

Attachment 25 – Additional Correspondence Regarding Hospitality House Use Permit Modification

John Carl Porter
45351 South Caspar Dr.
Mendocino, CA 95460
(707) 964-8884

City Planning, City of Fort Bragg
416 North Franklin
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

August 22, 2017

Re: Hospitality House

Dear Members of the City Planning Committee:

I appear today to support Hospitality House in their efforts to feed the homeless at the level they are operating now.

My wife and I managed a homeless meal program for thirteen years at the First Presbyterian Church in Berkeley. We provided a meal two Saturdays a month. Other groups and a semi public agency covered the other days.

By “managed” I mean we arranged for the chefs who directed the helpers who did most of the preparation and serving. The helpers were people from various groups within the church who wished to participate in the homeless meal program. My wife and I coordinated those church groups. We also were present to assist at every meal for about ten years. We served from 150 to 200 people at each meal.

I tell you this because I want you to know I am fully acquainted with the problems one meets in serving the homeless. Most are fine people who have had a tragedy in their lives that put them on the street. Some are difficult to deal with. Even a few people in our church wanted nothing to do with them. You know all this. So I won't elaborate.

Hospitality House is a faith based group which has a religious duty to serve the poor. I know you recognize a civic duty to serve the poor as well. I know you also recognize the rights of neighbors who might be impacted by the operations of Hospitality House.

I understand a large issue is the possible limitation of the number of people to be served. While you will weigh the rights of neighbors, **please weigh heavily** the moral quandary the staff at Hospitality House will face if they are required to shut the door to the hungry when they have food available to feed them.

Imagine the scene when Jesus fed the 5000 (Matt 14: 13-21). What if a centurion appeared and said, "Jesus, you may have plenty of loaves and fishes, but Pilate has ruled you may only feed the first 1000!"

I do not assert that the rights and peace of the neighbors should be ignored, but we live in a complex society where every citizen has some duty to every other. So the neighbors of Hospitality House have some shared duty to feed the homeless- NOT a **VERY STRONG** duty like the staff and Board of HH. The neighbors, must, in some degree, recognize a collective civic duty to see the hungry homeless are not driven away.

Thank you for hearing me.

Very truly yours,

John Carl Porter

August 23, 2017

Dear Fort Bragg Planning Commissioners,

I want to thank you for your service to our community. I am writing to ask you **Not** to approve the request to modify the use permit for the Hospitality House. Please vote **no** and impose the appropriate fines on this organization for the use violations that are before you.

It is not appropriate for homeless services to be allowed in the Central Business District because it is the Scenic Corridor that requires Pedestrian Friendly uses in our small town that is trying to grow tourism as an industry. The nuisance violations cited in this procedure are not going to go away, they are the reality of providing services to this vulnerable and needy population. This is the main reason why homeless services do not belong in the Central Business District or in Residential Neighborhoods.

I have personally witnessed people representing the Hospitality House tell untruths at public meetings on several occasions. Please require proof and investigate what they present to you.

I have personally witnessed the nuisance and public safety violations- the ongoing and pervasive loitering, vagrancy, etc. I have been told by many of the business people and neighbors that they: clean up trash regularly, clean up human feces on their properties, watch people urinating and defecating in the alley ways and empty lots, witness people who are drunk vomiting on the streets and those who are psychotic acting out in threatening and hostile ways. People are afraid to walk downtown. Developmentally Disabled adults are being harassed walking home from work in the Central Business District and have to have aids meet them to keep them safe. The business community has had to install security cameras to insure the safety of their staff and clientele because of this. I no longer walk to town because it is unpleasant and intimidating because the homeless have no place to go during the day and the Central Business District has become their neighborhood. The truth in my statements is evident in the packet you have been presented with tonight.

In refusing this request you will be supporting the people who are homeless and disabled in our community. Packing 24 people into the second floor of a tiny house on McPherson Street that has no access for the elderly or disabled is both inhumane and unsafe. It appears that the Hospitality Center is ignoring the needs of these people and must be required to use the two units in the back (paid for with city grant dollars) for housing the homeless. Doing this will enable them to have more beds accessible to the disabled and a more humane and safe emergency housing situation.

