

**Ashland Housing and Human  
Services Commission**  
Regular Meeting Agenda



**October 27, 2016: 4:30 – 5:30pm**  
**Siskiyou Room of the Community Development Building**  
**51 Winburn Way**

1. (4:30) **Approval of Minutes** (5 min)  
September 22, 2016
2. (4:35) **Public Forum** (5 min)
3. (4:40) **Debrief on Joint Planning/Housing and Human Services Meeting** (10 min)
4. (4:50) **Presentation by 90 Days Southern Oregon** (15 min)  
Evan Lasley, AFL-CIO
5. (5:05) **Discussion Regarding Council Update** (15 min)  
Linda Reid, Housing Program Specialist
6. (5:20) **Develop a Strategy for Implementing the Housing Trust Fund** (15 min)  
Sharon Harris
7. (5:35) **Discussion of November and December meeting Dates** (5 min)
8. (5:40) **Liaison Reports Discussion** (15 min)

**Porta Potty Sub-committee update**

**Liaison Reports**

Council (Pam Marsh)  
SOU Liaison (Megan Mercier/Leo  
McCaffrey)  
Staff (Linda Reid)  
General Announcements

9. (5:55) **Upcoming Events and Meetings**

**Next Housing Commission Regular Meeting**

4:30-6:30 PM; TBD in the Siskiyou Room of the Community Development Building

7:00-10:00 PM; November 15, 2016 - Annual Presentation to Council-Council Chamber  
1175 E. Main

5:30-7:00 PM; December 19, 2016 - Construction excise tax study session in the  
Siskiyou Room of the Community Development Building

**TBD Meeting Agenda Items**

**Quorum Check** – Commissioners not available to attend upcoming regular meetings  
should declare their expected absence

10. (6:00) **Adjournment**

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the Community Development office at 541-488-5305 (TTY phone is 1-800-735-2900). Notification 48 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title 1).



# CITY OF ASHLAND

## Ashland Housing and Human Services Commission Draft Minutes September 22, 2016

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Boettiger called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm in the Siskiyou Room at the Community Development and Engineering Offices located at 51 Winburn Way, Ashland OR 97520.

<b>Commissioners Present:</b>	<b>Council Liaison</b>
Gina DuQuenne	Rich Rosenthal
Rich Rohde	
Joshua Boettiger	<b>SOU Liaison</b>
Tom Gunderson	Megan Mercier, absent
Sharon Harris	
Sue Crader	<b>Staff Present:</b>
Heidi Parker	Linda Reid, Housing Specialist
Michelle Linley	
<b>Commissioners Absent:</b>	Carolyn Schwendener, Staff Secretary
Tom Buechele	

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Two corrections were made to last month's minutes. (Council Liaison report - *Not the Chamber Board*) Rohde/Gunderson m/s to approve the minutes of the August 25, 2016 Housing and Human Services Commission meeting with corrections. Voice Vote: All Ayes, minutes were approved with corrections.

### PUBLIC FORUM

No one was present to speak.

The Commissioners welcomed new member Michelle Linley and City Councilor Rich Rosenthal who was subbing for Pam Marsh.

### HOUSING CRISIS FORUM NEXT STEPS UPDATE

Rohde reported the materials that came out of the forum have been summarized and the next step is to prioritize the direction in which to take. The Committee has recently done an exercise in strategic mapping looking at all the players in affordable housing in Ashland and the decision makers. Some of the priorities outlined are; funding of the Housing Trust Fund, removing barriers for tiny houses, renter's rights including a ninety day notice and looking at some of the homeless issues. Reid commented the committee recognizes some organizations are going to want to put all their energy into priorities locally while other organizations are needing to serve in a larger more regional effort. If anyone is interested in attending the meetings they are held every Wednesday at 1:30 pm at the Pony Espresso café located in the Washington Federal Building on Lithia Way.

### CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION REPORT

Reid gave an overview of what the CAPER report is. This is a document required from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development's (HUD) Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) fund program. In the City's five year consolidated plan for the use of CDBG funds the City sets goals for what type of projects they would like to fund. The CAPER reports the accomplishments generated by the activities funded in program year 2015 and how those activities allow the City of make progress in meeting the outcomes and goals identified in the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan. Reid brought attention to the fact that the City actually funded four projects in the 2015 year grant cycle; The Maslow Project, St. Vincent DePaul, Ashland Supportive Housing and Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity was not able to expend their funding as they did not find enough home owners to participate in their program. The money was given back to the City. That money can be re-awarded mid-stream but would need to go through award process again.

The Commissioners discussed the CAPER making some grammatical changes.

Harris/DuQuenne m/s to approve the CAPER with changes. Voice Vote: All Ayes, motion passed unanimously.

### **LIAISON REPORTS DISCUSSION**

**Porta Potty Sub-committee update** – Harris spoke with Parks Director Michael Black regarding the placing of a porta potty on the Bear Creek Greenway/Bike path. The sub-committee is interested in placing a porta potty in the downtown area somewhere around Ace Hardware/Food Co-op area. They would also like to see one at the south end of town by Shop-n-Kart. Mr. Black has no problem with locating one on the bike path and offered to meet with someone from the sub-committee to discuss the best possible place to put it. The HHS commission agreed they still need to get approval from the Council as well as a funding source. Harris and DuQuenne will arrange a time to meet with Mr. Black and do a site visit.

