
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Thursday, July 18, 2019 1:30 p.m.

Harrigan Centennial Hall

Commission Members: Doug Osborne, Loyd Platson, Jeff Arndt,
Barbara Kendall, Vera Gibson, Chuck Woodcock, Holly Marban
Dr. Richard Wein (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Osborne called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Doug Osborne, Loyd Platson, Jeff Arndt, Barbara Kendall, Vera Gibson, Chuck Woodcock (arrived at 1:34 p.m.), Holly Marban

Assembly Liaison: Richard Wein

Others in attendance: Deputy Clerk Melissa Henshaw

III. AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD/CORRESPONDENCE

None.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. June 18, 2019

M – Platson / S – Arndt moved to approve the June 18, 2019 minutes as written. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.

VI. REPORTS

Chair – Osborne reported he would transition to SEARHC soon and their policy stated that he was not allowed to be chair of a CBS board/commission.

Commissioners – Gibson reminded of the town hall for underage drinking on June 20. Woodcock noted a Teen Center location had been found; it would open the first week of school; and YAS received a level 4 house 2 for youth 8 to 12 years old. Kendall stated Alaska had the first confirmed case of measles. Gibson reported that Sitka Counseling would resume their pizza sticker program for various causes and information. Marban told that the major focus at SEARHC had been the transition. She stated there was a housing option at SEARHC for intensive outpatient substance abuse for a 16 week period. Arndt reported on Sitka Trail Works as the final pieces of the contract was almost complete with the city.

City Staff – Henshaw reported that the Interim Municipal Administrator had been appointed as Dave Miller.

Assembly Liaison – Wein told of the kickoff celebration and information about Katlian Bay Road.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Affordability

Chair Osborne relayed the outcomes of the last Affordability Work Shop. He stated he would like to try and stay focused on ideas that allowed for policy. He highlighted self-sufficiency with regards to recycling/composting and solid waste as a hot topic as well as

taxes on sugar/cigarettes/liquor/marijuana in order to reduce other taxes. He noted other topics included shared housing, on bill financing for heat pumps, and removing utility benefits. Woodcock who participated in the work shop told that the most active conversation was surrounding the waste. Marban was intrigued by the regional incinerator or large scale compost.

Wein noted the current expensive and long term contract and felt there were many options to save money. Arndt shared ideas of composting. Gibson thought that converting from oil to electric would be something to look at. Kendall stated recycling needed to be easier on citizens. Platson agreed that reducing waste should be a way and to have incentives for reducing and recycling. Wein relayed the needs at the Electric Department and of the excess reserves.

It was determined to hold the third Affordability Work Shop on August 22nd at 6:30 p.m.

C. Substance abuse especially regarding binge drinking in youth

Platson told of data from an in depth high school survey that was being compiled. Woodcock spoke with regards to binge drinking in youth, of the culture of the community/adults, and the acceptance of it. It was determined to show the survey results at the next regular meeting.

D. Support creation of a collective impact board

Chair Osborne showed a draft letter to invite entities and people to the first meeting of the collective impact board on September 17th. Platson thought to postpone. Marban agreed. It was determined to keep a small planning meeting on September 17th at 2:00 p.m. as a work session and postpone the first collective impact board meeting.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

E. Three foot bike clearance

Chair Osborne told of a letter Jeff Budd sent and the idea of not passing bicyclists until there was 3 feet available. Wein thought there should be bicycle safety education first. Chair Osborne stated that ticketing could be done with the option to take a bicycle safety class that he would do personally quarterly. Marban agreed that education was important, however was unsure how best to get information out. Chair Osborne thought to take this topic to the Police and Fire Commission as well.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

F. Next meeting was scheduled for August 8, 2019 at 1:30 p.m., Harrigan Centennial Hall

M - Platson / S - Gibson moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objection, the meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Attest:
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk