temporary solution for a permanent shelter will be discussed on the June 6th City Council meeting.

Adjourn