

# Human and Social Needs Committee Meeting Record

Meeting Date: Tuesday, September 18, 2017

Convened: 11:03 A.M. Adjourned: 12:22 P.M.

Committee Members Present:

Council Member Casey Thomas, II, Chair  
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Adam Medrano, Vice Chair  
Mayor Pro Tem Dwaine R. Caraway  
Council Member Omar Narvaez  
Council Member Mark Clayton  
Council Member B. Adam McGough

Committee Members Absent:

Other Council Members Present:

Staff Present:

Jeff Chesnut  
Cheritta Johnson  
Latrisce Johnson  
Dianne Gibson

**AGENDA:**

**Call to Order**

1. Approval of Minutes from the September 5, 2017 Human and Social Needs Committee Meeting

Presenter(s): Council Member Casey Thomas, II, Chair

Information Only:

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

A motion was made to approve the September 5, 2017 minutes.

Motion made by: DMPT Medrano, Vice Chair

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

Motion Seconded by: CM Narvaez

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

2. Citizen Homeless Commission

Presenter(s): Kenn Webb, Citizen Homeless Commission, Chair/Charletra Sharp, Office of Homeless Solutions, Interim Director

Information Only:

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

MPT Caraway suggests consider changing the behavior, programs and policies of the homeless facilities we already have in place. He also recommends we break down those in need by categories, such as category A: those who are looking to get back on their feet, category B: those who need mental health/help and category C: the service resistant. DMPT Medrano suggests meeting with Tanya Ragan to go over her solutions presentation. CM Clayton mentions we have federal dollars, help from the CDC and experts in the field that can help with addressing the problem. Since we have better data CM Clayton encourages us to focus on 2-3 wins that will help move the needle. CM Narvaez asks has Kenn Webb looked at and read the subcommittee reports from the Mayor's Commission last summer because there is no indication in the notes. CM McGough questions the relationship between this commission and the Behavioral Mental Health Task Force at the county. A number of the councilmembers would like for the commission to prioritize 2-3 things that will narrow the focus that will make an impact.

DMPT Medrano is looking for immediate solutions specified to the homelessness we are dealing with here in Dallas. He believes this work is too much for The Bridge and suggests we look into a 24-hour/7-day shelter outside of downtown or somewhere else in the city. CM Narvaez is baffled that the Citizen Homeless Commission has missed the 4 main groups: mental health, substance abuse, women and children. He enquires about the number of facilities available in the city, county, and within DISD that we can open up immediately for homeless shelter use. MPT Caraway would like a list of all of the shelters that we are involved with here in the city. MPT Caraway questions 1) how does the homeless person get from US-75/I-635 to the day shelter downtown? 2) where are the homeless folks actually from? 3) How many actually from Dallas? Regional? Out of state? He also wonders what are the adverse effects that will come out of closing boarding homes and how will it add to the homeless problem? He wants to know what is the purpose of the boarding homes and how are they regulated? CM Clayton mentions how the council approved money for Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH) but did not make amendments for immediate needs.

**Motion made by:**

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

**Motion Seconded by:**

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

**3. Office of Homeless Solutions Procurement Process**

**Presenter(s):** Charletra Sharp, Office of Homeless Solutions, Interim Director

**Information Only:**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

MPT Caraway had a number of questions. 1) How much budget do we have for advertisement and administration? 2) Who is going to attend/participate in the process? 3) Why are we seeking the service provider and why are they not seeking us? CM Thomas would like the Administrative Directive 4-5 referenced by Charletra Sharp and answers to all questions provided to the full committee.

**Motion made by:**

Item passed unanimously:

Item failed unanimously:

**Motion Seconded by:**

Item passed on a divided vote:

Item failed on a divided vote:

**4. Upcoming Human and Social Needs Agenda Item(s)**

**Presenter(s):** CM Casey Thomas, II

**Information Only:**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

5. **Upcoming City Council Action Item(s)**

**Presenter(s):** Cheritta Johnson, Interim Director of Office of Community Care  
**Information Only:**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

Information about the upcoming items was included in the briefing materials.

**Motion made by:**

**Item passed unanimously:**

**Item failed unanimously:**

**Motion Seconded by:**

**Item passed on a divided vote:**

**Item failed on a divided vote:**

6. **Attachments**

**Presenter(s):** Terry Greenberg, North Texas Alliance to Reduce Unintended Pregnancy in Teens, CEO  
/Theresa O'Donnell, Chief of Resilience  
**Information Only:**

**Action Taken/Committee Recommendation(s):**

Staff provided Resilience and Teen Pregnancy Initiative responses to the questions asked during the September 5, 2017 committee.

**Motion made by:**

**Item passed unanimously:**

**Item failed unanimously:**

**Motion Seconded by:**

**Item passed on a divided vote:**

**Item failed on a divided vote:**

**APPROVED BY:**

**ATTEST:**

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Casey Thomas, II, Chair  
Human and Social Needs Committee

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Zena Palmer, Coordinator  
Human and Social Needs Committee