



Berkeley Homeless  
Commission

## MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2016

1. Roll Call: 7:00PM

**Present:** Bastone, Marasovic, Orgain, Peterson.

**Absent:** Davis, Gresher.

**Staff:** Wicker

**Public:** 3

2. Comments from the Public

No comments.

3. Approval of Minutes for meeting on November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

**Action:** M/S/C Davis/Peterson to approve minutes of November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015, as written.

**Vote:** Ayes: Bastone, Marasovic, Peterson.

Noes: None. *Abstain:* Orgain. *Absent:* Davis, Gresher.

Motion failed due to lack of quorum. Postponed until the next meeting.

### Update/Action Items

4. Agenda Approval

**Action:** M/S/C Peterson/Bastone to move item 9 to the front of the agenda.

**Vote:** Ayes: Bastone, Marasovic, Orgain, Peterson.

Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Davis, Gresher.

5. Presentation about Proposition 47 allowing some felony convictions to be reduced to misdemeanors.

Presentation by Vinuta Naik from the East Bay Community Law Center. Discussion.  
No action taken.

6. Update on City Council Items

- Amendments to Berkeley Municipal Code regulating use of sidewalks
- January 12<sup>th</sup> special meeting
- January 26<sup>th</sup> – 2015 Homeless Count report
- February 16<sup>th</sup> - special housing policy work session

Discussion. No action taken.

7. Preliminary update on the opening of the Berkeley Food and Housing Project's coordinated access center for homeless services in Berkeley

Discussion. No action taken.

*A Vibrant and Healthy Berkeley for All*

8. Discuss formation of a subcommittee to review procedures for responding to complaints or grievances related to homeless services in Berkeley

**Action:** M/S/C Baston/Peterson to establish a subcommittee to review the grievance procedures and practices among homeless service providers in Berkeley and make recommendations to improve the process to assure that the service system is consistently responsive to consumer complaints.

**Vote:** Ayes: Bastone, Marasovic, Orgain, Peterson.  
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Davis, Gresher.

**Action:** M/S/C Orgain/Bastone to appoint Commissioners Bastone, Marasovic and Orgain to the subcommittee.

**Vote:** Ayes: Bastone, Marasovic, Orgain, Peterson.  
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Davis, Gresher.

9. Discuss access to Below Market Rate (BMR) units for people with housing subsidies

**Action:** M/S/C Bastone/Orgain to authorize the Chair to submit a letter to Council supporting the recommendations made by the Housing Advisory Commission at their meeting on January 7<sup>th</sup> and request that Council address barriers to BMR units for people with housing subsidies.

**Vote:** Ayes: Bastone, Marasovic, Orgain, Peterson.  
Noes: None. *Abstain:* None. *Absent:* Davis, Gresher.

10. Update on the Shelter Plus Care program enrollment and impact of current rental market on leasing rates

Presentation by staff. Discussion, no action taken.

11. Agenda items for next meeting

- Election of officers
- Staff presentation regarding Homeless Count report for 2015
- Update on the implementation of Berkeley Food and Housing Project's coordinated entry center
- Update on Council's referral to City Manager to explore the feasibility of storage lockers for the homeless
- Update on any HUD action regarding Fair Market Rents
- Continue discussion of Shelter Plus Care Program certificate expiration policy

12. Adjourn @ 9:02PM

Minutes Approved on: February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Andrew Wicker, Commission Secretary