

Pasadena Partnership to End Homelessness

Housing Committee Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2017

In Attendance: Anne Lansing, Pasadena Dept. of Housing; Anna Jacobsen, Pasadena Dept. of Housing; Cheryl Castillo, Alliance for Housing and Healing; Tim Peters, Door of Hope; David Garcia, Pacific Clinics; Michael Watkins, PPEH Board; Griffin Hatlestad, Door of Hope; Myrtle Dunson, CPOHD; Will Watts, Public Counsel/CoC Board; Joshua Graten, Friends In Deed; Karen Streeter, Community Advocate

- I. Welcome & Introductions
- II. Approval of Minutes – minutes were not taken at the December 8, 2016 meeting
- III. Agenda Items
 - a. PHA Admin Plan (Myrtle Dunson)
 - i. Presentation on Rental Assistance Program (PowerPoint and handouts)
 - ii. Discussed City of Pasadena Public Housing Agency Annual Plan
 - iii. City is a high-performing agency and annual plan portion is simple and short
 - iv. 2017 Section 8 voucher waitlist currently has 23,852 applications, many applicants not from Pasadena
 - v. New Projects/Activities – Marv’s Place (19-unit Section 8 project-based vouchers) and Heritage Square (69-unit Section 8 project-based vouchers)
 - vi. Admin Plan reviewed with Resident Advisory Board - housing challenges discussed
 - vii. Outreached to UCLA Executive Management Program to complete marketing place for Section 8 program – completed videos for housing department, also provided research and information that department has implemented to improve the Section 8 process
 - viii. Tenants should not present themselves initially as a Section 8 voucher holder, they should ask if the unit is available and how much, expect to see units where landlords will not take Section 8, but also open up the possibility of a new owner being open to taking Section 8
 - ix. Gail Anderson Section 8 videos presented
 - x. Anne Lansing – videos are a great first step in opening the door for new landlords, but the best advertising is getting a tenant in the unit who does well
 - b. HMIS Update (Onik Nazarian)
 - i. Moving to a new HMIS provider
 - ii. Going live May 15, 2017
 - iii. Training for all users planned for May 1 – May 15, 2017 – can attend either Pasadena or LAHSA training
 - iv. Change in APRs – effective April 1, 2017, new platform will be used for e-snaps
 - c. City Budget (Anne Lansing)
 - i. Effect of City Budget on Housing Dept. – told to plan for a 5% reduction
 - ii. Will not affect Housing Dept. staffing or face to the public
 - iii. Not related to recent political changes, more related to retirement costs
 - iv. Discussed concerns about future, and vouchers being available/cancelled – nothing announced from HUD at this time, may be based on City/County measures that are being taken
 - d. Candidates Forums Feedback (Michelle White out sick, presented by Joshua and Anne Lansing)

- i. Multiple seats up for re-election on City Council
 - ii. Forum was specifically on the topic of affordable housing
 - iii. De-briefing meeting tonight
 - iv. Community participation in developing the questions
 - v. There is a sense that people want to do the right thing, but it depends on how much they are willing to risk
 - vi. 2 people told their stories, one woman who was on the streets for many years
 - vii. Purpose of forum was to provide an opportunity for council members to hear from the community
 - viii. Haus, most conservative, was clear about not being supportive of increasing percentage of inclusionary units
 - ix. Many other candidates were more progressive in their views but it's not clear regarding the actions they are willing to take
- e. PSH Exits Committee Update (Anne Lansing)
 - i. Talked about in December meeting
 - ii. Placeholder on the agenda
 - iii. Houston's CoC was highest scoring in 2015 Competition, Anne did research on their application and they do have some innovative measures that they take
 - iv. One of their activities includes a committee discussing the people who are exiting PSH and imminently losing their housing
 - v. Anne will discuss idea with Sieglinde from CES, and work on a plan to implement a similar activity to improve outcomes

IV. Announcements/Other Items

- a. Measure H (Tim Peter) – promote within our network to get that passed, not a strong opposition to the measure
- b. Tim Peters will be transitioning from Door of Hope after 11 years of service, will serve as a consultant for 6 months following transition; Anne commended Tim for his work over the last 11 years
- c. Cheryl Castillo – new Chief Program Office Leigh Zweig at Alliance for Housing and Healing

V. Next Meeting: Thursday, March 23rd at 10:00 a.m.