

Indivisible Durango-Civil Rights Committee

4/18/18 Minutes

Attendees: Jane Dunn, guest Betty Schwartz-Boseman, Linda Daniel, Rollie Butler, Richard Butler, and Lynne Sholler (Secretary)

Introductions – We introduced ourselves to Betty and she introduced herself. She works with the Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Committee and Compassionate Community Outreach on homelessness issues. They are working with the University of Denver Center on Poverty and Homelessness and FLC engineering students on the PCV pipe shelters that may be disassembled and moved. The hope to create 10 structures at a cost of \$7,000/each, which is much less expensive than tiny homes. If the units have a kitchenette and shower, the cost is \$15,000. They need property to put the shelters on. They also collaborate with the Coalition of Caring Communities. Mercy and Axis are supportive of a shelter and bringing resources to the homeless.

March minutes were approved.

Sit/lie ordinance at City Council We attended the City Council “listening session” on the ordinance just prior to our meeting. Lynne, Linda and Richard all spoke in opposition. We debriefed about the session. Each of us are to contact a councilor to drive home main points prior to the 4/24/18 meeting where it will be voted upon:

- the ordinance does not address the root causes of homelessness and poverty;
- it would be more beneficial to develop a coalition involving churches, businesses, government/human services and non-profits to engage the community on potential longer range solutions;
- there is no place for them to go
- we are a growing city – the “big city has come to Durango” – this issue impacts cities all over the nation; we can’t go back to the Durango of 50 years ago;
- the cost of housing is less than incarceration, medical expenses and social services.

We can also submit additional comments to Amber Blake and write letters to the Editor.

Mission Statement – We worked on the mission statement and streamlined it. Linda will finalize it and post it on the ID website.

Database – Linda had the survey results from Lynne and gave them to Rollie to update the database.

Chair – Linda will chair the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

Equal Means Equal – film event with potential collaborations with the Women’s Committee & DHS.

Mile in my Shoes – one of our committee members, Mandy Williams, is working on an event, “Walk a Mile in my Shoes,” a PJ Dance party on Sunday 4/22/18 from 6:30-9:30 at the FLC Ballroom. She could use some volunteers so just show up if you can help, or just to have fun.

The next meeting will be 5/16 at 5:00 in Conf. Rm. 308 of the Crossroads Building (Alpine Bank).