



**SENIOR CITIZENS COMMISSION  
HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES SUB-  
COMMITTEE**

***DRAFT MINUTES***

**Wednesday, September 25, 2013  
10:30-12:00**

**City of San José – T747  
200 E. Santa Clara Street  
San Jose, CA 95113**

**(a) CALL TO ORDER**

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(1) The meeting was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Chair McCoy.

Present: Patrick Hall, Richard McCoy, Martha O’Connell, Margaret Young,  
Joyce Rabourn, as Ex-Officio

Absent: Marie Hayter

Staff: Julie Nguyen, Tracey Gott

**(b) INTRODUCTIONS**

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None

**(c) ADOPTION OF ORDERS OF THE DAY**

ACTION: The orders of the day were adopted. (M/S/C: O’Connell / Hall)

**(d) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

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ACTION: Minutes of 5-22-13 approved as written. (M/S/C: Hall / O’Connell)

**(e) OPEN FORUM**

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None.

**(f) CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

McCoy thanked those who have been helping him in his new role as Chair of the HH&S subcommittee. He is hopeful that his learning curve will be a short one.

**(g) OLD BUSINESS**

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None.

**h) NEW BUSINESS**

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1. Report from the City on Homeless Census and Survey

O'Connell gave a summary of the City's "2013 Homeless Point in Time Census and Survey which was discussed at a recent meeting of the HCDC Commission (Housing and Community Development. Her summary highlighted Seniors issues. Points included:

- ❖ Counts are generally considered to be undercounts as many homeless stay under the radar for various reasons.
- ❖ **There was an 18% increase in the City's homeless population from 4,034 in 2011 to 4,770 in 2013.**
- ❖ The 2013 figure of 4,770 is approaching the nine year high of 4,910 in 2004.
- ❖ For Seniors 51-60 the change from 2011 to 2013 is an increase of 2.90%.
- ❖ For Seniors more than 60, the change from 2011 to 2013 is an increase of .90%
- ❖ **Seniors aged 51-60 represent 22% of the homeless.**
- ❖ **Homeless folks have a life expectancy more than 25 years shorter than the average American. This will impact the number of homeless Seniors since their life is being cut short due to homelessness.**
- ❖ GLBT folks are overrepresented in the homeless population.
- ❖ **African Americans, who number 3% of the San Jose population, represent an astounding 23% of the homeless or over 700% higher than their numbers in the overall population.**
- ❖ Seniors are more likely to live in encampments.
- ❖ The myth that homeless want to live on the streets for psychological or other reasons is proved false by the survey. 93% of the homeless said they would accept permanent housing if it was available while the figure is ever higher among those who live in encampments: 96%.
- ❖ The City is refocusing its homeless strategy from dispersment to housing.

**ACTION:** None. Informational only.

2. Selection of Subcommittee Vice Chairperson.

McCoy

**ACTION:** None.

3. Discussion and possible action regarding the Contribution Policy for the Santa Clara County Senior Nutrition Program.

O'Connell reported that many of the City's Community/Senior Centers are in violation of the County's Senior Nutrition Program Contribution Policy. Young stated that people are coming from other Centers to eat at John 23<sup>rd</sup> due to rumors that the suggested contribution there is only \$1 compared to the County's suggested donation of \$3.00. It was noted that the contribution policy is set by Federal Law which supersedes the City, County and State (Older Americans Act, Title 3.) O'Connell stated that she will include a recommendation on this issue in her draft narrative to go along with Nutrition Survey results for consideration by the full Commission.

**ACTION:** None.

4. Discussion and possible action for the HHS Committee to recommend that the Senior Commission write a letter to Mayor and Council encouraging them to maintain Mobilehome Parks as a vital component of affordable housing especially for Seniors, the disabled and low and moderate income residents of San Jose. Where Urban Villages are being considered, Mobilehome Parks to be maintained as part of those villages.

Lively discussion ensued on this issue.

**ACTION:** The HHS Committee to recommend that the Senior Commission write a letter to Mayor and Council encouraging them to maintain Mobilehome Parks as a vital component of affordable housing especially for Seniors, the disabled and low and moderate income residents of San Jose. Where Urban Villages are being considered, Mobilehome Parks to be maintained as part of those villages. (M/S/C: O'Connell/McCoy)

Yes: McCoy, O'Connell, Young                      No: Hall.

Note: as Ex Officio, Rabourn does not vote at Subcommittee level.

5. Discussion and possible action finalizing changes made at the August 2013 retreat.

**ACTION:** Since the changes were already approved by the full Commission as part of the 2013/14 work plan, and since the corrections are basically deleting one line of the charge of the HH&S Committee and moving three others, staff directed to make the changes before the 2013/14 Plan and End of the Year Report goes to Rules. Gott stated that PRNS is intending to submit Work Plans for both the Youth Commission

and the Senior Commission as one action sometime in October.

**(i) STATUS RPORT ON OBJECTIVES**

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Staff will bring this section of future agendas into compliance with the wording of the new 2013/14 work plan.

**(j) REVIEW OF ACTION ITEMS**

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**ACTION:** The orders of the day were adopted.

**ACTION:** Minutes of 3-27-13 approved as written.

**ACTION:** The HHS Committee to recommend that the Senior Commission write a letter to Mayor and Council encouraging them to maintain Mobilehome Parks as a vital component of affordable housing especially for Seniors, the disabled and low and moderate income residents of San Jose. Where Urban Villages are being considered, Mobilehome Parks to be maintained as part of those villages.

**ACTION:** Staff directed to make corrections to the Goals and Objectives of the HH&S Committee prior to the 2013/14 Work Plan goes to Rules.

**(k) ANNOUNCEMNETS**

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Rabourn and O'Connell will contact a Rabbi and a Jewish Senior Services organization for possible presentation at our January 22, 2014 meeting concerning the unique issues and concerns in the Jewish Senior Community.

**(l) NEXT MEETING**

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January 22, 2014.  
City Hall Room T-747.  
10:30 to 12:00 pm.

**(m) ADJOURNMENT**

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Meeting was adjourned at 12:02 p.m.

Submitted by Martha O'Connell