

**CITY OF LONG BEACH  
HOMELESS SERVICES  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES**

**WEDNESDAY, JUNE 1, 2022  
VIA TELECONFERENCE, 3:30 PM**

Susana Sngiem, Chair  
S. Jolene Hui, Vice Chair  
Jeanette Barrera, Member  
Diego Castaneda, Member  
Sylvia Guerrero, Member



James Howat, Member  
Jeffrey Johnson, Member  
Julie Lie, Member  
Ray Morquecho, Member  
Desiree Rew, Member

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**HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING VIA TELECONFERENCE  
PURSUANT TO ASSEMBLY BILL 361**

**THE PUBLIC WILL HAVE THE OPTION TO PROVIDE LIVE TELEPHONIC PUBLIC  
COMMENT BY JOINING THE VIRTUAL MEETING. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROVIDE  
LIVE PUBLIC COMMENT, PLEASE EMAIL HOMELESSSERVICES@LONGBEACH.GOV  
WITH YOUR NAME AND THE AGENDA ITEM.**

**WRITTEN COMMENTS MAY ALSO BE SUBMITTED BY EMAIL TO  
HOMELESSSERVICES@LONGBEACH.GOV**

**FOR INFORMATION ON HOW TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS MEETING, PLEASE VISIT:  
<http://www.longbeach.gov/homeless-services/hsac/>**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A regular meeting of the Homeless Services Advisory Committee of the City of Long Beach convened at 3:34 p.m. via teleconference.

**ROLL CALL**

Also present: Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager; Somatra Church, Homeless Services Program Officer; Joel Reynoza, Homeless Resource Coordinator; Stephanie Sosa, Contracts and Grants Associate; Anita Lakhani, Deputy City Attorney

Chair Susana Sngiem presiding

**Commissioners** Jeanette Barrera, Diego Castaneda, James Howat, Jeffrey

**Present:** Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui  
and Susana Sngiem

**Commissioners** Sylvia Guerrero

**Absent:**

## REGULAR AGENDA

### APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

1. [22-057HS](#) Recommendation to approve the minutes of the Homeless Services Advisory Committee meeting on Wednesday May 4, 2022.

**A motion was made by Member Barrera, seconded by Member Rew, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Jeanette Barrera, James Howat, Jeffrey Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui and Susana Sngiem

**Absent:** 2 - Diego Castaneda and Sylvia Guerrero

### PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- None

## SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES

### Community Capacity Building Subcommittee Update

- Vice-Chair S. Jolene Hui provided an update
  - The CCB Subcommittee did not meet and had no new updates

### Fundraising Subcommittee Update

- Committee Member Howat provided an update
  - The Fundraising Subcommittee did not meet and had no new updates

### Policy Subcommittee Update

- Committee Member Rew provided an update
  - The Policy Subcommittee met on May 9th and have agreed to meet every other month. The next meeting is scheduled for July 11th.
  - Member Sylvia Guerrero is the newest member to join.
  - The sub-committee would like to include that encampment be placed as a priority for the HSAC values list.

### Annual Report Ad-Hoc Subcommittee Update

- Chair Susana Sngiem provided an update
  - The Annual Report Ad-Hoc Subcommittee will be working with Somatra Church, Homeless Services Program Officer, to follow up on the annual report draft.

### Continuum of Care Update

- Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager, provided the updated since HSAC does not yet have a representative to the Continuum of Care (CoC) Board.
- The CoC Board in the month of June will have two presentations. One, is recommendations from the UCLA School of Social Work on the creation of a Lived Experience Expertise Board. The second, on a community action plan, which is a requirement to receive the Homeless Housing Assistance program funding.

## 2. [22-058HS](#)

Recommendation to receive and file all subcommittee updates.

**A motion was made by Member Howat, seconded by Member Rew, to received and filed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 8 - Jeanette Barrera, James Howat, Jeffrey Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui and Susana Sngiem

**Absent:** 2 - Diego Castaneda and Sylvia Guerrero

**HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE CONTINUUM OF CARE BOARD  
REPRESENTATIVE**

- Chair Susana Sngiem requested this item be postponed to next month's meeting since Member Sylvia Guerrero who will assume that role is absent.

3. [22-059HS](#) Recommendation to appoint a Homeless Services Advisory Committee representative for the Long Beach Continuum of Care Board.

**Recommendation to table the appointment of a Homeless  
Services Advisory Committee Representative for the Long  
Beach Continuum of Care Board.**

**Yes:** 9 - Jeanette Barrera, Diego Castaneda, James Howat, Jeffrey Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui and Susana Sngiem

**Absent:** 1 - Sylvia Guerrero

## SETTING HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE VALUES AND PRIORITIES

- Chair Susana Sngiem went through the values gathered throughout the various HSAC meetings.
  - A more people centered approach that should encompass a compassionate point of view when looking at homelessness.
  - Supporting self-determination.
  - Work to include lived experiences in the policy making process.
  - Equity data driven data, equity in services with key despaired groups
  - Housing First
  - Harm reduction as the approach to meet people at their current state and take away the stigma of drug use
- Member Castaneda commented that recovery oriented should be the language used, as to work with harm reduction.
- Member Barrera, wanted a more multifaceted approach to homelessness, not just housing first.
  - Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager, responded that housing first is an approach. A concept that considers housing as a necessity that should be available to all and not only after a check list of items is completed be a client.
  - There was discussion amongst the members.
- Member Morquecho wanted to add that information sharing is needed amongst the sub-recipients providing services.
- Chair Susana Sngiem also provided the priorities.
  - Local funding of housing and services.
  - A safety net during economic recovery.
  - The building of affordable and alternative housing.