Allowing them to keep the 34 beds they have on site will allow them to continue to leave the back units empty and force people to stay on flimsy bunk beds in the main house in rooms that do not accommodate disabled people with only one narrow stair case as an exit. This is an unsafe situation, especially if there was a fire. They do this only because it is more convenient for their staff, not the clients.

I have been in this house. If there was a fire it would be very difficult for the people staying there to get out. In fact residents would probably have to jump out of a window. Packing people into three small rooms also creates a hostile living environment for those who live there and this too is unsafe. The number of police calls is proof of this. I have been told by several men who have stayed there that they did not feel safe and were afraid when they lived there.

A safety evaluation by the Fire Marshall needs to be done before you make your decision on this permit change to reevaluate this situation for safety and to make a determination regarding how many beds or people can safely be housed in this emergency shelter. Please take your responsibility seriously as Commissioners and gather all the information you need to make the right decision in this situation.

In addition, the soup kitchen that they are running must be relocated. Do not allow them to continue to operate this at this site. Only the people staying in the shelter should be eating there. A soup kitchen of this capacity was never a part of their permit and adds to the unsafe components of this site. Elders, children and families do not stay there or eat there because it is unsafe because they allow actively using drug addicts and alcoholics on site. There are more appropriate places in the community that could provide this service.

Those children and elders who are exposed to this shelter that allows actively using addicts and alcoholics to stay there and use the soup kitchen are being put in harm's way and this too needs to change. Please support the safety of our elders and children and **do not allow this to continue**. Another site must be found to provide this service and this will reduce the nuisance this soup kitchen operation has caused in this neighborhood.

The number of police calls is proof of the unsafe environment at the Hospitality House and the need for the organization to make changes that include providing private security to manage this operation safely. Denying their request is all you can do to help facilitate a positive change in this unsafe and costly situation and help this organization get back on track with their mission to provide quality services to the homeless.

I am a retired social worker/counselor who served people in need for over 30 years. I live in Fort Bragg and raised a family here. I am committed to helping people and I know that we can do better.

Please do NOT approve this request. I believe that it is in the best interests of the clients and the community for you to deny this request.

I suggest that you revoke this permit with these conditions:

- give the organization one year to find another site that can accommodate more people and a soup kitchen
- enforce the existing permit and have them remove the excess beds for one year while they look for another site
- only allow the people who are staying at the shelter to eat there, shower there and do laundry there for one year
- require the organization to provide private security and install security cameras
- support finding another site for the soup kitchen that is more appropriate
- require the organization to allow people to be on site during the day
- give the organization the support of the city to help them obtain the funds and a viable plan to relocate and expand their services appropriately

This is a change that I believe the entire community can support and a change that will help this organization find their way back to their original mission which is to provide quality services to those in need.

This is the change that we need in our Central Business District to support our pedestrian friendly scenic corridor and grow the tourist industry according to the Municipal Code and Community Development Plan.

Thank you for your time and your service,
Anne Marie Cesario
Registered Voter in the City of Fort Bragg

Planning Commission
C/O Marie Jones
Community Development Director

Dear Planning Commission,

This letter is in support of the Hospitality House and all the necessary services it provides to make our community a better place to live. Although, there are other issues that need to be addressed at a later date, this is a request to change the wording on the Hospitality House's current use permit, by changing the number of guests allowed to the number of beds needed. No one is asking to allow more guests. What is needed is the ability to reconfigure the use of beds in unusual and emergency situations. We are encouraging you to do this, as it will simplify many problems for all involved.

We are all so lucky to have a bed and a meal for ourselves and our families. Let us join together and work with the only organization that is doing something about these universal problems.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Sally and Lee Welty

From: Anne Maureen McKeating <annemaureen.mckeating@gmail.com>
Date: August 22, 2017 at 9:15:16 AM PDT
To: elwood Peters <linwood24@hotmail.com>, bnorvell@mcn.org, cimolino@att.net, Dave Turner <davet@flobeds.com>, wlee@mcdh.net
Subject: Hospitality House and the corner of Redwood and McPherson - For the record

For the record, I am in complete support for services for those in need, and have an extensive history of volunteer work with those challenged with issues of poverty, addiction and mental illness. I also have sat on the board of an organization that does this work for over 3 years.

