



Homes for All Leadership Group

“Providing innovative leadership toward ending homelessness”

Tuesday, July 11, 2017, 9:00 am

Meeting Notes

Welcome & Introductions

Commissioner Garrido opened the meeting and thanked the Salvation Army for hosting the group each month. Attendees introduced themselves.

Legislative Review

a. State: Homelessness Funding

Kirsten Jewell reported that the recently passed state operating budget is generally revenue neutral for homelessness programs. There were some great opportunities for increased funding, but none of those bills were approved by the legislature. SB 5252 and SB 5254 were passed. SB 5252 requires that Commerce add additional performance metrics for evaluating the use of document recording fees to address homelessness. SB 5254 primarily deals with land use, but includes a brief provision that extends the sunset on about 60% of the document recording fees for another four years until 2023.

Our Goals

a. Kitsap Continuum of Care Coalition

This group came out of work by the Kitsap Continuum of Care Coalition (KCoCC) and development of the Kitsap Homeless Housing Plan, from a desire to be more action oriented. It is important to check in with the KCoCC periodically to coordinate efforts.

b. Reflections on our first year

Included in the meeting materials was the Executive Summary from the June 2016 report on the Kitsap Homelessness Workshop. The Workshop included great speakers, including Lloyd Pendleton, from the state of Utah, and Andrew Heben, who wrote a book about tiny housing, called Tent City Urbanism. The League of Women Voters facilitated discussions at breakout group tables. A year later, it makes sense to reflect on our accomplishments. Key recommendations were to:

- Preserve and Create Affordable Housing Units
- Prioritize Serving People Experiencing Unsheltered and/or Chronic Homelessness
- Increase funds for Affordable Housing Units and Programs that Remedy Homelessness
 - Kurt Wiest and Doug Washburn can focus on this more in the coming year.
- Integrate planning for homelessness and affordable housing with other planning efforts
 - The ordinance to allow for tent cities and tiny houses was proposed by Kitsap County DCD in cooperation with housing stakeholders and approved by the Board of Commissioners.

Other reflections from Leadership Group members:

- There was a recent letter in the Kitsap Sun that proposed a Housing Levy, as well as a few letters opposed to it. As shared at our last meeting, the Bring Kitsap Home group has started work on putting together information on a housing levy. The Commissioners discussed it and are concerned that November may be too soon to put it on the ballot. It would also be helpful to understand where the cities stand on this issue. Bring Kitsap Home provided information about how the funds would be spent and anticipated results, but many more details would need to be determined. The League of Women Voters has had a valuable role in the past in assisting with community education and could be helpful in this effort as well. February 2018 would be the next opportunity to put it on the ballot. Other considerations: cost of the election, potential to get lost on a very full ballot, likely voter turnout, interest of cities in running their own ballot initiative.
 - Every single group at the Kitsap Homelessness Workshop, as they reported out, included a desire for some sort of leadership committee on the issue of homelessness. The Homes for All Leadership Group is that leadership group. That is worth celebrating!
 - KPHD, and other community partners, have been working on medical respite housing, for people who are in need of housing as they recover from medical needs.
 - There is still a great need for affordable housing units that are built and ready to live in. The fast ferry will have a big impact on the availability of affordable housing. We have organizations that have been doing this for many years, but funding for these units is currently very limited. What is our 3-5 year plan to bring that to reality and make that happen?
 - We have made great progress in the last year!
 - Need to have a place for people to move after they graduate from tiny houses. People need to have a goal.
- *There is a messaging training by Michael Anderson, from the Center for Community Change, next Thursday, July 13, 1pm – 3:30pm, at Habitat for Humanity. All are welcome.*
- *The next agenda will include an item to start the process of developing a 3-5 year plan.*

Leadership Group Composition

The group discussed the current composition of the Leadership Group and suggested additional people/sectors to invite:

- College Representative – Monica Bernhard will contact Shannon Turner.
- Building Association – Kitsap Building Association has been invited.
- Landlords/Property Owners – PROA has been invited.
- Youth providers – Coffee Oasis has been invited.
- People who have experienced homelessness – Victoria Hilt has attended in the past. Are there other ways to engage people with this experience to help inform decision-making? Lisa Kureck commented that she had experienced homelessness and felt that brief surveys asking “what was your biggest challenge this week?” could yield some useful responses.

Kirsten Jewell commented that when updating the Homeless Housing Plan they contacted people experiencing homelessness through focus groups and surveys at shelters as well as through shelter providers and the Housing Solutions Center.

