

**LOS ANGELES HOMELESS SERVICES AUTHORITY  
COMMISSION**

Minutes of Commission  
June 26, 2009

The Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority Commission meeting held in the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority office, located at 453 S. Spring Street, 12<sup>th</sup> floor, Los Angeles, California, was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Douglas Mirell, Chair.

**ATTENDANCE**

LAHSA Commissioners Present:

Douglas Mirell  
Howard Katz  
Cecil L. Murray  
Owen Newcomer  
Ramona Ripston  
Antonio Manning

LAHSA Commissioners Absent:

David D. Figueroa  
Larry Adamson  
Louisa Ollague

Attorneys Present:

Aleen Langton, County Attorney

LAHSA Staff:

Michael Arnold, Executive Director  
Steve Andryszewski, Chief Financial Officer  
Mahvish Jafri, Funding Manager  
Elena Fialo, Program Performance Analyst  
Keshia Douglas, Director of Administration  
Geoff Emery, Interim Director of Programs  
David Martel, Contracts Unit Manager  
Erin Hollander, Board Liaison

**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM**

Roll was called and quorum was established at 9:05 a.m.

1.0 **CONSENT CALENDAR**

1.1 **REVIEW AND APPROVE COMMISSION MINUTES FROM MAY 22, 2009**

**MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner Newcomer and seconded by Commissioner Katz to approve the minutes.

1.2 **APPROVE LAHSA POLICIES AND PROCEDURES-AGENCY REMEDIAL ACTION POLICY (NEW)**

**Public Speaker(s):** There were no public speakers.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner Mirell and seconded by Commissioner Newcomer to approve the consent calendar.

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

**2.0 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Michael Arnold, Executive Director, gave the report:

- Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Program: LAHSA is taking a large role in supporting the programming efforts of the City offices and County departments. In addition, LAHSA is assisting DPSS in creating a tool that will allow them to integrate with the Los Angeles Continuum of Care HMIS system.
- 2009 SuperNOFA: Anticipated release of SuperNOFA application is early July 2009 with applications due back to HUD by early September 2009.
- Continuum Engagement & Planning: LAHSA is working with the Cities and County to discuss the County's HPRP plans. Additionally, LAHSA is participating in planning activities with the County and Cities.
- LAHSA Operations: LAHSA continues to make progress on all of its initiatives, including the completion of the fiscal and programmatic monitoring programs. LAHSA will provide a summary report on the monitoring program for 2008-2009 to the board within the next 60 days.

**Public Speaker(s):** There were no public speakers.

**3.0 APPROVE RELEASE OF THE CITY OF LOS ANGELES HOMELESS PREVENTION AND RAPID REHOUSING (HPRP) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP) PURSUANT TO CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL OF FINAL PROGRAM DESIGN**

Mahvish Jafri, Funding Manager gave the report:

- LAHSA is requesting approval to release a Request For Proposals (RFP) for City HPRP Programs pursuant to the approval of the final program design by Los Angeles City council June 30, 2009.
- HPRP is focused on housing for homeless and at-risk households. It will provide temporary financial assistance, housing relocation, and stabilization services to individuals and families who are homeless or would be homeless but for this assistance. The funds under this program are intended to target two populations of persons facing housing instability: individuals and families who are currently in housing but are at risk of becoming homeless and need temporary rent or utility assistance to prevent them from becoming homeless or assistance to move to another unit (prevention), and individuals and families who are experiencing homelessness (residing in emergency or transitional shelters or on the street) and need temporary assistance in order to obtain housing and retain it (rapid re-housing).
- The City will approve the Program Design by City Council on June 30, 2009. The RFP will be released the week of July 6.

**Public Speaker(s):** There were three public speakers.

**Becky Dennison with Los Angeles Community Action Network**

- Ms. Dennison shared her concern about the program design, specifically that this program's target population is too narrow and could make it more difficult for people to access needed assistance.

**Anat Rubin with LAMP Community**

- Ms. Rubin echoed the concerns of Becky Dennison and added that the process should be more transparent and inclusive. LAMP and Housing First providers would like to be made a part of the funding discussion.

**Carrie Gatlin Sigueros with Eimago**

- Ms. Gatlin reported a 160% increase in the number of homeless families in need of assistance, 65% of whom are homeless for the first time. Ms. Gatlin stated that the HPRP Program design is federally mandated and not LAHSA or City decision and expressed support for the program design. This program is specifically designed as a measure to help people who are victims of the current economic climate.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner Newcomer and seconded by Commissioner Manning to approve the release of the HPRP Request for Proposals pursuant to City Council approval of final program design.