The management of a segment of the population who use Fort Bragg's Hospitality House is problematic. As a victim of harassment, arson, and the defilement of property, I have to ask, isn't there a better location where services can be consolidated? Should there be a shift in management? Is it possible to practice harm reduction at the shelter so that the neighbourhood does not have to deal with the fall out around transients who are drunk, high and in some cases up to no good (i.e.: arson, name calling, defecation etc.) ? I have travelled solo to many places in the world and for the first time, I feel the need to carry pepper spray.

It seems that the female business owners on E Redwood are not being heard. If the council and/or the management of hospitality house had any capacity for critical thinking, they would understand that women experience harassment differently than the men who have businesses in the area. This is not to suggest that women are somehow weaker, but to inform you that many of the transients at the corner of Redwood and McPherson are far more comfortable harassing and/or aiming their rancour at women than they are men. It's called systemic ingrained sexism.

This situation calls not for sides but for listening and innovation. I ask that you consider our concerns as we are the ones who are attempting to bring new life to E Redwood.

Best Regards,

Anne Maureen McKeating c/o the Estate of Heather Brown
311 N McPherson / 225 E. Redwood

To: Planning Commission Members
c/o Marie Jones, community Development Director

My name is Cathy Karabensh. I live in Mendocino, but shop and regularly spend money in Fort Bragg. As a resident for 17 years, I am aware of the increasing presence of homeless people in our coastal areas. I don't believe they are homeless and hungry because they want to be. I applaud the many volunteers of Hospitality House who are housing and feeding people who have these temporary, basic human needs. That a vocal minority is lashing out at Hospitality House is appalling and distressing to me. I absolutely support that Hospitality House be able to bed 24 persons daily. That the number of "beds" needed will rise and fall according to the needs of the clients is obvious. The fact that Hospitality House provides breakfast and dinner at such reasonable hours is honorable and commendable. These volunteers need coastal support, not derision. If not Hospitality House, then who? Will the City of Fort Bragg take over these services? I think not.

Sincerely, Cathy Karabensh
Mendocino resident who shops locally, in Fort Bragg

To: Fort Bragg Planning Commission Members
c/o Marie Jones, Community Development Director

As the hub of most commerce and services for the entire Mendocino Coast, what happens in Fort Bragg does not stay in Fort Bragg. It has an effect on my business — and those of other owners of stores/shops, galleries or professional public or private services in Fort Bragg — even though we may not live within the city limits. That's only one reason why people like me who live outside the voting area are concerned about what happens in *our* city. It effects all of us on the coast.

I am a strong supporter of the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center. I am writing to urge Planning Commission Members to allow the Hospitality House Center the flexibility of room usage for 24 people to be able to stay overnight in their facility — and also to continue to feed them, in such numbers, as needed. The Center serves families, as well as individuals. Sometimes they have all men, sometimes women & men who need to be separated, and sometimes, they have families with children. Occasionally, a newborn is brought by a woman with no family support. In order to serve this diverse and constantly changing group, they must have enough beds to reconfigure the 24 people allowed. Therefore I am asking you to please count the people staying in the shelter, not the beds.

Without the compassionate support of volunteers, the homeless situation in Fort Bragg would be much worse. My concern is that the city's economic liability, the over-use of resources and services -- at the hospital, police department and other places — without this extraordinary support center, would be severely effected. If Hospitality House is not allowed to feed and house these people, who will and where? Costs to Fort Bragg might include: more begging, loitering, theft, other destructive crimes, public health issues and potentially more negative impacts on city resources.