First Lutheran of Port Orchard just formed a new Homeless Action Team. They have guest speakers each month to provide education about homelessness.

There are lots of great groups doing important work around homelessness throughout the county. What is the role of this group in that constellation?

2017 Projects

Kitsap Tiny Cottages – SK Pilot

- i. **Visits to existing tiny house villages** – Monica Bernhard reported on a LIHI site visit last week to the 22nd Street Tiny House Village. It consists of 14 units on a very small church property site in the middle of a residential neighborhood. 20 people are in residence; with a minimum head of household age of 18 years old – there was one child who was there part-time. Residents were allowed to stay up to 2 years, but most people moved on after 90 days. People that they talked to said that they felt very invested in the community and village. Residents are charged a rent of \$90, which covers part of the cost of utilities. Residents must earn participation credits in order to stay there – including security, kitchen, and leadership roles. Like all LIHI villages, there is a 7-member Community Advisory Committee including neighborhood business, residents, etc. Residents do a 3-block radius of litter patrol in the neighborhood, which helps with neighborhood relations. The basic screening to live there is to have an ID and not have a history of sex-offence. Residents have to participate in mandatory site meetings, but tenancy is primarily behavior-based. On-site case management is not provided. Some people were employed; but people were not screened out based on being employed. LIHI was funded by the City of Seattle to set up and operate the camp.
- ii. **Presentation on Kitsap Cottages** – Tim Blair presented the slide show that Randy Spitzer and he have been showing around the county.
- iii. **Buildings to date** – Tim Blair and Roland Arper presented information on the six tiny cottages that have been built so far. Another nine are in the works. As these are being built, there are design improvements, which could then be incorporated into the basic design.

About \$14,000 has been raised for infrastructure/site development. Several churches will be doing special donation days to raise additional funds.

There will be a Cottage at the Kitsap County Fair on August 23-27, and there is a need for volunteers to staff it to share information with the public.

➤ *The United Way will put the opportunity to volunteer with Homes for All at the Kitsap County Fair on its Volunteer Kitsap site. Any Homes for All Leadership Group members who would like to volunteer may sign up through United Way.*

- iv. **Property/Site Development/Permitting** – Angie Silva reported that the County is working with the City of Port Orchard on permitting and siting issues. Commissioner Garrido will be making a presentation to the Port Orchard City Council tonight about the Kitsap Tiny Cottages concept. Soon it will be time to start thinking about Central Kitsap and North Kitsap locations. If anyone is interested, they are invited to work with Commissioner Garrido on this.
- v. **Financing** – The group needs to figure out funding mechanisms for site development, infrastructure, and case management. United Way is fiscally managing the project and handling donations. Donations are tax deductible and donors are sent a thank you letter.
 - *Anyone interested in tiny cottage village financing or site selection – contact Commissioner Garrido, Angie Silva, or Kirsten Jewell.*
- vi. **Web Presence/Messaging/Communications** – A greater web presence is under development and will be unveiled shortly.

Next Meeting

Kim Kumpf commented that one of the tribal staff has developed a several-hour training on preparing food for the homeless. The group expressed interest in doing this at the August meeting.

Next Meetings: 9 a.m. at the Salvation Army
 August 8
 September 12
 October 10

Meeting Participants

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| Commissioner Charlotte Garrido | Kitsap County |
| Angie Silva | Kitsap County Commissioner’s Office |
| Monica Bernhard | Kitsap Community Resources |
| Sheryl Piercy | The Salvation Army |
| Kody Russell | Kitsap Strong |
| Kim Kumpf | Suquamish Tribe |
| Doug Washburn | Kitsap County, Human Services |
| Kirsten Jewell | Kitsap County, Human Services |
| Randy Spitzer | POUMC |
| Jennifer Kreidler-Moss | Peninsula Community Health |
| Corrinne Criss | FLCC |
| Dr. Susan Turner | Kitsap Public Health |
| Natalie Logue | Kitsap Public Health |
| Ronald Arper | Port Orchard United Methodist Church |

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| Lisa Nickel | Kitsap County, Prosecuting Attorney's Office |
| Jeffrey Rowe | Kitsap County, Community Development |
| Connie Syapin | League of Women Voters |
| Sean Raybell | Department of Corrections |
| Tim Blair | SK Project Share |
| Carl Borg | United Way of Kitsap County |
| Lisa Kurek | Eagle Wings Case Management |
| Noah Israel | Envirock |