4. [22-060HS](#) Recommendation to receive and file discussion on setting the Homeless Services Advisory Committee values and priorities.

**A motion was made by Member Howat, seconded by Member Morquecho, to approve recommendation. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Jeanette Barrera, Diego Castaneda, James Howat, Jeffrey Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui and Susana Sngiem

**Absent:** 1 - Sylvia Guerrero

### **HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE ELECTION**

- Chair Susana Sngiem requested to know about terms and redistricting from staff. Paul Duncan, Homeless Services Bureau Manager, has been unable to get a clear update from the City Attorneys, will connect with them for the next meeting.
- Member Jeanette Barrera put forth a recommendation for the Chair and Vice Chair roles.
  - Both named candidates, Member Desiree Rew and Member Julie Lie will discuss, hold meetings with the current Chair, Vice-Chair, and staff before making a decision.

5. [22-061HS](#) Recommendation to receive and file discussion on the Homeless Services Advisory Committee election.

**A motion was made by Member Morquecho, seconded by Vice Chair Hui, to received and filed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Jeanette Barrera, Diego Castaneda, James Howat, Jeffrey Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui and Susana Sngiem

**Absent:** 1 - Sylvia Guerrero

## INTENSIVE CASE MANAGEMENT SERVICES VENDOR PRESENTATION

- Somatra Church, Homeless Services Program Officer introduced the ICMS presenter. Andy Haverstick, Associate Director from PATH that overseas the Long Beach Area.
- The presentation went through PATH's key points of the program that is based on reinforcing their clients' strengths. PATH does not mandate sobriety instead looks to make changes by reducing harmful activities. He also touched on,
  - Outreach
  - Housing Navigation
  - Financial and Subsidy Support
  - Community and Supportive linkages
  - and Permanent Supportive Housing.
- Member Howat noted and questioned challenges facing the matching of housing voucher recipients to housing.
  - Andy responded that there are a few challenges but have had success with finding units and landlords willing to take the vouchers.
- Member Lie asked how many of the assigned voucher recipients from Long Beach have been placed into housing, where are the PATH offices within the city and overall staffing questions.
  - Andy responded that 200 housing vouchers were assigned, 50 have been housed. PATH has two offices within the City of Long Beach, on Artesia and a project-based site. Currently there are 3 caseworkers, 2 new hires on-boarding and a total expected staffing capacity of 10 caseworkers for the Long Beach program.

6. [22-062HS](#) Recommendation to receive and file the Intensive Case Management Services Presentation.

**A motion was made by Member Howat, seconded by Member Morquecho, to received and filed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Jeanette Barrera, Diego Castaneda, James Howat, Jeffrey Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui and Susana Sngiem

**Absent:** 1 - Sylvia Guerrero

## HOMELESS SERVICES STAFF REPORT

- Joel Reynoza, Homeless Resource Coordinator, provided an update on Outreach
- Somatra Church, Homeless Services Program Officer, provided an update Operations and staffing.
- The Winter Shelter will close on June 30th
- The MSC will be providing interim staffing to support the ABC Year-Round Shelter with the departure of its current provider.
- Member Barrera commented about the increase in people housed since last month
  - Staff responded

7. [22-063HS](#) Recommendation to receive and file the Homeless Services Bureau Staff Report.

**A motion was made by Member Howat, seconded by Member Morquecho, to received and filed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 9 - Jeanette Barrera, Diego Castaneda, James Howat, Jeffrey Johnson, Julie Lie, Ray Morquecho, Desiree Rew, S. Jolene Hui and Susana Sngiem

**Absent:** 1 - Sylvia Guerrero

## CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR REPORT

- Chair Susana Sngiem provided the opportunity for introduction of new members.
- Member Diego Castañeda is a PSC and works with Mental Health America of Los Angeles and will be representing District 2.
- Member Raymond Morquecho is a Senior Policy Director for the City of Los Angeles and will be representing District 1.
- Member Jeanette Barrera's last meeting.



## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- Natalie Swift, former HSAC committee member

## **FUTURE AGENDA ITEM**

- Homeless Count Presentation
- Presentation on Affordable Housing Development

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- None

## **ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:30 p.m. Chair Susana Sngiem adjourned the meeting.

I, Stephanie Sosa, certify that the agenda was posted not less than 72 hours prior to the meeting.

Note: A recording of this meeting is available from Homeless Services Administration at 562-570-4182. The City of Long Beach provides reasonable accommodations in accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. If special accommodation is desired, or you need the agenda provided in an alternate format, please call the Department of Health and Human Services Department 48 hours prior to the meeting at (562) 570-4176 or the Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) at (562)570-4346.