Thank you for your consideration.
Sincerely,

Rachel Binah
Post Office Box 464
Little River, California 95456
707-937-3227
rachel@mcn.org

Fort Bragg City Planning Commission

c/o Marie Jones

City of Fort Bragg

416 N. Franklin Street

Fort Bragg, CA 95437

August 22, 2017

Ref: Potential Violations of Use Permit at the Hospitality House

Members of the Fort Bragg Planning Commission,

I am in support of the Hospitality House programs operating at 237 N. McPherson Street in Fort Bragg and being a past client myself four years ago, I do not know what I would have done without their services. I suffered from alcoholism and drug abuse which only progressed over a 35-year period. Due to messing my life up so bad that my youngest daughter and I became homeless. I lost my home through an ugly, violent divorce and moved back to Fort Bragg from Oregon, lost several jobs and became unemployable. My youngest daughter was taken away, and my oldest would not even let me attend her wedding and I was so ashamed that I finally had a mental break down and became very suicidal. A case manager from the Hospitality Center stopped me as I was on my way to do just that and told me to either go to Mental Health to an emergency appointment she set up for me or she would call law enforcement on me, so I managed to make my way there somehow.

It was the Hospitality House that helped me get back on my feet, be able to overcome my addictions, work on my mental health issues and become employable once again. The programs they have can help people change their lives and become productive citizens in the community again, if they do the work. I saw the opportunity and gratefully accepted it, but not without a lot of hard work on my part and by staying clean and sober. MCHC's staff encouragement and guidance, along with the fantastic services and opportunities they provide in dealing with mental illness is what kept me going and gave me determination to be able to finally give back to my community as well as have the opportunity to help others just like myself. I have been in mental health & addiction recovery for four ½ years and take 1 non-narcotic medication for my mental illness and no longer live with a horrible, life-long pit in my stomach nor have seizures anymore. I have been through every program from the Hospitality House, to Transitional Housing to getting my own apartment with a supportive housing voucher and within 9 months gave up my voucher and rented a place on my own with my 83-year-old mother who has a rare kidney disease called "Wegener's Granulomatosis" and has to be on dialysis 3 days a week as she is in the end stage of renal failure. My youngest daughter, now 21 yrs. old, whom I lost at age 13 yrs. old, came home to live with me 3 years ago and is still with my mom and I.

I am forever grateful and honored to say that today I am a part of MCHC's Executive Staff and have worked my way through each department and have been given this opportunity to help serve those who need these services so desperately. I have studied during my 4 – ½ years with MCHC in the following mental health areas:

13-month certificate as a Peer Provider in mental health

NAMI Peer-to-Peer Group facilitator certification

NAMI Connections Group facilitator certification

Certified WRAP facilitator

Recently I have been presented with Assemblyman Jim Wood's Community Champion Award and this fall will be attending a 1 yr. certification class at the College of Mendocino in Human Services and plan to continue my studies for an Associates degree.

Not only is it the homeless that benefit from the services at the Hospitality House but those with very low income that can barely make it through the month on social security and do not have to go hungry. I am proud and honored to see that our community, the community I was born and raised in, has such wonderful services to take care of our homeless, elderly, mentally ill and low-income citizens. To even think that there are those in the community that want to take away these services for our neediest citizens just makes me ill inside, and literally breaks my heart to think people in the community want to get rid of these needed services. I believe the impact on our Law Enforcement, the Emergency Room and local businesses would be worse than we could ever imagine if these services were taken away.

Sincerely,



Kristina Harju, Programs Manager

Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center

August 21, 2017

Members of the Fort Bragg Planning Commission,

I write in the strongest support of the Hospitality House programs, operated at 237 N. McPherson Street in Fort Bragg.

Hospitality House homeless shelter has been providing services in the coastal community for thirty-one years. Hospitality House, and its nonprofit the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center (MCHC), is a reliable, professional committed member of the Mendocino County Continuum of Care for the Homeless. Fort Bragg is fortunate to have the Hospitality House homeless shelter open every day of the year and not to have experienced the struggles that have happened inland to open a winter shelter the last few years. Our community needs the Hospitality House.

The shelter, meals, laundry and showers offered are at the heart of the safety net of care for people in desperate need in the coastal community. Without the services of the Hospitality House, the financial burdens to the Emergency Room and Police Department would increase.

