



**STATEMENT OF PROCEEDINGS FOR THE
VIRTUAL REGULAR MEETING OF THE
BLUE-RIBBON COMMISSION ON HOMELESSNESS**

**KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION
500 WEST TEMPLE STREET
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012**

Wednesday, February 16, 2022

9:00 AM



AUDIO FOR THE ENTIRE MEETING (22-0884)

Attachments: [Audio Link](#)

Call to Order. (22-0766)

**The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Co-Chair Sarah Dusseault,
Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness (BRCH).**

Present: Co-Chair Sarah Dusseault,
Co-Chair Christian Horvath,
Commissioner Theane Evangelis,
Commissioner Wendy Greuel,
Commissioner LaCheryl Porter,
Commissioner Marcel Rodarte,
Commissioner Vanessa Sedano (left at 10:00 a.m.),
Commissioner Becky A. Shevlin

I. RECOMMENDATION

1. Recommendation: Receive and file all presentations that will be presented on Wednesday, February 16, 2022. (22-0726)

No members of the public commented on this item.

On motion of Commissioner Shevlin, seconded by Commissioner Greuel, and duly carried by the following vote, the BRCH approved the recommendation to receive and file Item Nos. 3 through 5:

Ayes: 8 – Commissioner Evangelis, Commissioner Greuel, Commissioner Porter, Commissioner Rodarte, Commissioner Sedano, Commissioner Shevlin, Co-Chair Horvath, Co-Chair Dusseault

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

II. PRESENTATIONS AND DISCUSSIONS

2. Presentation by the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce: Maria Salinas, President and Chief Executive Officer. (22-0767)

Ms. Maria Salinas presented on the Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce and the concerns of businesses regarding people experiencing homelessness, lobbying for homeless funding, and recommendations for centralized authority and accountability.

Commissioner Greuel inquired about potential future forums to continue discussion with the Chamber of Commerce and its relationship with the numerous cities. Commissioner Shevlin inquired about the Chamber of Commerce's desire to have a representation in LAHSA. Commissioner Rodarte inquired whether LAHSA has engaged with the Chamber of Commerce. Co-Chair Dusseault commented that there currently exists a specified seat on the LAHSA Commission for a business representative.

No member of the public commented on this item.

Attachments: [Los Angeles Area Chamber of Commerce Presentation](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

3. Presentation on St. James Episcopal: Margaret Ecker, RN, MS, Lead Volunteer. (22-0768)

Ms. Margaret Ecker presented on the work of St. James Episcopal with people experiencing homelessness.

Commissioner Rodarte inquired about the balance between trust-building and connecting with services and about time availability of service providers. Commissioner Evangelis inquired about recommendations to increase acceptance of housing. Co-Chair Horvath commented on expanding access to HMIS. Commissioner Greuel commented on the availability of service providers on weekends.

Mr. Joseph Lyons, Ms. Reba Stevens, and Ms. Rita Dunn addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [St. James Episcopal Presentation](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

4. Presentation by the Chief Executive Office on the Homeless Initiative Strategies: Cheri Todoroff, Director, Homeless Initiative. (22-0772)

Ms. Cheri Todoroff presented on the Homeless Initiative Strategy Re-Assessment Process.

Co-Chair Horvath inquired about programs that cross-over multiple strategies and County organization of homeless services. Commissioner Shevlin inquired about the place of mental health and substance use disorder services within the strategies. Co-Chair Dusseault inquired about further simplification of the strategies. Commissioner Greuel inquired about the decision-making authority in the County. Commissioner Porter inquired about implementing the strategy changes and master leasing. Commissioner Rodarte inquired about County decision-making for funding.

Mr. Joseph Lyons, Ms. Reba Stevens, and Ms. Rita Dunn addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [Homeless Initiative Strategies Presentation](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

5. Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness discussion on the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority's (LAHSA) role and governance, including County and City infrastructures. (Continued from the meetings of 02-02-22 and 02-09-22) (22-0505)

Mr. Brandon D. Young, Partner, Manatt, Phelps & Phillips, LLP, presented material to inform the discussion.

Commissioner Evangelis inquired about what lessons learned from Houston's presentation have been integrated into information presented and commented on consolidating the numerous boards and commissions. Commissioner Porter commented on the thought process and priorities to consider for making recommendations. Commissioner Greuel inquired about the place of LAHSA in the information presented. Co-Chair Horvath commented on the organization of LAHSA and County homeless services and city representation. Co-Chair Dusseault commented on the need for simplified governance with representation from cities and government departments. Commissioner Shevlin commented on the governance structure in Santa Clara County and the utility of specificity in making recommendations. Commissioner Greuel commented on identifying the problems to solve. Co-Chair Dusseault commented on including the State of California and on housing acquisition. Commissioner Porter commented on the potential for the County to change LAHSA's authority without changing the JPA. Commissioner Shevlin commented on the need to consider any transitional steps.

Mr. Joseph Lyons addressed the BRCH.

Attachments: [How Decisions Could Be Made to Serve Persons Experiencing Homelessness Presentation](#)
[Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

III. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

6. Recommendation: Propose an evening meeting on February 23, 2022, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (22-0850)

On motion of Commissioner Greuel, seconded by Commissioner Shevlin, and duly carried by the following vote, the BRCH approved a consolidation of future agendas to the March 9, 2022, regular meeting in lieu of a meeting on February 23, 2022:

Ayes: 7 – Commissioner Evangelis, Commissioner Greuel, Commissioner Porter, Commissioner Rodarte, Commissioner Sedano, Commissioner Shevlin, Co-Chair Horvath, Co-Chair Dusseault

Absent: 1 – Commissioner Sedano

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

IV. MISCELLANEOUS

MATTERS NOT POSTED

7. Matters not posted on the agenda, to be discussed and (if requested) placed on the agenda for action at a future meeting of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness, or matters requiring immediate action because of an emergency situation, or because of an emergency situation, or where the need to take action arose subsequent to the posting of the agenda. (22-0773)

Co-Chair Dusseault commented on prioritizing discussions among the BRCH over receiving additional presentations at future meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

8. Opportunity for members of the public to address the BRCH on items of interest that are within the jurisdiction of the BRCH.

You may submit public comment by email to BRCH@brch.lacounty.gov.

Written public comment or documentation must be submitted no later than 5:00 p.m. the day before the scheduled meeting. Please include the agenda item and meeting date in your correspondence. Correspondence received shall become part of the official record. (22-0774)

Mr. Joseph Lyons and Ms. Rita Dunn addressed the BRCH. Interested person(s) submitted written testimony.

Attachments: [Public Comment/Correspondence](#)

ADJOURNMENT

9. Adjournment for the January 19, 2022, meeting. (22-0775)

Co-Chair Dusseault adjourned the meeting at 12:26 p.m. The next meeting of the Blue-Ribbon Commission on Homelessness will be on Wednesday, March 2, 2022, at 9:00 a.m.