

MINUTES
MALIBU HOMELESSNESS TASK FORCE
REGULAR MEETING
APRIL 19, 2022
TELECONFERENCED – VARIOUS LOCATIONS
2:00 P.M.

The following meeting was held pursuant to AB 361 and fully teleconferenced from various locations during the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Roven called the meeting to order at 2:06 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The following persons were recorded in attendance via teleconference by the Recording Secretary:

PRESENT: Chair Ian Roven; and Task Force Members Wayne Cohen, Paul Davis, Terry Davis, Scott Dittrich, Chris Frost, and Kelly Pessis

ABSENT: Vice Chair Bill Winokur; and Task Force Members Deborah Benton and Bill Sampson

ALSO PRESENT: Susan Dueñas, Public Safety Manager; Luis Flores, Public Safety Liaison; Parker Davis, Media Technician; and Mary Linden, Executive Assistant

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Roven led the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION Task Force Member Terry Davis moved, and Task Force Member Paul Davis seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called, and the motion carried 7-0, Vice Chair Winokur, Task Force Member Benton, and Task Force Member Sampson absent.

REPORT ON POSTING OF AGENDA

Executive Assistant Linden reported that the agenda for the meeting was properly posted on April 15, 2022.

ITEM 1 CEREMONIAL/PRESENTATIONS

None.

ITEM 2.A. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

ITEM 2.B. STAFF UPDATES

Public Safety Manager Dueñas discussed the request for proposals for homeless outreach services. She stated she was investigating costs for guaranteeing beds at shelters. She announced the City Council would consider postponing in-person meetings at its April 25, 2022 meeting.

Public Safety Liaison Flores stated outreach work by The People Concern and Sheriff's Department continued. He stated new individuals had been seen in Malibu and were being notified of available services.

In response to Task Force Member Dittrich, Public Safety Liaison Flores stated many of the new individuals were coming from inland areas in Southern California. Task Force Member Dittrich asked for updates on Governor Newsom's proposal to move individuals with mental issues. He stated some advocacy groups were opposed to the plan. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated she would look into the details.

Task Force Member Pessis discussed new and proposed legislation. She commended the outreach workers. In response to Task Force Member Pessis, Public Safety Liaison Flores discussed fluctuations in numbers of homeless individuals in Malibu.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas discussed local homeless residents who had accepted interim housing and other services.

ITEM 2.C. TASK FORCE MEMBER COMMENTS

Task Force Member Terry Davis discussed an article shared by Mayor Pro Tem Silverstein that stated there were 239 homeless individuals in Malibu. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated that was an old number.

Task Force Member Pessis asked that the request for proposals (RFP) be discussed at the next meeting. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated it was not part of the Task Force's charter and was part of regular business.

In response to Task Force Member Dittrich, Public Safety Manager Dueñas discussed how a consultant was selected from proposals submitted.

ITEM 3 CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION Task Force Member Terry Davis moved, and Task Force Member Dittrich seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called, and the motion carried 7-0, Vice Chair Winokur, Task Force Member Benton, and Task Force Member Sampson absent.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following items:

- A. Previously Discussed Items
None.
- B. New Items
 - 1. Approval of Minutes – March 15, 2022
Staff recommendation: Approve minutes of the Homelessness Task Force Regular meeting of March 15, 2022.

ITEM 4 OLD BUSINESS

- A. Revision of Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives (continued from March 15, 2022)
Recommended Action: 1) Review the Strategic Plan Review Ad Hoc Committee’s proposed revision of the Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives and provide edits, if appropriate; and 2) Approve the revised Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives for submittal to the City Council.

Task Force Member Paul Davis presented the report.

MOTION Task Force Member Paul Davis moved to approve the revised Homelessness Strategic Plan Goals and Objectives for submittal to the City Council.

Task Force Member Dittrich suggested adding a preamble stating that the first objective was to find a shelter outside Malibu.

Task Force Member Terry Davis disagreed with adding that statement to the beginning of this document. She stated it was important to maintain flexibility and allow for the opportunity to find something that works.

Task Force Member Paul Davis thanked Task Force Member Dittrich for his comment. He stated a separate document dealt with Alternative Sleeping Locations (ASL).

Task Force Member Dittrich stated including anything about a shelter in the city limits would undermine the plan.

Chair Roven seconded the motion.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas explained that the strategy must stay current and include potential goals or actions for the future.

Task Force Member Terry Davis agreed that additional language could limit the possibilities in the future. She expressed concern about the Council's direction to move ahead without any City funds.

Task Force Member Pessis expressed support for Task Force Member Dittrich's suggestion. She stated she would like to see reference to the City's small size and location in a high fire severity zone.

Task Force Member Dittrich stated his understanding was the Council was saying there were no funds at this time.

The question was called, and the motion carried 6-0-1, Task Force Member Dittrich abstaining, and Vice Chair Winokur, Task Force Member Benton, and Task Force Member Sampson absent.

ITEM 5 NEW BUSINESS

A. Update on City Council Direction – ASL Outside of Malibu

Recommended Action: 1) Review the City Council direction for pursuing an Alternative Sleeping Location (ASL); 2) Review efforts implemented by other cities that are similar to the Council direction; and 3) Identify next steps in providing a report back to the Council.