Hospitality House has many rules and policies in place to control any negative behaviors. If these rules need to be amended, enforced or reinforced then the best solution is dialogue and assistance. I believe

the Hospitality House staff have shown themselves to be conscientious and aspire to be the best of community partners.
I am grateful for the essential work that MCHC's Hospitality House does to serve my neighbors without homes.

Respectfully,
Tanya Smart
17660 Redwood Springs Drive
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

From: joan burleigh [mailto:joanburleigh@gmail.com]
Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 2:22 PM
To: Jones, Marie
Subject: letter to planning commission in support of Hospitality House

To the planning commission members:

I am writing to encourage you to vote against modifying Hospitality House's Use permit.
I am co-founder of Art Explorers and was co-director of that non-profit when we moved to our current site at 305 E. Redwood in 2006 and continued in that position for the next 8 years and still work for that organization part-time.

Art Explorers is located a scant half block from the Hospitality House and during the past 11 years we have never had any problems with the people who receive services from Hospitality House. Two other Art Explorer Board members, Carole White and Mara Thomas have written excellent letters to you so I feel no need to go over everything they have said, all of which I heartily agree with. The only thing I would strongly request you look into is Mara's information about the Portland loo .

There is a strong need for an outdoor bathroom that both the tourists and the homeless can use. Hospitality House is doing a great job of helping people in need. One never knows when tragedy would strike and leave any one of us needing help. I feel proud that Hospitality House is in our town. I strongly urge you not to decrease their use permit.

Thank you.

Sincerely,
Joan Burleigh

August 23, 2017

Fort Bragg Planning Commission
City of Fort Bragg
416 N. Franklin Street
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

RE: Hospitality House Use Permit Modification (USP 9-03/17)

Gentlepeople:

I am writing in support of Hospitality House and urge the Planning Commission and the City Council to approve the Modified Permit as negotiated.

As a new resident and homeowner in Fort Bragg, I have been aware since my arrival of the unfortunate number of homeless and itinerant individuals on the streets of Fort Bragg proper.

I am also aware that the City, as a community as well as a municipal administration, has consigned to Hospitality House the task of providing meals, emergency housing, and support services for this homeless population, a daunting and thankless task at best.

I have become aware through conversations with residents and business owners that the presence of so many itinerant and often emotionally damaged people in the central business district presents challenges to residents, owners, the public health and the goal of making the Central Business District an attractive opportunity for tourists.

From what I can gather, this Use Permit Modification before the Planning Commission is the result of complaints that Hospitality House has on occasion exceeded the parameters of its Use Permit, as well as impacts on the immediate community of the McPherson Street facility. I have read the Permit, including modifications, as posted with the meeting agenda, as well as skimming the 50 pages of letters both supporting and opposing the application.

Before declaring my support for Hospitality House's negotiated Use Permit Modification, let me say that I was homeless in the past, some 40 years ago, and it was the caring of people, including strangers, that allowed me to rebuild my life. Homelessness today is different from 40 years ago. The epidemic of economic depression and malaise, self-medication, loss of mental health and support services have all contributed to a more or less permanent population of emotionally damaged individuals who have to a greater or lesser extent accepted their fate of living day to day, with no idea about where they will be or how they will survive tomorrow.

Many cities and communities have taken the stance that "if we make it hard for them here, they will go somewhere else," forgetting or ignoring the fact that for other cities or communities, theirs is somebody else's "someplace else". With a climate as livable as Fort Bragg's, making the lives of the homeless difficult is only inviting a backlash, something some of our businesses, unfortunately, are discovering. The first principal to the solution to the homelessness epidemic is not making their lives difficult so they go away, but treatment, redirection and integration. There will be no "final solution" to the homeless epidemic, short of a major economic re-adjustment in favor of those toward the bottom of the economic ladder. But there are processes and strategies to mitigate the impact of the homeless population on the community while providing services that empower homeless people to rebuild their lives.

Hospitality House's services are integral, but not sufficient, in addressing the homeless population in our community. The glaring absence of any CBD restroom facilities, after the restrooms at Town Hall are locked in the evening, is a direct cause of many of the incidents of urination and defecation. Given the choice between ignominiously soiling one's pants, or dropping them, the choice is obvious. The City of Fort Bragg needs to site and install one or more 24/7 public restrooms in the CBD, one preferably within easy walking distance of Hospitality House.

