
Health Needs and Human Services Commission Minutes

Thursday, November 12, 2020 1:30 p.m.
Harrigan Centennial Hall / Teleconference

Commission Members: Charlie Woodcock, Loyd Platson,
Doug Osborne, Holly Marban, Denise Ewing
Crystal Duncan (Assembly Liaison)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Woodcock called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Charlie Woodcock (teleconference), Loyd Platson (teleconference),
Doug Osborne (teleconference), Holly Marban (teleconference)
Commissioners Absent: Denise Ewing (excused)
Assembly Liaison: Crystal Duncan

III. CORRESPONDENCE / AGENDA CHANGES

None.

IV. PERSONS TO BE HEARD

Cecilia Dumouchel spoke to her interest in the commission. She suggested for the
commission to put out information monthly with all the changes of COVID and resources.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. September 10, 2020

**M - Osborne / S - Marban moved to approve the September 10, 2020 minutes as
written. The motion passed by a unanimous voice vote.**

VI. REPORTS

Chair - Woodcock YAS was responding today to the video sent by the governor in order to
make a decision on closing The Cloud and told of mitigation that was in place.

Commissioners - Osborne gave an update on a task force advisory board for the Baranov
statue display in the museum. He asked for feedback for a list for project 108. Platson
updated on the lending library for increasing social justice and racial equity literacy.
Recently surveys completed at the schools of use and misuse. The HOPE Coalition was
putting together student athletes of not using and benefits of. Sitka Counseling would be
hosting free suicide training workshops dates in conjunction with the Sitka Police
Department. He stated that he may not continue with the commission as his term was up.
Marban reiterated the asymptomatic testing was discontinued but encouraged those that
do have symptoms get tested. She told of a Sitka food resource list. She stated that her last
meeting would be December because she was stepping down from the commission.

City Staff - None.

Assembly Liaison - Duncan stated the importance of this commission and said she was
looking forward to hearing the issues that were being tackled.

Other: None.

VII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

B. Food waste, food security, and composting

Woodcock updated that he had attended the Parks and Recreation Committee meeting where a community garden was discussed. He stated the committee was supportive, but that they didn't have much to offer of space and relayed their concerns about upkeep and the plan. They didn't want the city to be responsible for it. A suggested area was by the skate park, didn't think that Moller area was feasible, and relayed that the committee suggested looking at private land as well. He suggested to possibly come up with a location/plan and bring it back. Osborne felt the skate park area was small and would like to see an area that was ADA accessible. He would like to keep trying to find a spot. Osborne thought to ask Colliver to come to a meeting to talk about spots. Marban asked about space by Sealing Cove Harbor. She thought of Sitka Fine Arts Campus that could be utilized for a garden. Woodcock brought up the historical component to that space that may make it challenging. Osborne thought to invite the 4H club, SAIL, and Mandy Evans with the School District to the discussions and other stakeholders to brainstorm a space. Woodcock stressed the need for a long-term plan and wondered who would be responsible for it. Platson noted the spot where the green house was behind Pacific High School. He thought maybe a partnership with the school district and learning experience for the students. Osborne told that there were plans for that area, but that partnership could be made with another school including UAS. He liked the idea of having a greenhouse that was sustainable and plots of land for community gardens for rent around that. Duncan suggested talking with Garry White and SEDA about the subject. Platson told of grants that would be available.

Joel Hanson spoke in support of food security. He was on the Local Emergency Planning Committee and he told of a subcommittee for long term food security and there has been discussions of dissolving that subcommittee. He was glad to see this commission looking at the subject. He had an idea of the city allowing folks to use right-of-ways near their homes but did like Osborne's idea of a large area. He gave the example for the area off Eagle Way.

Osborne thought the December meeting should address 2021 goals and felt next steps would be to make this a goal for 2021. Then to invite stakeholders to the January meeting.

C. Address substance misuse especially regarding drinking in youth

Platson stated after the survey results were looked at, it would be known trends and patterns to better address issues. He brought up the increase in use for females which increased the likelihood of for assault. He felt that the challenge would be for the community to respond to and have willingness to address the outcomes. Woodcock told of concerns with the restrictions that don't allow for sober spaces like The Cloud, or skate night. Platson would like to come up with creative ways to get the youth outdoors and away from substances. Osborne told of creating a new way going forward after the pandemic with lots of events without substances.

D. Support creation of a collective impact board

Osborne told that the first Thursday of the month was a policy makers leadership development around social equity. He was hoping to move that into a collective impact board. Platson liked the concept but didn't know how fast to move into looking at other topics. He told the goal would be to start looking at a broader perspective. Woodcock felt that this was a good first step with the policy makers leadership group.

E. Public Policy (Three-foot bike clearance)

Osborne thought that the ordinance was in the legal department but that another assembly sponsor may be needed with Richard Wein going off the assembly. Osborne explained that the ordinance was having vehicles pass bicyclists by at least three feet and banning of rolling coal. Platson added to encourage bicyclists to follow the guidelines for riding and following traffic rules and if violated, they would go through a class to learn better bicycling skills. He reminded that the Police and Fire Commission also looked at it and that push back was given and thought to bring it back to them and get some feedback so they could support it. Duncan felt that was a good idea and was excited to learn more about it.

Joel Hanson spoke that it would help to have a visual reminder of this and suggested at either side of the bridge.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Future agenda items: Marban thought to support the climate action task force. Kay Kreiss told of the resolution that was passed at the Assembly meeting on November 10.

Next meeting was scheduled for December 10, 2020 at 1:30 p.m., Harrigan Centennial Hall.

M - Platson / S - Osborne moved to adjourn the meeting. Seeing no objections, the meeting adjourned at 2:51 p.m.

Attest:
Melissa Henshaw, Deputy Clerk