

Montpelier Homelessness Committee
Draft Meeting Minutes
June 4, 2026

Attendance: Zack Hughes Chair, Dawn Little, Lee Wilschek, Marty Roberts,
City Council Rep: Jim Sheriden, Cary Brown
City Planning Manager: Matt Jelacic

Guests: Beth Ann Maier, Steven Whitaker, Allen Goldman,

Absent Ali McGurik, Sophie Lewis, Nolan Carver

1. Introductions

a. Zack conducted introductions

2. Agenda Review

Zack reviewed the agenda.

3. City Updates

Jim attended the MBA meeting.

Issues noted business owners are concerned about issues downtown.

Questions were asked by the business owners what they can do.

The committee is working with the city on a flyer to give businesses.

Concerns and other observations

Montpelier residents are concerned about police not responding to their calls around unhoused.

It was noted the calls may not be law enforcement related.

The committee was also informed that there is now two officers per shift.

Matt shard proposed picnic table locations.

The committee reviewed this

4. Beth Ann Miaer

Camping Proposal

The plan:

Would designate two small encampments. These areas would be city supplied with. Trash cans and porta potties.

Volunteers would visit twice a day with the idea of checking in.

There would be a dedicated crisis response team.

The proposed places would be:

Dog River .

Beyond the Peace Park.

One idea discussed too, is having the city lease land to an organization.

Matt shared the city code on city camping

Zack sought clarification on a "Crisis Team is that Mental Health or the volunteers described."?

Would be a volunteer group that could respond to issues "Like a shelter manager."

Questions the committee needs to review:

Impacts using the sites.

The committee discussed the feasibility of Home Farm Way for a sight and a small area near Westview.

Jim and Cary can.

Bring up these sites at the next council meeting/

Beth Ann expressed the urgency in this matter and wants this committee to understand it and the council to understand the emergency that exist.

Zack strongly concurs

Jim urges the need to do something or not

Marty Robert joined by phone

Zack Entertains a motion of recommendation to the council

Dawn Motions Move the camping proposal by Beth Ann Maier

“I would move that... that this proposal be brought to City Council for their consideration with the details to be filled in later”

Lee seconds

Jim can we get a friendly Amendment to send the matter of urgency to council
Dawn agrees to add this.

Committee vote

All present in favor motion passes

4 Public Comment

Stephen

"We are setting our sites to low/"

"concentrating people remotely without, hygiene is, setting yourself up for failure."

5. Street Outreach

Zack on or about June a group of us got together to coordinate the exit of people from the Capstone overflow.. Ken Russell sent an email to the city asking about guidance on possible campsites.

Zack mentioned the city may be having unrealistic expectations of the "Situation table". Example some people are not "Servicable" or we need to be careful of the expectations

6. Other business

Zack VCIL is having an open house on this day at 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Zack Street Outreach doing a donation drive.

Matt is going to look at Cots Single Room occupancy

7 Adjournment

Dawn Motions to adjourn

Lee Seconds

Committee all present in favor

Motion passes meeting adjourned 3:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted

Zachary Hughes

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4. Street Outreach

a. Zack has been monitoring the numbers of unhoused individuals in anticipation of more people coming outside as the weather gets warmer. He will be starting the water distribution as well once it gets hot. He is also monitoring transportation access which continues to be an issue.

b. Dawn has been working with and supporting individuals who are in traumatic situations. She also responds to providers who are looking for information about available resources. Her program will also start water distribution program when it gets hot.

5. Other Business

a. Matt shared that he has been asked to join a conversation about housing with

THRIVE. The conversation will include representatives from other cities and will focus on housing in Washington County.

b. Matt has also been in contact with COTS and is gathering additional information about the single room occupancy units they have built in Burlington.

C Peter shared issues around organizations and making sure missions align

D Lee mentioned passing flyers and posting them on a bulletin board behind Another Way and going to Sunrise. To anyone she comes across.

E Stephen brought up concerns around the bar being set low and band aiding.

Need to continue to look at the alternatives and raise the bar more With emphises around shower and shelter being priority

6. Adjourn:

Zack makes motion to adjourn.

Lee Seconds.

Vote all in favor

Motion passed meeting adjourned 3:30 PM.

Respectfully,

Sophie Lewis.

Zachary Hughes