In the long term, additional strategies need to be developed. Measure B on the November Ballot would provide funds for mental health services so desperately needed by the homeless population. Many cities are using public service, "on the spot" day labor as a way to help homeless individuals regain a work ethic and sense of self-efficacy. Medical "street workers" who bring basic medical services to the homeless where they are is another way of beginning the process of restoring dignity. Employing recently homeless individuals in recovery, to operate as street counselors, guides and mediators is another.

In the short term, Fort Bragg needs to re-affirm its commitment to Hospitality House. For the longer term, Fort Bragg needs to conduct an open minded investigation toward creating a comprehensive approach to homelessness in our community. As a community issue, they will not be going away, and we need to recognize that what is good for them in the long term may also be best for us.

Please approve this Permit Modification. Also, please initiate a comprehensive review toward developing a system-wide approach to homelessness in Fort Bragg.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James Jade Tippett". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "James" being the most prominent.

James Jade Tippett

-----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Sunday, August 20, 2017 11:37 AM

To: Peters, Lindy (Personal); Norvell, Bernie; Cimolino, Michael (Personal); Dave Turner; Will Lee; Desmond, Debbie; Oneal, Thomas; CDD User; Jones, Marie; Ruffing, Linda

Subject: Fort Bragg City Council

8-20-2017

Fort Bragg City Council,

I am continuing to have issues with the services related to the Hospitality House located at 237 N. McPherson Street in Fort Bragg.

The MTA benches that are located across from Flo Beds on Redwood Ave, are continuing to be a safety hazard for the neighborhood. Hospitality House clients, are waiting for services during the day and they are hanging out on the benches. I am extremely concerned that drugs and alcohol are being shared, hidden and consumed at both benches, as well as having large groups gathering, making it unavailable for anyone wanting to use the benches, to wait for the bus. I have also witnessed people crossing the street to avoid the large groups at both benches.

There is often garbage left behind.

I am attaching photos of Hospitality House clients waiting for services, such as food, at the bench located on Redwood Ave across the street from Flo Beds.

A few days ago, it appeared the Hospitality House put a sofa out in the alley directly behind their building. Shortly after they put the sofa out, one of their clients who is continuing to have violent outbursts in the neighborhood, was sleeping on the sofa, while waiting for services.

I am attaching a picture of their client sleeping on the sofa- This is the same client I sent a video in of a few weeks back, he threw a rock or object at a car screaming the "N" word on Redwood Ave, it could have hit a citizen walking by. He was at the MTA bench a few days later, across from Flo Beds pacing, passed out and pacing again throughout the day. He was seen having a violent outburst 2 days ago in the Purity parking lot. This same man was also sitting on the steps of a residential neighbor, waiting for Hospitality Center to open. I am concerned for the safety of citizens while he is in the neighborhood waiting for services.

I previously tried working the Hospitality House for a year. I did not make any progress. I believe if they put the sofa out in the alley it shows the lack of consideration for the neighbors and neighborhood including safety issues. It also shows lack of communication with the employees on safety issues for the neighborhood.

I would also like to inform the Fort Bragg Police Department that there are large groups of Hospitality House clients gathering in the parking lot corner, located on the corner of Redwood Ave and McPherson Street. They lean up against the private fence and Flo Bed's building.

It appears that Flo Beds does not have any windows on that side of their entire building and has become a place where hidden behind cars, they can hang out. I am requesting extra patrol in that parking lot as well.

*I am requesting that Fort Bragg City Council contact MTA and have the benches removed, if the problems continue.

* I am requesting help from the Fort Bragg City Council to help the Hospitality House set guidelines that make this neighborhood safe for all citizens.

* I am requesting their policy for violent clients waiting in the neighborhood for services, such as food, be shared with neighbors and Fort Bragg City Council so we all know who to contact and what they will be doing to keep the neighborhood safe. I am attaching photos of items left behind from Hospitality House clients while waiting for services, such as food.

