

CITY OF NORTH SALT LAKE  
HEALTH AND WELLNESS COMMITTEE  
ANCHOR LOCATION: CITY HALL  
10 EAST CENTER STREET, NORTH SALT LAKE  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2024

**FINAL**

Chair Welsh called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mason Bennett, Vice Chair  
Jeff Scroger  
Janet Welsh, Chair  
Alisa Van Langeveld, City Council

EXCUSED: Jane Hall  
Corey Markisich

STAFF PRESENT: Ken Leetham, City Manager; Linda Horrocks, Communications Coordinator.

OTHERS PRESENT: Mary Ellen Dworshak, Gene Chidester, Nancy Andes, Renee Hollinger, Ladies of Charity/The Center of Hope.

1. WELCOME

Chair Welsh welcomed and provided a list of those present.

2. CITIZEN COMMENT

There were no citizen comments.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Health and Wellness Committee minutes of August 12, 2024 were reviewed and approved.

**Committee Member Scroger moved to approve the minutes of August 12, 2024. Committee Member Bennett seconded the motion. The motion was approved by Committee Members Bennett, Scroger, and Welsh.** Committee Members Hall and Markisich were excused.

4. PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTIONS TO LADIES OF CHARITY

Chair Welsh asked the Ladies of Charity to provide information on their mission, resources, availability, and City support.

Mary Ellen Dworshak, Ladies of Charity, mentioned that they were located at 74 South Orchard Drive. She commented that they served 2,500 clients per month and shared some resources with the Bountiful Food Pantry. She said the organization was run by volunteers and helped anyone who requested aid. She commented that they tried to provide healthy options such as milk, eggs, cheese, and fruit. She shared they were a 501-3C non-profit and received food and funding from the Utah Food Bank, grants or donations from the LDS Church, Catholic Community Services, Performance Auto, and several other individual or business donors.

Mary Ellen Dworshak shared the availability of the facility and the needs including flour, sugar, oil, pasta, canned meat, soup, cereal, diapers, wipes, and personal hygiene products.

Renee Hollinger, Ladies of Charity, commented that the majority of individuals who utilized the facility were employed. She said personal hygiene products such as diapers, toilet paper, toothpaste, etc. could not be purchased with food stamps so they tried to have those items available.

Mary Ellen Dworshak introduced Renee Hollinger who ran the food distribution, Nancy Andes as the current president, and Gene Chidester as a member of the advisory board. She spoke on a food drive at Orchard Elementary and the donation of over 500 boxes of cereal. She commented that they would hold another food drive and several fundraisers. She shared several challenges including increasing demand, need for vehicle to collect supplies, awareness of facility, and need for donations/resources.

Linda Horrocks mentioned the Center of Hope also provided a thrift store. Mary Ellen Dworshak said the thrift store had items for sale as well as donations for those in need.

Renee Hollinger commented that the thrift store was connected to the food bank and the goal was to provide a separate thrift shop facility in the future. She said they generally gave the coats, jackets, sweatshirts, or gloves away for free in the winter season.

The Ladies of Charity spoke on limits per individual, available food items including frozen foods, meats, donations, and frozen/refrigerated food storage capabilities at the facility.

Mary Ellen Dworshak commented that they had one year building lease and spoke on the need for a new facility. Renee Hollinger said they had saved funds for a new location and currently received monthly donations from Performance Auto for rent but were actively looking for a new location close to UTA transportation.

Ken Leetham mentioned that staff was aware of the general situation of the buildings in town and could review those to see if any would be a suitable fit.

Councilmember Van Langeveld questioned if individuals were utilizing both the Bountiful Food Pantry and the Center of Hope. Renee Hollinger replied that individuals were only supposed to utilize one facility at a time. She shared that 50% of the clientele was from the City or Bountiful while 50% were from the Rose Park or West Valley area.

