

**OPEN MEETING MINUTES
WAUKESHA COUNTY
TEMPORARY CHAPTER 980 COMMITTEE MEETING
DECEMBER 11, 2019**

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Jason Fruth, Angie Serwa, Erik Weidig

GUESTS PRESENT: Jim Landwehr, Mrs. and Mr. Waite

NOT PRESENT: Antwayne Robertson, Jason Popp, Dale Shaver

Erik Weidig called the meeting to order at 11:33 a.m.

Fruth moved, second by Serwa to approve the November 18, 2019 minutes. Motion carried 3-0.

Weidig shared an update from Robertson. Robertson had emailed the November 21 and December 5 property listings to the housing vendors and the rental listings to Jason Popp for follow-up. The new properties are highlighted for ease of tracking. As of this date, there has been no response from housing vendors with respect to interest.

Weidig reported the summary from the Department of Corrections. In the most current search, there were four rentals listed; one condo in Waukesha, one condo in Brookfield, one house in Nashotah and one house in Brookfield. Popp had reported back that he received 'no' responses of interest on the first three properties, and is waiting on a response from the fourth.

Landwehr stated that his office continues to run updates weekly, typically on Thursdays. The runs consistently get nine to twelve MLS listings and four to six rentals, with some repeat properties. Landwehr's office identifies those properties with prohibitive circumstances. The bill recently put forth to take out buffers was vetoed by the Governor. There is hope this may be revisited down the road. All Wisconsin counties seem to have the same difficulties finding housing. Weidig added that looking at summaries, fairly consistently there are seventy to eighty houses for sale which fit the general criteria and thirty five to forty rentals. Of those, only ten houses and four to five rentals fall outside the buffer.

Mrs. Waite asked if that means there are nine to twelve houses that meet the criteria. Weidig answered that, for example, if the latest run produced seventy properties, of the seventy, seven properties fell outside of the 1500 foot buffer. It does not mean all criteria are met. Those properties are sent to vendors. This Committee is also required to consult with law enforcement at such time as a housing vendor shows interest. Mrs. Waite asked for the copy of the seven properties, which Weidig said he would share with her.

Weidig gave an update on court proceedings. There were two pending motions; one to compel Waukesha County to construct, buy, or create a residence for this individual and a second motion filed subsequent to have the county begin running searches without the 1500 foot restrictions in anticipation that law would be signed by the governor. At the last hearing, consistent with Weidig's position and the state's position, the court would not require running those searches. The court set the next hearing for December 12 at 1:00 p.m. Discussion about initial motion regarding Waukesha County constructing, buying or creating a residence – Weidig has filed opposition to that.

Regarding creating a standing meeting date and time, potentially every other Wednesday at 11:30 a.m., is an item that will be carried over for discussion when Robertson and Popp are present. A Doodle Poll will be sent to schedule the next meeting for December 23, 27, 30, January 2 or 3.

Angie shared information on a recent appellant decision out of a Racine County case impacting an individual placed on supervised release across the state, out of their county of residence, and there is one such individual from Waukesha. DHS has been ordered as a temp placement and this individual is to return to Waukesha County. Discussion on this issue will be added to the next meeting agenda.

Mrs. Waite asked how a property will be found without an interested buyer. Mr. Waite asked about the property near the Huber facility, where there was a home torn down. It is county owned property. Landwehr stated that the county is

not in the business of building homes. Weidig shared there has been conversations and the county will not be a landlord. Mrs. Waite asked about the possibility of housing this individual at the Huber facility. Weidig answered that the Huber facility is a locked facility. If that is something their son would consider, Weidig suggested that Mr. and Mrs. Waite have that conversation with their son's attorney.

Distinctions between types of offenders released were discussed.

Motion to adjourn by Fruth, second by Serwa at 11:58 a.m.

Minutes approved: *Antwayne Robertson*
Director
Waukesha County Health and Human Services

Date: January 2, 2020