**Community Services Committee**

**Chairperson: Sylvia Wilson**

**Meeting Date: January 12, 2023 6:30 pm**

**Meeting Place: Online**

Call to Order: 6:34 pm

Introductions - Sylvia Wilson, Alex Reynolds, Theresa Torrance

Other NCWP members - Heather Tuttle

Discussion/Action (Motion):

* **Item 1: Presentation and Discussion with Lily Sofiani of Supervisor Holly J. Mitchell’s Office on County Homelessness Initiatives** - 69K in LA County which is only a 4.1% increase (42K are in LA City which is a 2% increase), lots of success with Project Roomkey and Homekey during pandemic to get housing quickly, county provides services (but no jurisdiction over housing/building), do have jurisdiction over small unincorporated areas, 2021 investment was $1 billion, 5 permanent housing units are needed for every 1 shelter bed, no local cities are building enough permanent housing, 2022 investment was $527 million (rental subsidies, interim housing/shelters, cities and council of governments funding, street outreach, etc.), Measure H is funding homeless prevention as well as housing, if inflow stopped we would get to functional 0 in 3.5 years, LA County has 3.7% vacancy rate (for market rate, need to make $42/hour to afford 1 bed apt in LA County), we are short almost 500,000 affordable units in the county, homelessness prevention policies (motion on blind removal, created Office of Prevention, Equity Formula for ARPA, new behavioral health center, therapeutic transportation van, MIST beds, oversight of Sheriff, services to keep unhoused out of jail), also provide gtd income in Breathe Program, RV Encampments to Home Pilot program (to start in spring, 3 years, 500 RVs to be removed per year in “hot spots” like in Gardena)
  + Public Comment - Heather Tuttle thanked Ms. Sofiani for highly informational presentation
  + Committee Discussion - Reynolds asked about the possibility of stopping RV auctions (Sofiani says RVs will be destroyed and parking rules will be enforced), Reynolds asked about reunification (Sofiani says there is a county program), Torrance asked about unincorporated areas (Sofiani says Ladera Heights, Windsor Park, etc are unincorporated and don’t belong to any city), Torrance asked for update on the RV pilot program motion (Sofiani says report will come 2/28, trying to find funding and storage lots, Wilson asked about high percentage of older unhoused who were incarcerated from the 80s/90s (Sofiani talked about the street to jail pipeline), Wilson asked about a motion to help expunge records (Sofiani talked about the ODR (Office of Diversion and Reentry) homelessness court and a new Redondo Beach outdoor court program), Wilson asked if the Therapeutic Transportation Van is available in our area (Sofiani says van is mostly in South LA and to call 988 for therapist), Wilson asked about which RV encampment areas for program (program is only for unincorporated areas)

* **Item 2: Update on the Westchester Senior Center, Cristina Lovett, Recreation Coordinator, Westchester Senior Center** - working on getting more programs and more outreach for more members, lunch program, community events (hosted Friendsgiving with 50+ people, hosted New Year’s Day event with 40-45 people and Traci Park, winter luncheon with 65 people, Halloween event)
  + Public Comment - none
  + Committee Discussion - Torrance asked about attendance aside from the big events (Lovett says that there are fewer people for lunch and need to recruit new people), Torrance asked about outreach and local newspapers (Lovett talked about newsletter that goes to 200 people, Facebook with 200 followers, do not have budget for newspaper advertising, looking into other options), Reynolds asked about giving NCWP funding to the Senior Center (Lovett says that the Senior Center is not a 501c3), Wilson asked about virtual events and a Zoom account (Lovett says virtual events are not being offered right now), Wilson asked if seniors are still concerned about unhoused (Lovett says parking lot is better than pre-pandemic and current vehicle dwellers are not a problem, some seniors are still concerned though), WIlson recommended about FB livestream

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items, 1 minute - none

Next meeting:  February 9, 2023

Adjourn:  8:30pm