



City and County of San Francisco
Shelter Monitoring Committee

POLICY SUBCOMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
 SHELTER MONITORING COMMITTEE
 SEPTEMBER 11, 2024, 3:00 PM – 4:15 PM
 [DRAFT]

Present:

Subcommittee Chair Kaleese Street
Subcommittee member Belinda Dobbs

Subcommittee Member Britt Creech

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL/AGENDA ADJUSTMENTS *5 min*
Meeting began at 3:06PM, with a quorum.

- I. MINUTES** *ACTION*
- A. August 2024 Minutes** **Subcommittee Members** *10 min*
 The Subcommittee reviewed the draft Minutes. Member Creech reports there will be an artist from Mexico and a punk band playing at Vanguard Lab.
Explanatory document - Draft Minutes
Public Comment: None
Proposed Action: *Approve Draft Minutes*
M/S/C: *Creech/Street/Unanimous - Minutes approved*

- II. OLD BUSINESS** *DISCUSSION/ACTION*
- A. TRAINING FOR SHELTER STAFF** **Chair Street** *15 min*
 Members continued to discuss the need for update of the 2004 Shelter Training Manual, e.g., as to Harm Reduction. Member Dobbs assisted in rescuing someone just a couple days prior to the meeting. Member Creech pointed out that fentanyl and experience over the last four years have led to a change in best practices. Narcan is only for those with no pulse or who is breathing. In practice, many people end up being over-administered Narcan. The Harm Reduction Coalition may be able to offer advice, as can Dr. Phillip Coffin (DPH). The [DOPE Project](#) is another good resource. “Compassionate reversal” is optimal. Anything else is at minimum rude and at worst dangerous. Without rescue breathing, the person suffering the OD may not recover, so to be prepared people should carry shields. Chair Street sees some existing language as harsh, e.g., in Chapter 6. Other members agreed there is a triggering implication that the client is to blame in some adjectives before the word, “client.” Examples given were, “escalated,” “intimidating,” and “frustrated.”
Public Comment: Azeen agreed language needs to be changed. As it stands, it is punitive and shaming. We need to avoid belittling people; rather, we should meet them where they’re at. Also, de-escalation and anti-bias training don’t get adequate funding. Jameel reports having worked for many years at Bayview. Rules should protect both clients and staff. We want to avoid a toxic environment. Staff need to understand that there is learned behavior that is hard to unlearn. Healing is the goal. DOS should be the last resort.

B. CITY ATTORNEY FOLLOW UP

Staff 10 min

Staff went over a few issues raised in the presentation by the City. Remember, for example, not to do “serial email discussions. We will ask that privacy training be done next tie/ASAP. Members can suggest questions, if they have any, that staff can pass on to the CAT Adam.

C. MEALS AND NUTRITION

Chair Street 5 min

Clients claim meals make them ill. Many staff who serve food do not have a food handler certificate. Shelters should be polled to see which offer a third meal. There is money to improve the situation.

Public Comment: Marie Cardille reminded the Subcommittee that the MOW is “30% under capacity.” Azeen thinks that the oldest meals are sometimes not the first ones used (so they get older and when used are more likely to have gone bad). Staff who provide backup/support in the process may not have food handler cards and may not be properly trained.

Proposed Action: *Shall SMC vote to have staff ask HSH what sites offer 3 meals/day?*

M/S/C: Creech/Dobbs/Unanimous – *Motion approved*

III. NEW BUSINESS

DISCUSSION

A. LAUNDRY AT SHELTERS

Chair Street 10 min

Members There is concern that laundry services may not be provided consistently to sheltered clients. Some services are not reliable. Clothing gets lost. The Committee may wish to ask HSH to conduct a survey of how laundry services are provided at all shelters if this information is not already available.

Public Comment: Marie Cardille opined that a flyer referring people to St. Anthony’s isn’t enough. There are guests at Gough Cabins that need assistance with laundry. The Homebridge waitlist is “three months long.” Salvador Barr shared that both of the SVDP Society sites offer onsite machines. Guests sign up to use them and staff monitor the process.

Proposed Action: *Shall SMC vote to ask HSH to survey sites regarding laundry?*

M/S/C: Creech/Dobbs/Unanimous – *Motion approved*

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

10 min

Members of the public may address the Committee on items that are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Committee.

Public Comment: Members discussed Vanguard Lab, a new harm reduction based creative art space that is welcoming to BIPOC.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Proposed Action: *Approve adjournment*

M/S/C: Creech/Dobbs/unanimous - *Meeting adjourned at 4:21 p.m.*

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Action Item	Assigned To
Look into adding a QR code to SMC flyers	Staff
Work on budget projections.	Member Ross