

**HOMELESSNESS & MENTAL HEALTH COMMITTEE MINUTES  
LAFAYETTE CONFERENCE ROOM  
APRIL 3, 2025  
10:00 AM**

**Committee Members Present:** Brenda McNair, Council Member, Committee Chair  
Courtney Banks-McLaughlin, Council Member (arrived at 10:06 a.m.)  
Malik Davis, Council Member

**Staff Present:** Doug Hewett, City Manager (joined via Teams)  
Kelly Strickland, Assistant City Manager  
Chris Cauley, Economic and Community Development Director  
Albert Baker, Economic and Community Development Assistant Director  
Deanna Braggs, Homeless Coordinator, Fayetteville Police Department  
Orlando Smith, Community Impact Supervisor  
Brook Redding, Special Projects Manager  
Loren Bymer, Marketing & Communications Director  
Paula Handberry, Executive Assistant to the City Council

**Others Present:** Ben Mackrell, Territory Sales Manager & Rapid Response Specialist, Pallet Shelter  
Debbie Brown, Fayetteville-Cumberland Continuum of Care Chair  
Members of the Public  
Members of the Media

**1.0 Call to Order**

Council Member McNair welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

**2.0 Approval of the Agenda**

**MOTION:** Council Member Davis moved to approve the agenda.

**SECOND:** Council Member McNair

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (2-0)

**3.0 Approval of Minutes**

**January 7, 2025**

**MOTION:** Council Member Davis moved to approve the January 7, 2025 minutes.

**SECOND:** Council Member McNair

**VOTE:** UNANIMOUS (2-0)

**4.0 ITEMS OF BUSINESS**

**4.1 Pallet Shelter Presentation/Proposal**

Mr. Ben Mackrell, Territory Sales Manager & Rapid Response Specialist, Pallet Shelter presented this item with a PowerPoint presentation.

Pallet Shelter creates temporary shelter villages for unhoused individuals or those experiencing housing emergencies. To date, Pallet has built over 100 communities in 21 states across the country, operated by over 70 unique service providers and claimed incredible results, successfully moving people from the streets to permanent housing.

Pallet offers three shelter models. The S2 Sleeper 70 is a single occupancy 70 square foot unit. This unit takes approximately 3 hours to assemble. The S2 Sleeper 120 is a double occupancy 120 square foot unit. The S2 Ensuite is a 120 square foot unit with hygiene facilities. The units can be disassembled and moved to different locations.

A village model consists of crisis shelter units in a community with approximately six other shelters alongside of community support systems: bathrooms, laundry rooms, service offices, and community rooms.

Currently, Pallet employs around 115 people, the majority of whom have lived experience with incarceration, substance use disorder, and homelessness. These individuals have designed both the shelters and the models.

Council Member Banks-McLaughlin asked what is the cost of the infrastructure, security, and length of stay for individuals. Mr. Mackrell responded the length of stay is up to the operator. The installed price of the S2 Sleep 70 begins at \$24,000.00.

**MOTION: Council Member Davis moved to present the Pallet Shelter Presentation to City Council at the May 5, 2025 Work Session.**

**SECOND: Council Member Banks-McLaughlin**

**VOTE: UNANIMOUS (3-0)**

Council Member McNair stated there are several for profit and non-profit organizations interested in working with the City and County to find a good location for the shelters.

Mrs. Strickland stated the City's Zoning Code does not allow this type of congregate living. The units fall below the City's Housing Standards. Discussion ensued.

In the January 7, 2025 minutes, Mayor Colvin moved to speak with the Cumberland County Chair and recommend a Commissioner join the Homelessness/Mental Health Committee. Council Member Davis asked Council Member McNair has she received a response. Council Member McNair responded not yet.

#### **4.2 Day Resource Center Update**

Mr. Christopher Cauley, Economic and Community Development Director stated the City contracts with Manna Dream Center, a 501c(3) subsidiary of Manna Church. The Day Resource Center have undergone personnel changes.

Mr. Cauley stated Manna Dream Center has done a wonderful job moving the Fayetteville Care Day Resource Center forward.

Council Member McNair asked for an update on Council Member Davis' request for additional security. Mr. Cauley stated Pastor Tommy Cartwright, Manna Dream Center Director is preparing the request to present to staff for review.

## 5.0 ADJOURNMENT

There being no further items of business the meeting adjourned at 10:54 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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PAULA HANDBERRY  
Executive Assistant to the City Council  
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BRENDA MCNAIR  
Committee Chair