

Mayor
John K. Handeland

Manager
Glenn Steckman

Deputy Clerk
Jeremy Jacobson



**Nome Public Safety
Advisory Commission**

Briday Green
Justin Noffske
Jana Hoggan
Traci McGarry
VACANT

Peter Travers
Carol Piscoya
Shauntel Bruner-Alvanna
VACANT

**NOME PUBLIC SAFETY ADVISORY COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, DECEMBER 06, 2021 at 6:00 PM
COUNCIL CHAMBERS IN CITY HALL**

102 Division St. ▪ P.O. Box 281 ▪ Nome, Alaska 99762 ▪ Phone (907) 443-6663 ▪ Fax (907) 443-5345

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Jana Hoggan; Traci McGarry; Justin Noffske; Carol Piscoya; Peter Travers

Members Absent: Shauntel Bruner-Alvanna (excused); Briday Green

Also Present: Glenn Steckman, City Manager; Jeremy Jacobson, Deputy City Clerk; Bryant Hammond, City Clerk; Wade Harrison, NPD

In the audience: Diana Haecker, Nome Nugget; Rhonda Schneider, Nome Community Center; Liz Johnson, Nome Community Center; Greg Smith

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A motion was made by C. Travers and seconded by C. Noffske to approve the agenda as presented.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hoggan; McGarry; Noffske; Piscoya; Travers

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. November 1, 2021 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,

A motion was made by C. Noffske and seconded by C. McGarry to approve the November 1, 2021 minutes.

Discussion:

- Commissioner Piscoya suggested "vacant" missing under the commissioners listed needed adding.
- Commissioner McGarry noted Commissioner Travers's last name; an additional "e" was added.
- Commissioner Piscoya noted that she had requested Commissioner training in Commissioner comments.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hoggan, McGarry; Noffsker; Piscoya; Travers

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

B. September 7, 2021 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,

A motion was made by C. Noffsker and seconded by C. Hoggan to approve the September 7, 2021 minutes.

Discussion:

- Commissioner Piscoya noted that the vacant positions should list at the top of the agenda.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hoggan; McGarry; Noffsker; Piscoya; Travers

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

C. August 30, 2021 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,

A motion was made by C. McGarry and seconded by C. Noffsker to approve the August 30, 2021 minutes.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hoggan; McGarry; Noffsker; Piscoya; Travers

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

D. June 7, 2021 Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission Regular Meeting Minutes,

- Commissioner Piscoya inquired into commissioners present, based on commissioners listed at the top of the agenda.
- City Manager Steckman noted the formatting error auto-generated by Municode software. He suggested the minutes be tabled until the next meeting. There were no objections.

CITIZENS' COMMENTS

No citizen comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. Discussion of Nome Police Department (NPD) Accreditation

- City Manager Steckman stated he and Chief Heintzelman were in discussions with the City Manager of Soldotna and their Chief of Police regarding achieving police accreditation and the

fees incurred. Once he knew the costs, they would be brought back to Public Safety Advisory Commission and City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Nome Community Center - Safe Housing (presentation)

- City Manager Steckman detailed the Housing First Project's goal to address homelessness in Nome. He noted the project as self-sustaining with a long-term financial plan.
- Rhonda Schneider, Executive Director of Nome Community Center (NCC), recounted past examples where NCC provided stable, secure housing for Nome residents and both the direct and indirect benefits. She noted their case management procedure for follow-up with their residents.
- Liz Johnson (NCC) described the Housing First model as an evidence-based approach. She noted NCC's resources and experience working with the homeless community. Their records show 23 of last year's 225-day shelter occupants fit HUD's chronic homeless definition, 100 or more days without stable housing, further identifying obstacles chronic homeless experience each day. She detailed the evaluation process NCC uses, the compilation of statistics; all passed to the State of Alaska.
- Rhonda Schneider (NCC) detailed the grant-funding, which covers 2/3 costs of operating. The resident's PFD and income are applicable towards the remaining 30 percent of the budget, among other finances. She stated their estimates to operate are around three-hundred thousand dollars. NCC has budgeted for a full-time case manager employed by NCC to provide behavioral health services for residents.
- City Manager Steckman opined similar success within the State with similar programs and could potentially have similar success.
- Commissioner Noffske opined his interest and stated support for the Housing First project. He inquired into what was needed from the commission to move the project forward.
- City Manager Steckman suggested a motion of support; however, it was up to the commission. City Council will also receive a presentation at their December 13, 2021, regular meeting.
- Rhonda Schneider commented that if the PSAC were in favor, a letter of support would be significant towards the grants application process.
- Commissioner Piscoya declared her support and requested copies of the information presented.
- Commissioner Traverse opined his support, suggesting significant benefits to the community.

A motion was made by C. Noffske and seconded by C. Travers to provide a letter of support for the Nome Community Center and their Housing First Project.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hoggan; McGarry; Noffske; Piscoya; Travers

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

A motion was made by C. Hoggan and seconded by C. Noffske to recommend the Housing First Project to the Nome City Council.

At the roll call:

Aye: Hoggan; McGarry; Noffske; Piscoya; Travers

Nay:

Abstain:

The motion **CARRIED**.

COMMISSIONERS' COMMENTS

- 1) Commissioner Hogan opined her excitement with the Housing First Project.
- 2) C. McGarry had no comments.
- 3) C. Noffske praised Nome Community Center for its work within the region.
- 4) C. Piscoya thanked Nome Community Center, noting interest in the data after the project's completion and future success stories. She inquired into complaints received and the NPD radio equipment status.
- 5) City Manager Steckman stated the emergency services radio project has to go out to bid currently.
- 6) C. Piscoya thanked the public for their attendance and the Nome Community Center for their presentation and time.
- 7) C. Travers had no comment.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by C. McGarry and seconded by C. Noffske to adjourn; hearing no objections, the Nome Public Safety Advisory Commission adjourned at 6:57 PM.

APPROVED and **SIGNED** this 7th day of February, 2022

Carol Piscoya
Vice-Chair

ATTEST:

Jeremy Jacobson
Deputy Clerk