



**MEETING OF THE CITY OF LA MESA
CITIZEN TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS
5:00 PM, CITY MANAGER'S CONFERENCE ROOM
8130 ALLISON AVENUE, LA MESA, CA 91942**

MINUTES
July 17, 2019

1. CALL TO ORDER (5:01 p.m.)
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

4. ROLL CALL (X indicates present)

Wayne Anderson	X
Bonnie Baranoff	X
Joanne Cattani	X
Megan Dunn	X
Jack Major	X
Mary Kate Miller	X
Stephanie Murphy	X

Others present: Greg Humora, Assistant City Manager; Lyn Dedmon, Senior Management Analyst; Megan Wiegelman, City Clerk; Lieutenant Vince Brown, La Mesa Police Department; Pamela Hunt, Homeless Outreach Team

Public: No members of the public present.

5. MEMBER INTRODUCTIONS

Greg Humora gave a brief introduction to the Task Force and stated that he will function as Chair until a chair is selected. Task Force members and staff gave brief introductions.

6. REVIEW OF THE BROWN ACT AND ROBERTS RULES OF ORDER

Megan Wiegelman gave two PowerPoint presentations to the Task Force on the Brown Act and Roberts Rules of Order. Greg Humora gave a brief introduction as to why the Brown Act is applicable to the Task Force.

Mary Kate Miller asked staff clarification as to what the Task Force would be voting on moving forward. Megan Wiegelman explained that the Task Force would be voting on recommendations to City Council for steps or actions to take to address homelessness.

Greg Humora asked Megan Wiegelman how many members of the Task Force constitute a quorum. Megan responded that it is five (5) members.

Greg Humora stated that it is important for members to let staff know when they will be absent.

7. TASK FORCE MISSION

Greg Humora gave an introduction and provided background as to why the City Council formed the Task Force. Greg stated that the scope or mission of the Task Force is to come up with recommendations of what La Mesa should do with respect to homelessness as well as what other agencies should be doing with respect to homelessness.

Wayne Anderson asked if this Task Force on homelessness is the first to be formed in La Mesa. Bonnie Baranoff and Greg Humora stated that it is the first.

8. BRIEFING ON HOMELESSNESS

Lieutenant Vince Brown gave a presentation on homelessness issues the La Mesa Police Department are challenged with in the City. Pamela Hunt from the Homeless Outreach Team gave a presentation on the role of the Homeless Outreach Team and the challenges she has experienced with offering homeless services in La Mesa.

Megan Dunn asked whether La Mesa has the most trolley stops in East County. Lieutenant Vince Brown answered that La Mesa has five (5) trolley stops.

Bonnie Baranoff asked what types of calls to La Mesa PD are the most common. Lieutenant Vince Brown explained the types of calls received and the complexities involved with using that data to derive statistics from it.

Wayne Anderson stated that it is important that an accurate count in La Mesa be completed and that the definition of homelessness is clarified and used regionally to improve counts. Wayne stated that mental health issues are a major factor with homelessness and mentioned the opening of the El Cajon Family Health Services mental health facility in El Cajon.

Bonnie Baranoff stated that improvements have been made to the We all Count methodology and that recent counts have been more accurate. Bonnie also shared materials on homelessness resources and contacts with the Task Force.

Megan Dunn stated that various factors influence the homeless count and that differing definitions on homelessness contribute to inaccurate counts.

Lieutenant Vince Brown explained that the Homeless Outreach Team works 5 hours a week in La Mesa and clarified the differences between the Homeless Outreach Team and the Psychiatric Emergency Response Team.

Jack Major asked Lieutenant Vince Brown why habitual abusers of homeless services aren't admitted for longer stays to avoid the issue of multiple calls per day or night.

9. SELECTION OF TASK FORCE CHAIR

The Task Force decided to table the selection of the Task Force Chair.

10. SELECTION OF TASK FORCE VICE CHAIR

The Task Force decided to table the selection of the Task Force Vice Chair.

11. STAFF ANNOUNCEMENTS

Greg Humora stated that the City is holding a "Movies in the Park" event in the Municipal Pool at MacArthur Park on Friday, July 19th at 8:15 p.m. The event is titled "Aquaman Dive-In Movie". Greg stated that the City is working to activate MacArthur Park and that the City is also working on locating a community garden in the park.

Greg Humora asked the Task Force if they have any ideas who they would like to bring in for presentations. Various members of the Task Force gave Greg suggestions on specific professionals that would be good to bring in.

12. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 21, 2019.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

Prepared by:

Lyn Dedmon, Senior Management Analyst