Chair Roven introduced the item. He stated the Council direction was unanimous.

Public Safety Liaison Flores presented the report. He discussed other cities contacted for feedback on their strategies. He stated a key observation was that each of those cities had to use city funding.

Task Force Member Paul Davis stated underlying issues that resulted in homelessness must be addressed for the individuals to become independent and productive. He asked if life skills were provided in these other cities' facilities. Public Safety Liaison Flores stated there was consistency in the cities' strategies that included motivation, instruction, and job skills to help create self-sufficiency. He stated individuals were vetted before entry to these sites.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated various service providers could provide different services.

Task Force Member Paul Davis suggested focusing on self-reliance, dignity and independence.

Task Force Member Pessis stated she agreed that wraparound services were important. She asked if PATH offered those services with beds. She expressed concern about what the Council

MOTION Task Force Member Pessis moved to go back to the City Council to request a new directive to either modify the current request for proposals (RFP) for outreach services to include emergency beds or issue a new RFP exclusively for emergency beds.

Public Safety Liaison Flores suggested compiling a list of costs from available facilities including services.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated a separate RFP for beds was better since some service providers offered only beds without outreach. She stated the City's outreach budget did not have room for reduction. She discussed overhead for two outreach workers and supervision. She discussed the requirement of referral and intake for an individual to be sent to most facilities.

Task Force Member Terry Davis seconded the motion.

Task Force Member Paul Davis agreed with Task Force Member Pessis that it was likely little could be found with no funding. He agreed with staff investigating costs.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated it was worth exploring what types of emergency beds were available.

Task Force Member Frost stated the type of bed available made a difference but not to most individuals on the street. He stated, from a law enforcement standpoint, there were three options of the person taking the bed, including moving on or being arrested. He stated that was currently being implemented in Calabasas.

Task Force Member Dittrich suggested investigating the cost to accomplish what the Council directed and look into grant funding available. He agreed with Task Force Member Paul Davis that getting individuals to a facility that also offered services was more likely to be successful. He stated he was confident the Council would come up with money if the Task Force presented a feasible option.

Public Safety Liaison Flores discussed options that were successful for different cities.

Task Force Member Frost agreed with Task Force Member Dittrich that if the City Council was presented with a reasonable plan that would work, it would find the funding.

Task Force Member Dittrich asked if the Task Force could reach out to the other cities to see if Malibu could piggyback on what they were doing, at least as a starting point.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the Task Force could recommend that the Council direct staff to explore securing beds in outside cities and then issue an RFP.

Task Force Member Paul Davis suggested options considered included details of services provided.

Task Force Member Terry Davis stated the problem had gotten bigger faster. She suggested checking with Tiffany from The People Concern about how many people would accept a bed if it was offered now.

Task Force Member Dittrich suggested directing the Chair to go to the Council to request staff direction.

Task Force Member Pessis asked if the Sheriff's Department's Mental Evaluation Team (MET) could help the City move people. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated MET was a resource for deputies. Task Force Member Pessis suggested requesting additional involvement from MET.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas suggested a separate RFP would be more reasonable. She suggested requesting that Council direct staff to pursue an RFP for guaranteed bed space.

Task Force Member Terry Davis suggested modifying the current RFP would be problematic. She stated a new RFP would be cleaner.

Task Force Member Cohen requested Task Force Members be more mindful of the Brown Act with emails by not using reply all.

Task Force Member Cohen left the meeting at 3:59 p.m.

Task Force Member Pessis withdrew the motion.

MOTION Task Force Member Pessis moved, and Task Force Member Terry Davis seconded a motion to provide a recommendation to the City Council to direct staff to pursue the option of securing beds at existing homeless facilities with the use of City funds.

Task Force Member Paul Davis suggested adding “in connection with self-reliance services.”

Task Force Member Pessis suggested that language could be included in staff’s agenda report.

The question was called, and the motion carried 6-0, Vice Chair Winokur, and Task Force Member Benton, Task Force Member Cohen, and Task Force Member Sampson absent.

B. Future Agenda Items

Recommended Action: Review items tentatively scheduled for upcoming meeting agendas and provide feedback to staff.

Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated the Fire, Health, and Public Safety Ad Hoc Committee report that was continued in November 2021 could be brought back.

Task Force Member Dittrich requested a report from staff about Governor Newsom’s proposal. Public Safety Manager Dueñas stated it could be broadened to include other legislation being considered. She reminded the Task Force that it should focus on completing its charter.

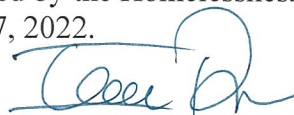
Task Force Member Pessis requested discussion of a preamble for the Strategic Plan be on the next agenda.

Task Force Member Pessis left the meeting at 4:17 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION At 4:17 p.m., Chair Roven adjourned the meeting.

Approved and adopted by the Homelessness Task Force of the City of Malibu on May 17, 2022.



IAN ROVEN, Chair

ATTEST:



MARY LINDEN, Executive Assistant