



# Community Human Services Advisory Board

Regular Business Meeting  
Thursday, January 21, 2021, 6:00 PM  
Zoom Online Meeting Platform

**Chair**  
Bridgette Tuttle  
**Voting Members**  
Amber Mehta;  
Bryan Lipsky; Jim Bloss;  
Sarah Lundstrum, Jose Luis Nino  
de Guzman;  
Lynsey Gagnon, Tony Balk, Aisha  
Sial; James Harrigan; & Roger  
Evans  
**Members**  
Amy Plumb & Todd Strickler

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## 1. CALL TO ORDER

### 1.1. Virtual Participation Information:

The City Council meeting will be held virtually via Zoom Meeting. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and [Proclamation 20-28.14](#) issued by Governor Jay Inslee, in-person attendance is not permitted at this time.

Join Zoom Meeting:

- Click link:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81151102695?pwd=UzV3RnNSUmxqT2xuTDlmMlIXa2U4UT09>
- Dial in: (253) 215-8782
- Meeting ID: 811 5110 2695
- Passcode: 068189

## 2. ROLL CALL

## 3. ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

- 3.1. Presentation about the Congregations for the Homeless housing programs and services with Mr. Ryan Murk. - (Rachel Adams) 3 - 4  
[Agenda Bill - Presentation and Discussion with Mr. Ryan Murk from Congregations for the Homeless on their housing programs and services . - Pdf](#)

## 4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

*(This time is set aside for members of the public to speak to the Community Human Services Advisory Board; Three minutes will be allowed per speaker.)*

## 5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

5.1. Duration of future CHSAB meetings. - (Rachel Adams)

5 - 6

*Move to extend the duration of future CHSAB meetings from 90 minutes to 120 minutes.*

[Agenda Bill - Motion to extend the duration of future CHSAB meetings. - Pdf](#)

## **6. STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

6.1. City Administrator - (Deborah Knight)

## **7. ADJOURNMENT**



## AGENDA BILL

**Meeting Date:** January 21, 2021

**Staff Contact:** Rachel Adams, Project Management Consultant

**Department:** Executive

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**SUBJECT: Hear a presentation and ask questions about the Congregations for the Homeless housing programs and services.**

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**PREVIOUS DISCUSSION:**

*None*

**REQUESTED ACTION:**

Presentation Only

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

N/A

**DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:**

Mr. Ryan Murk is the Housing Program Coordinator with Congregations for the Homeless (CFH) based out of Bellevue Washington. Mr. Murk will be presenting to the CHSAB on the housing services and programs that CHF offers. CFH provides shelter and housing programs that serve single adult males. These individuals make up about 2/3 of the homeless population.

CFH provides a low barrier emergency shelter, a rotating shelter with wrap around services, and permanent housing. They provide a continuum of care that allows men to go from life on the streets to stable independent housing. CFH has helped 20,000 individuals since the program started in 1993. Many of the individuals who have taken advantage of these services have been able to gain long term stability never returning for further assistance. The goal of this agency is to drastically reduce homelessness, while creating a lasting positive impact on the community.

The rotating shelter model is supported by 12 "host churches" that allow those in need to access safe and warm sleeping environments. "Support churches" also assist by providing meals and donating items of need.

CHF has held meetings with several leaders of the Monroe faith community. There is a mutual interest in pursuing this model as a potential shelter option in Monroe after Covid19 restrictions are lifted.

City Staff reviewed the model with the City Attorney in the light of Boise v. Martin. In Boise v. Martin there were three shelters all hosted by churches. Two of the three shelters were full. The remaining shelter was also held in a church but additionally required the religious participation of clients to extend their stay. In this case the options for the homeless person was to be cited and fined for sleeping on the street and breaking the municipal codes, or be sheltered in a program that required religious participation. The case alleged that laws prohibiting people from sleeping outdoors within city limits amounted to cruel and unusual punishment and violated their rights under the [Eighth Amendment](#). The ruling of this case was in favor of Martin. Martin was compensated by the City of Boise for unjust fines in violation of 8th amendment rights. The City Attorney has determined the CFH model does not violate an individual's 8th Amendment rights because religious instruction is not required for participants to access shelter and services.

The Temporary Encampment Code has also been reviewed with the Faith Community leaders. In order for the churches to understand how to host a shelter in compliance with City code. This meeting shared information and gathered feedback about the regulatory requirements to participate in providing a temporary encampment including length of stays, public notices, and health and fire code compliance.

In 2020 City Staff explored several shelter site options, but none were viable to pursue for a stand alone location. The CFH model would enable a shelter to be created without having to first purchase a building. It would create a sheltering system with the cooperation of the faith community as a collaborative effort. This model has the flexibility to expand and serve more people if additional congregations were interested in hosting.

**FISCAL IMPACTS:**

None at this time

**TIME CONSTRAINTS:**

N/A

**ALTERNATIVES TO REQUESTED ACTION:**

N/A



# AGENDA BILL

**Meeting Date:** January 21, 2021

**Staff Contact:** Rachel Adams, Project Management Consultant

**Department:** Executive

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**SUBJECT: Motion to extend the duration of future CHSAB meetings.**

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## PREVIOUS DISCUSSION:

08/20/2020; 12/17/2020; 01/07/2021

## REQUESTED ACTION:

Move to extend the duration of future CHSAB meetings from 90 minutes to 120 minutes.

## POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:

*It is the responsibility of this board to advise the Mayor and City Council on Human Service Policy issues, and to monitor and review City programs and policies. In order to effectively do this, the board must be allowed adequate time to fully discuss important and complex topics with Subject Matter Experts and amongst themselves.*

## DESCRIPTION/BACKGROUND:

In the resolution establishing this board, item D.1 lays out that "The CHSAB will meet regularly on the third Thursday of each month at 6pm at the City Council Chambers of Monroe City Hall. The CHSAB shall also meet at such additional times as may periodically be directed by the City Council". At the August 20, 2020 CHSAB meeting the board agreed to meet on the first Thursdays of the month.

The duration of the CHSAB meetings was also discussed at the August 20th meeting. At that time, the board decided that their meetings should be 90 minutes. This decision has been revisited several times now with the question being posed to the board to consider extending the meeting duration to 120 minutes. This extended duration would allow for more discussion time.

At the January 7, 2021 meeting the board approved the schedule and work plan for the year 2021. The board also elected James Harrigan into the role of Chair of the CHSAB. Chair Harrigan suggested the board revisit the subject of meeting duration the following meeting on January 2, 2021.,

## FISCAL IMPACTS:

No fiscal impact at this time.

## TIME CONSTRAINTS:

If approved this action would take effect for the February 4, 2021 regular CHSAB meeting.

**ALTERNATIVES TO REQUESTED ACTION:**

Do not approve a motion to extend the duration of the CHSAB meetings.  
Propose an alternative meeting duration.