**Joint H&HS & Planning Commission meeting** – At a prior H&HS meeting it was suggested to have a joint meeting with the Planning Commission at one of their study sessions. There are a lot of land use pieces to some of the priorities that this group has, stated Reid. It was decided to meet with the Planning Commission at their October 25, 2016 Study Session at 7:00 pm at the Council Chambers. Reid will type up a brief summary of the Planning land use activities this group has been working on and email it to the Commissioners. It was also decided it is still necessary to have the regular H&HS Commission meeting in October.

**Council** – Rosenthal reported that the resolution for the winter shelter is on the City Council agenda for their Tuesday October 18, 2016 meeting. The emergency shelter was a discussion item at their Study Session and Council directed staff to look into the concept of contracting with an outside organization to help with the program. This coming Sunday from 3:00 to 5:00pm is the second climate and energy action plan public open house at SOU Stevenson Union. Potential strategies will be outlined on how to reduce our carbon footprint.

**Staff** – Parker and Reid attended the Homeless Task Force meeting on Tuesday in which local law enforcement spoke to the group regarding the homeless populations. Medford, Central Point and Ashland were represented. Each community pointed out they see very different populations of homeless in their communities. Chief O'Meara acknowledged that Ashland has a larger population of transients who do not necessarily want services or jobs; they are living here as a choice. Central Point police Chief Allison pointed out the population in Central Point is very different. It tends to be transitional families who are going from housing to homelessness for one reason or another. They see a large number of families sleeping in their cars and often experience issues of domestic violence. Medford Chief Sparacino emphasized they primarily see peoples with mental illness and/or drug addiction and homeless veterans.

Parker conveyed that she disagreed with Chief O'Meara's description of the homeless in Ashland. As a volunteer if you go to the homeless shelter in the winter you will find people with mental illness as well as some who have been abused, stated Parker. None of those people in the shelter are opposed to having shelter. Parker commented that mischaracterization of who the homeless are makes it difficult to have compassion for people who are choosing homelessness rather than people who are there for other reasons; bad choices through no fault of their own, poverty or abuse. Everyone agreed they all need to work together.

Reid announced that Assistance Chief Warren Hensman is putting together a mental health training for the Community. It is currently scheduled for October 19, 2016 at the Presbyterian Church. The date may change.

### **GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS SEPTEMBER 22, 2016 METTING AGENDA ITEMS**

**Quorum Check** – Everyone should be present

### **UPCOMING EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

Next Housing Commission Meeting – 4:30-6:30 PM; October 27, 2016 in the Siskiyou Room at the Community Development & Engineering Department located at 51 Winburn Way.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

*Respectfully submitted by Carolyn Schwendener*

## Memo

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DATE: 10/21/2016  
TO: Housing and Human Services Commission  
FROM: Linda Reid, Housing Program Specialist  
RE: Housing and Human Services Commission Annual Update to the City Council  
2016

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Mayor and City Council,

The Housing and Human Services Commission is pleased to report on the work we have undertaken this year.

Furthermore the Commission would like to provide the Council with a brief overview of the commission's areas of focus in the coming year.

### Affordable Housing Trust Fund

The Housing and Human Services Commission has been working with the Council and City staff to research and identify potential funding sources for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund (AHTF), to the end the City helped to organize and education and outreach event, the Housing Solutions Forum, to engage the community and further identify funding solutions. Currently the commission is continuing to work toward finding a permanent funding source for the AHTF.

### Student Fair Housing

After two years of working with students, landlords, renters and Ashland citizens. In August of 2016 City adopted an update of the Fair housing ordinance to clarify and expand protections for students and others.

### CDBG

City staff and the H&HS commission completed the process of reviewing and making award recommendations regarding the City's allocation of Community Development Block Grant Funds.

## Goals

The Housing and Human Services Commission held their annual goal setting retreat on December 15, 2015. At their retreat the commissioners identified nine goals;

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1. Donation Boxes-Education Campaign/PR, Resource Bucks in hotels/businesses, Identify and collaborate with stakeholders, highlight solutions (where does the \$ go)
2. Affordable Housing/Inclusionary Zoning
3. Housing Trust Fund Permanent funding source
4. Diversity
5. More Porta-Potties
6. Develop Housing Resources for Workforce/Middle Income households.
7. Increase Shelter Nights and Volunteers
8. Transitional Shelter
9. Research Rental Issues

Since identifying and prioritizing the nine goals stated above, the Commission has taken steps to explore several of them. Most notably, the commission has opened a dialog with community groups and organizations undertaking work to provide solutions to issues faced by homeless and low-income residents, a subcommittee of the commission has explored options for locating additional porta-potties in needed locations in town, and lastly, a subcommittee of the commission helped to plan, organize and host a housing solutions forum to explore affordable housing solutions; including potential funding sources for the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, solutions for issues facing renters, and potential shelter and transitional housing solutions for homeless populations.