* I am requesting Hospitality House provide extra security including cameras, placed in the back parking lot of their property, along with extra security for the neighborhood. Our Police Department should not be their personal security system they rely on, for the problems their clients are causing in the neighborhood while they are waiting for services, such as food. I am requesting the Hospitality House be contacted and asked to *not* leave furniture in the alley. I am also attaching a picture of a chair left directly behind Hospitality House in the alley.

I am attaching a video of me calling dispatch so you can see how disruptive it is for my business, imagine if you were my customer, how would your shopping experience be, especially not wanting to walk back out to your car with the risk of being yelled at, and you can see how stressful it is. Would you choose to order your product on line next time, if you were my customer? This is having a negative impact on my business and quality of life. I am now so stressed out from all of the violent outbursts and I am worried every day. I show up to work and I am worried I will have to witness an outburst and/or drug and alcohol use from Hospitality House clients. I am attaching a video of the man that had the violent outburst in the previous video, show up in the morning at the MTA bench, you will notice in morning his pace is slow, he then passes out on the bench, which I have a picture of, then in the second video, in the afternoon his pace becomes much different. It is always scary not knowing what to expect from clients waiting for services and this job should not be put on neighbors of Hospitality House, to try to figure out someone's state of mind while waiting for services, such as food.

In addition to the photos of the MTA bench in front of Flo Beds, I am also attaching a photo of drugs being left behind on our property located on Franklin Street last week. There have also been calls to the Police Department from this location for violent outbursts last week from a Hospitality House client. My family can be contacted at 964-8889 to answer any questions.

If you have any questions for me, please contact me at 962-1651.

Thank you,



Trash behind HH



Chair behind HH



Drugs at HH



Trash left at bench by HH clients



People waiting for HH meals



Man sleeping @ bus stop



Man sleeping in HH coach in alley



People waiting for HH meals

-----Original Message-----

From: Oneal, Thomas

Sent: Monday, August 21, 2017 6:16 AM

To: Peters, Lindy (Personal); Norvell, Bernie; Cimolino, Michael (Personal); Dave Turner; Will Lee; Desmond, Debbie; CDD User; Jones, Marie; Ruffing, Linda

Subject: RE: Fort Bragg City Council

While I cannot respond to some of your requests to City Council I can provide some clarification regarding the videos, images and issues that you submitted. The individual in the videos pacing back and forth is Cody Furline. I recently met with the Hospitality House Administrator, Laura Anderson, and Executive Board Members Lynelle and Gary Johnson, regarding improving the lines of communication between the Hospitality House/Center and the Fort Bragg Police Department. During that meeting, I believe Laura informed me that she had spoken with you by phone regarding Cody causing a disturbance outside of your business. Laura stated that she responded by temporarily banning Cody from the Hospitality House. If Cody is again seen causing a disturbance in the area please let us know so that we can assist in addressing it. While it is not your responsibility to know Cody by name, it does help our officers locate him since we are all familiar with him.

As of the time of this e-mail, the sofa and chair in question has been relocated to the Hospitality House' dumpster area. I will pass the issue along to our dayshift personnel so they can check to ensure that it does not return to the alley.

I will forward your extra patrol request to our patrol officers regarding transients loitering in the parking lot to the east of FloBeds. Additionally, I will reach out to the owner of that parking lot in an attempt to obtain a trespassing letter. This will provide our officers increased authority to police that private parking lot.

I do not currently have an answer regarding the issues with loitering at the MTA Bus Stops on the corner of E Redwood Avenue and N McPherson Street, however the issue was specifically addressed at the above mentioned meeting. The issue of loitering at the benches is a sort of legal gray area, since the benches are on public sidewalks. One option we are exploring is the Hospitality House temporarily or permanently banning clients who loiter at the benches despite law enforcement and staff warnings.

As always, feel free to contact me with any questions or issues. I will be returning to a dayshift in the coming weeks so you will see more of me. Additionally, I appreciate the information, photos, and videos you have provided over the last year. They have been an invaluable tool in documenting the ongoing issues.