Councilmember Van Langeveld then asked how many individuals may be unhoused. Renee Hollinger commented that there were families and individuals who utilized the facility that lived in their cars or previously along Victory Road. She said they currently recorded all of the statistics by hand. She mentioned a volunteer from Communities United provided housing information and other resources to those who utilized the facility.

Nancy Andes spoke on the difficulties faced by those who did not speak English and the need for Spanish speaking volunteers. She mentioned the Ladies of Chairity utilized Just Serve to seek volunteers to aid and serve in the food bank and thrift store.

Mary Ellen Dworshak shared that the Ladies of Charity was organized over 20 years ago by the Daughters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul convent. The original temporary food pantry then expanded into the Center of Hope Food Pantry in the City.

Janet Welsh mentioned that she would reach out to a commercial refrigeration contact. Mason Bennett asked about volunteer opportunities. Mary Ellen Dworshak said the minimum age for volunteers was 14 years old with parent supervision and included helping clients shop or take food out to their cars, hand out hygiene products, or assist in the thrift store. Gene Chidester commented that someone with a larger vehicle could also assist with the Costco pickup on Saturdays.

Ken Leetham asked what the City could do to help. The Ladies of Charity asked for help with advertising for volunteers and need for resources, community/school involvement, food and clothing drives, and promotion of The Center of Hope as a community resource.

## 5. REVIEW AND DISCUSSION ON HOMELESSNESS

Councilmember Van Langeveld spoke on creating a web of resources including support for housing, food, pantry packs/hygiene kits for the homeless that could be distributed by the police department. Ken Leetham commented that he was also working with Chief Black on filling in the gaps such as temporary housing and other resources.

## 6. DISCUSSION ON UTAH FOSTER CARE

Councilmember Van Langeveld commented that Utah Foster Care would be attending the Latino Heritage event. She explained that the City was part of the Ogden Foster Care office.

#### 7. DISCUSSION OF BETTER PROMOTION OF RESOURCES AT CITY EVENTS

The Committee discussed the promotion of resources, such as The Center of Hope, and hosting fundraisers at City events. Councilmember Van Langeveld mentioned she would invite The Center of Hope to set up a booth at the upcoming Latino Heritage event.

#### 8. DISCUSSION OF UPCOMING EVENTS

The Committee discussed the upcoming Latino Heritage event with participating Davis County Health Department and other resources, Latinos in Action, and performances. They then spoke on the need for a committee or volunteer to run the cultural events in the future or to discontinue the event.

#### 9. DISCUSSION ON FEEDBACK FROM OTHER COMMITTEES

The Committee had nothing to report.

#### 10. CITY COUNCIL UPDATE

Councilmember Van Langeveld commented on the City Council Resolution and discussion related to the homeless shelter location. Ken Leetham mentioned that there was a task force (which included city mayors) and a local homelessness council (which included resource providers).

#### 11. COMMITTEE MEMBER BUSINESS

Ken Leetham commented that he had made the offer to Issa related to the use of City Hall for Davis County Health Department needs. He also mentioned that he had spoken to Davis County Commissioner Kamalu about the potential for a community building in Hatch Park and potential office space.

Chair Welsh spoke on a waterline break that affected a large portion of north Foxboro and the lack of communication. Linda Horrocks commented that staff was updating the utility software to help notify residents through text notification when the water was off.

Councilmember Van Langeveld mentioned the Connected Communities Conference and invited the Committee members to attend.

#### 12. DISCUSSION ON AGENDA AND SCHEDULE FOR NEXT MEETING

The Committee agreed not to hold a meeting in October and asked that the following items be on the November agenda:

- 1) Follow up on Latino Heritage
- 2) Review Connected Communities Conference
- 3) Discussion on pantry pack/hygiene kit
- 4) Discussion on potential food drive (Winterfest)

13. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

*The foregoing was approved by the Health and Wellness Committee of the City of North Salt Lake on November 18, 2024 by unanimous vote of all members present.*

  
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Wendy Page, City Recorder

