

**COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS  
HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE  
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 20, 2019**



*The audio file for this committee meeting can be found online at: <http://www.cvag.org/audio.htm>*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Jonathan at 10:03 am.

**2. ROLL CALL** - Roll call was taken and a quorum was present. Those in attendance:

**Members Present**

Mayor Mark Carnevale  
Councilmember Jose Gonzalez  
Councilmember Jan Pye  
Councilmember Kimberly Muzik  
Councilmember Elaine Holmes  
Councilmember John Peña  
Councilmember Sabby Jonathan, Chair  
Councilmember Christy Holstege, Vice Chair  
Councilmember Charles Townsend  
Greg Rodriguez, Legislative Assistant 4<sup>th</sup> District  
Director Carole Rogers

**Agency**

City of Cathedral City  
City of Coachella  
City of Desert Hot Springs  
City of Indian Wells  
City of Indio  
City of La Quinta  
City of Palm Desert  
City of Palm Springs  
City of Rancho Mirage  
County of Riverside  
Desert Healthcare District

**Ex-Officio Members Present**

Angelina Coe, Executive Director  
Julie Bornstein  
Linda Barrack

**Agency**

Shelter from the Storm  
Coachella Valley Housing Coalition  
Martha's Village & Kitchen

**Members & Ex-Officios Absent**

Mayor Dale Reynolds  
Darla Burkett  
Paul Flores  
Kristina Starkey  
Julie Reay

**Agency**

City of Blythe  
Coachella Valley Rescue Mission  
Health to Hope  
The Salvation Army  
HomeAid Inland Empire

**Support Staff Present**

Damion O'Farrell  
Casey Jackson  
Tanya Torno  
Natalie Komura  
Marcus Cannon  
Chris Christensen

**Agency**

Path of Life Ministries  
Path of Life Ministries  
Riverside County Housing Authority  
Dep. CEO Homeless Solutions, Rivco  
Riverside University Health System  
Desert Healthcare District/Foundation

**Staff Present**

Tom Kirk  
Gary Leong  
Cheryll Dahlin  
Libby Carlson

**Agency**

CVAG  
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**Others Present**

Christian Jelmberg  
Hank Goudreault  
Heather Vaikona  
Jeff Mortiz  
Jeff Alley  
Judy Shea  
Lisa Houston  
Marcus Aleman  
Mark Scott  
Matthew Martello  
Peter Marietta  
Ray Osborne  
Ruthy Argumedo  
Thomi Clinton

Street Life Project  
DHS Resident  
Lift to Rise  
  
Palm Desert Citizens on Patrol  
DHS Community Task Force  
DHCD  
Housing Manager, City of Rancho Mirage  
City of Indio  
Assistant Chief, Palm Desert Police Dept.  
Candidate, PS City Council  
HomeAid Inland Empire  
Community Engagement Molina Healthcare  
Transgender Health & Wellness Center

**3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE - Led by Kimberly Muzik**

**4. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Ray Osborne, HomeAid Inland Empire, provided an update on Grove Village Housing in Riverside. Judy Shea, DHS Community Task Force, gave an update on a shelter serving homeless vets, including lease renewal with option to buy. Hank Goudreault, DHS resident, spoke regarding a processing center and PR plan. Thomi Clinton, Transgender Health & Wellness Center, spoke regarding transgender members of the homeless population. Christian Jelmberg, Street Life Project, announced a homelessness resource fair in Indio on 03/02.

**5. MEMBER/DIRECTOR COMMENTS**

In response to an inquiry from Councilmember Holmes regarding Riverside County help for Coachella Valley communities experiencing an influx of homeless individuals from outside of the Valley, Greg Rodriguez stated that a quarterly update on County-driven initiatives would be added to a future agenda.

