



CITY OF ELLENSBURG

Minutes of Affordable Housing Commission, Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting

December 6, 2023

Time of Meeting

4:30 PM

Place of Meeting

**Council Chambers
501 North Anderson Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
And remotely via Zoom**

1. Call to Order and Roll Call of Members

Chair Bedsaul called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m.

Present: Sarah Bedsaul, John Perrie, Courtney Garzone, Dan Witkowski, Kim Funston (4:32 p.m.), Sarah Beauchamp (4:34 p.m.)

Absent: Jordan Ruhle

Others Present: Jeremy Johnston-Community Development Planning Manager; Kathy Boots-Planning Technician; Dan Carlson-Community Development Director; Terry Weiner-City Attorney; Heidi Behrends Cerniwey-City Manager; Lily Frey-Housing & Grants Administrator

2. Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Garzone motioned to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passed 4-0

3. Approval of Minutes

a. November 1, 2023 Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Perrie motioned to approve the regular meeting minutes from November 1, 2023. Motion passed 4-0.

4. New Business

a. New Staff Introductions

Lily Frey; Community Development Housing & Grants Administrator, was introduced.

b. EcoNorthwest Sleep Center Presentation

EcoNorthwest gave a presentation to the Commission regarding their research regarding a sleep center. They researched different sites where it could be located, taking into consideration buffering options, access to public transit, access to general services, and City of Ellensburg land use code. They projected costs such as staff, security, utilities, fencing, building, and landscaping. The housing options that were considered were 25 pallet shelters or retro-fit Tuff Sheds that could be leased or owned by the City. There would be a building

that housed an office, common area for meals, storage, and bathrooms. Costs for yearly maintenance of the shelters and possible future expansion were considered. Moses Lake was consulted to get feedback on their shelters, and it was learned that they had some rot in their shelters. The City Manager stated there have been presentations to the Planning Commission, City Council, and open houses. Dave Sturgill stated the Kittitas County Homeless Committee has been part of this process and Kittitas County receives taxes that will be used to assist in funding this project. The amount of acreage needed was discussed. The operation of the facility will be decided through an RFP process.

5. Unfinished Business

a. Affordable Housing Joint Study Session Guidance

The guidance document was approved by City Council and will be included as part of the RFP application. A site plan is being worked on to help possible developers see the potential and limitations of the site.

6. Citizen Comment

None

7. Staff Update/Discussion Items

None

8. Commission Representative Update

Commissioner Ruhle has resigned from the Commission. The vacancy will be advertised.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:18 p.m.