



**Town of Lyons Housing & Human Services  
Commission**

**Meeting Minutes**

Date: **Monday, February 14th, 2022**

Time: 3:30-5:00 pm

Location: Zoom

*Mission: The mission of the Lyons Housing & Human Services Commission, as established in the Lyons Recovery Action Plan, is to provide coordination and communication with various private, non-profit, and county entities in an effort to assess and fill the gaps in human service provision and identify unmet needs in the Lyons and greater Lyons (80540) area.*

Attending the meeting:

Commissioners: **Crystal White** (chair), **Andrew Moore**, **Regan Bullers**, **Julie Jacobs** (scribe), **Kay Sparks**, [one vacant seat]

Liaisons: **Wendy Miller** (Board of Trustees), **Lisa Ramsey** (Town staff)

Guests: **Lisa Bitzer** (Via transportation); **Lynette Anderson**

Welcome / introductions / roll call; determine who is taking minutes.

Crystal motions, Julie seconds to start the meeting.

Jennifer Schwartz has informed Crystal that she is resigning from the Commission.

Approve minutes from previous meetings. Kay motioned to approve, Crystal seconded, minutes were approved.

**New Agenda Items**

1. Quick review of rules before starting meeting.
2. Formally elect a secretary/ scribe – Julie Jacobs formally elected to be the scribe. Also elected Kay Sparks as Vice-Chair.
3. 3:45 Welcome Lisa Bitzer to talk about Via transportation programs – Explanation of what Via does. Provides services throughout Boulder County. Not highly used in Lyons, first come, first served. Drivers will assist people getting into the vehicles and to their location. Services on Tuesdays 8-4:30 in Lyons or going to Longmont; Wed and Fri 9 – 1 within Lyons (they do AVR, but not Allenspark, and anything within the town limits, must be within BoCo). They are open to the public for Lyons because we are a rural area, but main focus is 60+ or people with disabilities. They also plan to put in a bid for service from Lyons to Boulder. Outside of BoCo, people can apply for Family and Friends reimbursement program. 303-444-3043 is the number to call to reserve a ride, can book up to 7 days in advance. There is an online portal as well and can schedule up to 11 days in advance. Can create a standing ride for seniors to attend lunches at Walt Self and it can go a little past 1:00. [lbitzer@viacolorado.org](mailto:lbitzer@viacolorado.org) 303-473-2885.



4. Revisit Everbridge/Smart911 community education opportunities. Haven't yet followed up with Fire Chief on partnering with them to get people signed up for this. We can attend Walt Self lunches to get people signed up. Should we have an article in the local papers? Email blast from the town? Maybe wait until we hear from Fire Dept to have something scheduled for public workshops. CenturyLink land lines are automatically enrolled, so this is really for people with cell phones or wifi phones. Find out about Larimer County options as well, will be different than BoCo alerts. (LETA911)
5. Gather information about the unsafe houses in Lyons and what the BOT would like us to come up with. Create educational materials for tenants and share with the BOT. 2 sets of materials, one for landlords, one for tenants. Create a subcommittee to address this? Kay and Julie can work on some guidance, email any resources to one of them. Need to consider if filing a complaint would lead to someone losing their home because it turns out it is not habitable. What is the balance here? Are there any funds available to help with this and get properties improved rather than getting people evicted? First step – look at what other small communities have done to strike this balance and report back to the group next month.

#### Updates on human services areas

1. Diversity, inclusivity, cultural issues - no update
2. Health & well-being – no update
3. Housing – subcommittee created to work on area of safe housing – Julie and Kay will do research and report back to the Commission.
4. Lyons Emergency Assistance Fund (LEAF) & Lyons Volunteers – LEAF has applied to take over the Depot space and build a building on the side of the property to build the food pantry and would move out of the Lyons Community Church. Is there a role for HHSC to support this request?
5. Lyons Goodwill Fund – There are no grant applications yet, due on Feb. 15, Lisa will reach out to prior recipients to see if they want to apply. Only 1 organization has turned in the report so they can't apply until they have done so. Voted to extend the deadline to Feb. 28.
6. Medical Services – no update
7. Mental Health – no update
8. Resiliency & preparedness – working on Everbridge/Smart 911
9. Transportation including zTrip – discussed Via rides above.
10. Youth services – no update
11. Older Adult services – Kathleen Spring attended briefly to discuss her older adult service outreach, wants to provide opportunities for older adults to socialize and create community. Has a monthly newsletter she sends to about 200 older adults. Wanted to let us know she is available if we need updates or information about older adult services. Would like us to summarize accomplishments and goals periodically and submit to her. We already do an annual report, can do an as-needed report if needed. She will send the newsletter to Julie Jacobs to keep us informed of what is going on. (coloradocathy@yahoo.com)