**6. CONSENT CALENDAR**

**A. Approve the January 16, 2019 Homeless Committee Meeting Minutes**

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER HOLMES, TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 16, 2019 MEETING MINUTES.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 11 AYES, 1 ABSENT.**

Councilmember Reynolds	Absent
Mayor Carnevale	Aye
Councilmember Gonzalez	Aye
Councilmember Pye	Aye
Councilmember Muzik	Aye
Councilmember Holmes	Aye
Councilmember Peña	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Aye
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Member Rodriguez	Aye
Director Rogers	Aye

**7. DISCUSSION/ACTION**

**A. Next Steps to Establish a Homelessness Collaborative** - Cheryll Dahlin provided a staff report to the committee.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER PEÑA AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND TO APPROVE A NO-COST AMENDMENT #3 FOR THE CV HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM, SHIFTING PREVENTION FUNDS TO DIVERSION TASKS.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 8 AYES, 3 NO, AND 1 ABSENT.**

Councilmember Reynolds	Absent
Mayor Carnevale	No
Councilmember Gonzalez	Aye
Councilmember Pye	No
Councilmember Muzik	Aye
Councilmember Holmes	Aye
Councilmember Peña	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Aye
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Member Rodriguez	Aye
Director Rogers	No

The Committee directed Path of Life to return to with a transition plan to include emphasis on services for currently unhoused individuals, along with services for housed individuals and those at risk for becoming homeless. In response to a request from Councilmember Peña, a quarterly financial report will be added to a future agenda.

*Member Rodriguez recused himself.*

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER MUZIK TO ISSUE A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR RIVERSIDE COUNTY SUPERVISOR V. MANUEL PEREZ’S REQUEST TO APPOINT A MEMBER OF HIS STAFF TO LEAD IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HOMELESSNESS COLLABORATIVE IN COORDINATION WITH THE DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT/FOUNDATION.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 9 AYES, 1 NO, 1 RECUSED, AND 1 ABSENT.**

Councilmember Reynolds	Absent
Mayor Carnevale	Aye
Councilmember Gonzalez	Aye
Councilmember Pye	Aye
Councilmember Muzik	Aye
Councilmember Holmes	Aye
Councilmember Peña	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Aye
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Member Rodriguez	(Recused)
Director Rogers	No

**B. Housing Assistance and Support Program Funding from State Homeless Emergency Assistance Program (HEAP)** - Cheryll Dahlin provided a staff report to the Committee.

**IT WAS MOVED BY MEMBER RODRIGUEZ AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TOWNSEND TO AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE NEEDED AGREEMENTS TO ACCEPT HOUSING ASSISTANCE AND SUPPORT PROGRAM FUNDING FROM THE COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$551,930.57 AND AUTHORIZE THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND/OR LEGAL COUNSEL TO MAKE MINOR MODIFICATIONS PRIOR TO EXECUTION.**

**THE MOTION CARRIED WITH 11 AYES, 1 ABSENT.**

Councilmember Reynolds	Absent
Mayor Carnevale	Aye
Councilmember Gonzalez	Aye
Councilmember Pye	Aye
Councilmember Muzik	Aye
Councilmember Holmes	Aye
Councilmember Peña	Aye
Councilmember Jonathan	Aye
Councilmember Holstege	Aye
Councilmember Townsend	Aye
Member Rodriguez	Aye
Director Rogers	Aye

**C. Lift to Rise Collective Impact in the Coachella Valley Presentation**

Heather Vaikona, President and CEO of Lift to Rise, gave a presentation on her organization and its work. Chair Jonathan requested that Heather return to the next meeting.

**8. CV HOUSING FIRST UPDATE**

Damien O'Farrell, Path of Life Ministries, announced his departure from the organization and introduced Interim CEO Casey Jackson.

**9. EX-OFFICIO MEMBER UPDATES - None.**

**10. INFORMATION - The following were submitted to the Committee for information only.**

1. Committee Attendance Roster
2. CV Housing First: December 2018 – January 2019 Report
3. Updated CVAG Affordable Housing Directory
4. SCAG Regional Council and Subcommittee Openings
5. 2019 California Governor's State Budget Proposal

**8. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Upcoming Meetings at CVAG, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Room 119, Palm Desert:

Homelessness Committee - Wednesday March 20, 2019 at 10:00 am

Executive Committee - Monday, February 25, 2019 at 4:30 pm

**9. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting was adjourned at 12:03 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,



Libby Carlson