

September 29, 2022
Homelessness Subcommittee Meeting

THE HOMELESSNESS SUBCOMMITTEE met in a meeting at the Bell Building Second Floor Conference Room at 215 D Street. Councilor Tousley called the meeting to order at 3:01 p.m.

Meetings are recorded live. To view the full video, go to <https://livestream.com/lewiston/events/7428184/videos/233114130>

I. CALL TO ORDER

PRESENT: Councilor Tousley; Councilor Schroeder; Councilor Forsmann; Kayla Hermann; Tanya Brocke; Melinda Rose;

II. CITIZEN COMMENTS

Johanna Musseid-Frank, resident of Lewiston, expressed concerns relating to drugs in the valley and the need for a shelter.

Deputy Clerk Brocke read a letter from Laura Wright concerning the rush for a homeless shelter and encouraged the subcommittee to see how UGM's shelter operates before making a decision.

Jolene Cliff, resident of Lewiston, commented the previous warming shelter, formerly located at Salvation Army, was packed with persons experiencing homelessness which showed a great need for a new warming shelter.

Michelle King, resident of Lewiston, expressed the importance of taxpayers and residents understanding what the subcommittee is discussing.

III. CONTINUED DISCUSSION REGARDING HOMELESSNESS

A. REPORT BACK ON FORMER ALL SAINTS SCHOOL GYM

Councilor Schroeder reported that she met with Sister Pat and All Saint's would allow the use of the gym. The only issue is the boiler and water have been turned off for years and the probability of starting the boiler and water back up would have to be further discussed to determine feasibility. There are several different options for heat sources, such as hanging heaters in the gym, and bringing in water, along with bringing in ADA portable bathrooms and cots.

Discussion followed regarding the differences between a warming shelter and low barrier shelter, along with costs and funding. Councilor Tousley explained the goals were to establish a warming shelter for the season and the first step is to find a location.

B. REPORT BACK ON FORMER SALVATION ARMY BUILDING, 1835 G

Councilor Tousley asked for the report on the Salvation Army Building. Suzanne Johnson with Twin County United Way reported that the Salvation Army indicated they were not interested in using the space for a homeless shelter, as they would be using the space for a corporate office.

After discussion, the Subcommittee scheduled the next meeting for Thursday, October 6th at 3:00 p.m. to include continued discussion on the All Saints Gym location and a presentation by Michelle King on potential locations and criteria.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Lewiston Homelessness Subcommittee, the meeting was adjourned at 4:07 p.m.