

EMERGENCY SHELTER ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE

196 Lancaster Street

Thursday, June 15, 2017

9:00 am – 10:00 am

Minutes

Name:	Organization:	Name:	Organization:
Jim Devine	HVJ	Rob Parritt	OSS
Adam Harr	CoP	Dave MacLean	CoP
Harrison Deah	City of Westbrook	Meredith Pesce	Amistad
Steve Ellis	OSS	Christine Cook	TOA
Ali Lovejoy	Preble Street	Wendy Hammon	SMLA
Vickey Rand	CHOM	Ginny Dill	Shalom House
Norm Maze	Shalom House		

24 Month Cap: At this point in time, the City is uncertain what resources may be available for individuals

Shelter Stats: Seniors with low fixed incomes are needing to search in more rural and isolated areas where they can afford housing.

LTS: Huston Commons received 9 LTS individuals across four lists with several more on deck. LTS is looking to more evenly distribute follow up services across the initiative from Taylor at OSS with Shalom House and TOA.

HVJ: Jim announced the June 21st HVJ Summer Solstice event. HVJ will march in Pride to advocate for healthcare.

Legislative Update: Federal: the president's budget is concerning but is not getting traction. The Senate is working on a repeal and replace effort on the ACA with their version they are creating based on the AHCA the House passed. Senator Collins is crucial in this vote to preserve Medicaid funding and healthcare.

State: The budget conference committee has an internal noon deadline today, as a vote must happen by tomorrow (Friday 6/16) in order to have enough time for all procedural options to remain possible before July 1st in order to avoid a State government shutdown. The federal government demanded a \$51 million claw back for Medicaid dollars due to Riverview's loss of accreditation. This unexpected expense could impact homeless initiatives: HOME funds, STEP, and others.

LD10 which would increase punishment for fraud is still be considered.

LD221 Municipality of responsibility passed and was signed into public law.

LD336 TANF bill that would increase special housing allowance passed but may still be vetoed.

LD970 Housing First assistance program.

LD1620 a mix of the Governor's proposed laws that did not pass.

Other Business:

The zoning ordinance to expand which zones can have emergency shelters passed. Social Services went before the HHS committee and were instructed to research and outreach the services and programming that would best serve shelter clients to report back to the committee in September. Jim expressed the sentiment that OSS cannot currently meet the needs of the community that an updated shelter could address but are concerned about isolation. Rob said that community involvement will be an integral part of the planning process. It was asked if smaller scattered sites were being considered. Rob and Dave said that the City is moving in a direction of one City-run shelter with an opportunity for community partners to open smaller shelters within the expanded zoning.

Visitor parking at GA will be restricted to the lot across Elm Street.

Amistad is shutting down for an entire week 6/26-7/2 after which it will not be open on Saturdays. GPAC house is opening with 5 chronic/LTS clients.

Shelter Plus Care is open (with a waitlist but is accepting applications).

70 people in the Portland Housing Authority that have section 8 vouchers may lose them due to them expiring as they search for housing. Anyone who loses a voucher in this way will be moved to the top of the waitlist.