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

4.0 **UPDATE FROM HELMI HISSERICH, DEPUTY MAYOR ON NATIONAL ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS CONFERENCE**

Helmi Hisserich, Deputy Mayor gave the report:

- During the two day trip to Washington, DC for the National Alliance To End Homelessness Conference, three goals were highlighted: 1) Housing First is a model that works. 2) The national agenda is to develop specific targets in each sub-population with measurable goals. 3) National Federal agencies need to function in a more integrated way.
- In addition, Ms. Hisserich reported that Los Angeles receives lower funding than other cities in terms of homelessness funding. There was a brief discussion about the criterion used to determine this result, which is due in part to the age of housing stock as compared to other older cities.

**Public Speaker(s):** There were no public speakers.

5.0 **2009-2010 WINTER SHELTER PROGRAM UPDATE**

Dave Martel, Contracts Unit Manager gave the report:

- There are four armories that may be contracted with the 2009-10 Winter Shelter Program. Of the four armories, only one is currently in negotiation about terms of availability. Culver City owns the land where the Culver City Armory is housed, and does not charge the National Guard to use it. The National Guard is requesting \$45K for the Winter Shelter Program to use the facility for the three month program. In addition, the armory is not available for one of the weeks during the program. LAHSA is requesting that the armory be offered without cost to LAHSA and that the armory be made available without disruption for the duration of the program. When the lease is made public, LAHSA will report back to the Commission with an update.
- LAHSA is currently meeting with the Homeless Deputies in all five Supervisorial Districts to determine the priorities for their county. LAHSA will release the Winter Shelter Program Request For Proposals (RFP) reflecting these priorities.

**Public Speaker(s):** There were no public speakers.

6.0 **OUTCOMES REPORT: PROGRAMS FUNDED BY HUD'S SUPPORTIVE HOUSING PROGRAM (SHP)**

Elena Fialo, Program Performance Analyst gave the monthly outcomes update on U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Supportive Housing Program (SHP) funded programs ending March 31, 2009. She reported:

- Permanent Supportive Housing Retention  
HUD Goal is 72% of participants will remain in housing for at least 6 months  
LAHSA achievement: 80% of participants have remained in housing for 6 months  
Total participants served through March 2009: 1220 with 994 remaining housed for 6 months
- Moving From Transitional to Permanent Housing  
HUD Goal is 64% of transitional housing program participants will move into permanent supportive housing  
LAHSA achievement: 30% of participants moved into permanent housing  
Total participants serviced through January 2009: 1328 with 399 moving into permanent housing
- Full-Time Employment by Program Exit  
HUD Goal is 18% of HUD program participants will be employed upon exit  
LAHSA achievement: 19% of participants exiting programs were employed upon exit  
Total participants exiting through March 2009: 4881 exited HUD programs, with 937 employed upon exit.

**Public Speaker(s):** There were no public speakers.

7.0 **APPROVE RELEASE OF 2009 TARGETED INDEPENDENT LIVING PROGRAM (ILP) REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)**

Mahvish Jafri, Funding Manager gave the report:

- This Request For Proposals (RFP) and the housing funds distributed under it will be administered by LAHSA under contract with the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission (CDC) in partnership with the Los Angeles county Probation Department and DCFS. DCFS and Probation both provide foster care services to youth and establish programs and policies to meet the needs of those youth.
- The release date of the proposed RFP is Friday, June 26, 2009 and the deadline is Wednesday, July 15, 2009.
- The funding is for agency programs no longer capable to operate them.

**Public Speaker(s):** There were no public speakers.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner Katz and seconded by Commissioner Newcomer to approve the release of the 2009 Targeted Independent Living Program (ILP) Request For Proposals (RFP).

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

8.0 **FINANCE, CONTRACTS & GRANTS MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioners Katz reported:

The action items from the Finance, Contracts & Grants Management Committee Meeting held on June 17, 2009 will be moved to the consent calendar of the Special Commission Meeting immediately to follow the close of the regularly scheduled Commission Meeting.

9.0 **POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE REPORT**

Commissioner Newcomer reported:

- No items require action at this time.

10.0 **ELECTION OF 2009-10 COMMISSION CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR**

The Commission Chair and Vice Chair have completed their one year term. There was a motion to elect Howard Katz as Chair and Ramona Ripston as Vice Chair for the 2009-2010 term. A plaque was given to Commissioner Mirell, who was honored for his excellent service.

**Public Speaker(s):** There were no public speakers.

**MOTION:** It was moved by Commissioner Mirell and seconded by Commissioner Manning to elect Howard Katz and Ramona Ripston as the incoming 2009-2010 Chair and Vice Chair of the Commission.

**ACTION:** The motion passed unanimously.

11.0 **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

There were no requests for public participation.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:22 a.m.