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# CITY OF CONCORD

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**Public Safety Board  
December 19, 2024 (3:00 PM) – City Council Chambers  
Meeting Minutes**

**In Attendance:**

**Members:** Councilor & Chair Amanda Grady Sexton, Councilor Jennifer Kretovic, Jessica Eskeland, Donald Carter, Drew Biemer, Steve Edwards, Councilor Jim Schlosser, Councilor Nathan Fennesy

**Staff:** Fire Chief Chisholm, Deputy Fire Chief Folsom, Deputy Fire Chief Hebert, Serina Chase, Police Chief Osgood, Deputy Police Chief Thomas, Deputy Police Chief Moulton, Deputy Police Chief Smagula, Nicole Petrin, Michelle McGonagle

**Minute Taker:** Serina Chase

**Welcome from the Chair:**

The meeting was called to order at 3:04pm by Councilor & Chair Amanda Grady Sexton.

**Introductions:**

Greetings were made by attending councilors, members, and guests.

**Approval of November 21, 2024 meeting minutes:**

Motion made by Councilor Schlosser to approve the November 21, 2024 meeting minutes. Councilor Kretovic seconded. Motion Passed unanimously.

**Presentation from Human Services Department – Karen Emis-Williams:**

Karen Emis-Williams, Human Services Director, was not in attendance to present to the Board.

Councilor and Chair Amanda Grady Sexton informed the Board that she recently met with Ms. Emis-Williams to discuss the PSAB's proposal to conduct interviews with various social service agencies in Concord that receive City funding and are actively working to end homelessness. In lieu of Ms. Emis-Williams' presentation to the Board, Councilor Grady Sexton provided a summary of the meeting to Board members.

The following key points were highlighted and discussed:

- The challenges of placing unhoused individuals in local shelters have resulted in increased reliance on shelters in neighboring towns, leading to logistical complications in coordinating



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placements at these nearby facilities.

- The importance of focusing on how City funded social service agencies are addressing issues specific to Concord and the residents of Concord.
- The advantages of exploring alternative models, such as those used in Manchester or Nashua, where agencies are contracted to coordinate and manage the social services within each city.
- A potential questionnaire for local social service agencies that could help guide the PSAB in making future recommendations to Council about the effectiveness of social service agencies in preventing and ending homelessness in Concord.
- The challenges and concerns associated with successfully placing medically vulnerable individuals in shelters creates a significant need for specialized social services to support this population of unhoused people.

## **Future Agenda Planning**

- Update from the Subcommittee on Homelessness.
- Invite a representative from the City of Manchester to speak to the PSAB about the social services that Manchester provides to its unhoused community.
- April – Annual reports from Police and Fire.

## **Adjournment**

Members left the meeting early, leaving the Board inquorate.

No official motion was made to adjourn the meeting.