

MINUTES
COMMISSION ON HEALING SOLUTIONS FOR HOMELESSNESS
DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND HUMAN CONCERNS
COUNTY OF MAUI
ON-LINE VIA BLUEJEANS
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2021

REGULAR MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by Chair Hudson at 1:32 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Present:

Wendy Hudson, Chair
George Kaimiola, Vice-Chair
Faith Chase
John Decker
John Tomoso
Lisa Darcy

Excused:

Zhantell Lindo
Joyce Kawakami
Mary Trotto

Absent:

Scott Hansen

Present Staff:

Lori Tshako, Director
Mimi Desjardins, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Daniel Kunkel, Deputy Corporation Counsel
Pili Nahooikaika, Secretary

III. PUBLIC TESTIMONY

Michael Williams provided testimony on item no. five, bullet no. two, Cost of Government Commission Report on Homelessness Problem.

Aloha and Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! Thank you for giving me the opportunity to testify. My name is Michael Williams and I am the Chair of the Cost of Government Commission. I am also involved in housing and homelessness issues

because I am the President of Maui Tomorrow Foundation and Chair of its Affordable Housing Committee and I'm on the Board of Stand Up Maui.

The Cost of Government formed a TIG about a year and a half ago to look into the issues of homelessness and we interviewed most of the principle players both in the county administration and the various agencies that attack pieces of this puzzle, and after about a year and a half of doing that we decided that the Council or the Mayor should use the model that we use in affordable housing which is to request a professional source or expert to draft a plan for the county to use to end homelessness. The plan cost about 40,000 dollars and most of that was from the county and some of that was from the Hawaii Community Foundation and now the plan is being implemented it had a budget, it had a time table, it had maps as to where the project should go, it had a detailed analysis of the how to raise the money from property taxes pay for it and so forth and we think that a similar plan would advance the ball very much on the issues surrounding what you're dealing with.

The TIG provided a draft report to our commission at our December meeting but because it's a TIG report the commission could not deliberate on it or vote on it so the first time we're going to take it up will be at our January meeting. We would very much like to have the input and mana'o of all of you collectively or individually to tell us whether you think it's a good idea or tell us how you think we should refine it. It's certainly going to go through more drafts than you've been presented. We already got written suggestions from Commissioner Darcy and we would welcome this from any of you to come to our commission and testify about it if you have any points of view. And by the way the County of Maui has plenty of money to fund this proposal right away. The affordable housing fund has about 30 to 35 million dollars of uncommitted funds for this fiscal year and there's a bill working its way through the Council to make sure that the ordinances of the affordable housing can be used to pay for such a plan that we're advocating so you wouldn't have to wait until next year to go through the budget process in April and May if a request for a budget proposal gets approved by the Mayor or by the Council they could fund it right away so this could start happening before the next fiscal year.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

- Resource Mapping TIG – Vice-Chair Kaimiola and Members Chase, Kawakami and Trotto
Vice-Chair Kaimiola reported that their investigation is almost complete and that they will continue to work on adding any other resources that come to their attention prior to April 28, 2022.
- Street Medical/Mental Team TIG – Vice-Chair Kaimiola and Members Kawakami, Chase, Hansen, and Trotto
Vice-Chair Kaimiola reported that they are still doing research in completing their findings. Chair Hudson reminded Vice-Chair Kaimiola that the TIG's end date is scheduled for January 26, 2022 and asked if he would like to extend it.

Vice Chair Kaimiola moved and Member Tomoso seconded the motion to extend the TIG end date to April 28, 2022. The motion carried.

- Monthly Reporting TIG
Nothing to report.
Commissioner Tomoso suggested adding the reports to the Commission on Healing Solutions for Homelessness web page on the County of Maui website.
- Diversified Housing Solutions TIG – Members Darcy, Decker, Lindo, Tomoso, and Chase
No updates to report.
Commissioner Tomoso moved and Commissioner Decker seconded the motion to set a TIG end date of December 31, 2022. The motion carried.
- Social and Community Impacts TIG – Members Darcy, Decker, Kawakami, Tomoso, and Chase
No updates to report.
Commissioner Tomoso moved and Vice-Chair Kaimiola seconded the motion to set a TIG end date of December 31, 2022. The motion carried.
- Sustainable Housing TIG – Vice-Chair Kaimiola and Members Chase, Decker, and Darcy
Commissioner Chase confirmed an end date of June 30, 2022. She reported that the TIG has plans to meet in January.

V. NEW BUSINESS

- Unite Hawaii, United US Program
Chair Hudson clarified her take on the program to be a recommendation to the Maui County Council to hire as the base for all of the coordination and collaboration of homelessness services in connecting clients to housing, medical, and other sources of critical need to the community.
Commissioner Decker moved and Commissioner Chase seconded the motion to table discussion for the next meeting. The motion carried.
- Cost of Government Commission Report on Homelessness Problem
- Presentation by Pastor Dan Kaneshiro regarding “The Shelter” project
No presentation provided.
- Sunshine Law Amendments Allowing Remote Meetings
Deputy Corporation Counsel Kunkel informed the Commission that Governor Ige’s Emergency Proclamation Related to Sunshine Law In-Person Meetings have been extended until January 28, 2022.

Director Tshako stated that the Department of Housing and Human Concerns is continuing to secure a location for the remote meetings.

VI. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bridging the Gap Homeless Point-in-Time Count

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Hudson adjourned the meeting at 2:45 p.m. No motions made or votes taken.

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