Respectfully,

Officer Thomas N. O'Neal

Badge #56

Fort Bragg Police Department

Fort Bragg, CA

(707) 961-2800 ext. 167

(707) 964-0200 (non-emergency dispatch)

toneal@fortbragg.com

TO: Fort Bragg Planing Commission
c/o Marie Jones

FROM: Cliff and Joy Shaw
Mendocino, CA

RE: Hospitality Center

We are writing on behalf of the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center to appeal the City of Fort Bragg's Notice of Potential Type VI "Notice of Violation" pertaining to MCHC operation.

MCHC has provided and continues to provide a much needed service to our community! Hot food and safe sleeping arrangements are just part of their mission. In order to house 24 guests, there needs to be flexibility to reconfigure sleeping arrangements for the guests. By increasing the number of beds to 32, they will be able to continue to house 24 guests safely. We urge you to allow this flexibility.

As all are aware, homelessness is not unique to our coastal region. To provide a safe and secure environment for those less fortunate than many of us on the coast, Hospitality Center has made it their mission to provide for the less fortunate among us. For well over 30 years, Hospitality Center has consistently stayed the course of no drugs nor alcohol, and have fed and provided safe housing for thousands who have needed their services, including individuals as well as families with small children.

We hope that the Fort Bragg Planning Commission will take into account the good that has been and continues to be done by Hospitality Center. They have addressed and continue to address any complaints in order to be good neighbors. We hope the Planning Commission will support the good work done by MCHC as they continue their mission to help the less fortunate.

Cliff and Joy Shaw

From: Andrea Michelsen [mailto:andimichel@sbcglobal.net]
Sent: Tuesday, August 15, 2017 11:49 AM
To: Jones, Marie
Cc: admin@mendocinochc.org
Subject: Please share with the Planning Commission

I am writing in support of Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center's goal of continuing to serve the homeless in Fort Bragg and surrounding communities. They have a long track record of humane service to the homeless and I believe that it is all our interest to see it continue. I am confident that this group can remedy any deficiencies of concern to the City of Fort Bragg. Please consider working with them, and remember that closure will negatively impact the most vulnerable among us. For the record, my husband and I are property owners in Fort Bragg.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,
Andrea Michelsen

From: Arlene Moorehead [mailto:alm@mcn.org]
Sent: Monday, August 14, 2017 11:13 AM
To: Jones, Marie
Subject: Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center

To: Planning Commission Members
Marie Jones, Community Development Director

Re: Hospitality Center Hearing August 23, 2017

We have lived on the coast since 1989, operate a business in Mendocino and support various organizations in the area including the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center.

We donate clothing, bedding, towels, blankets and other items to MCHC when we can. We drop them off at the center and I can say that everyone is so pleasant, appreciative and welcoming to us. We need more services of this type, not less. The Old Coast Hotel was vacant for years and now is a very successful operation providing a great service to the community and to it's clients.

We view the center as safe and supportive temporary housing for mothers, children and others down on their luck. By providing hot meals to those in need it provides a vital service to those that would otherwise go without or be encouraged to beg on the streets of Fort Bragg. This is not a third world country, we should provide for those less fortunate than us by at least giving them some support and guidance to a better life.

Over the years we have seen the homeless situation increase and decrease depending on the economy and the services provided. At this point in time the services provided by the Hospitality Center at the Old Coast Hotel are desperately needed due to the lack of housing for the homeless and the state of the economy.

We support the continuation of their use permit and their mission. Do not let the negative voices of a few overshadow the voices of the majority that support MCHC.

Sincerely,

Arlene and Jim Moorehead

-----Original Message-----

From: Linda Banta [mailto:lmbanta1@comcast.net]

Sent: Monday, August 14, 2017 10:59 AM

To: Jones, Marie

Subject: HH hearing

City Council members;

I would like to express my support for the work Hospitality House does in protecting and serving the homeless and poor in our community. They provide much needed emergency meals, temporary housing for the most needy individuals, and information about resources and opportunities. Their severe weather sheltering coordination is critical to those who have no other shelter in cold or wet conditions.

All of these services have been provided from their heart-felt belief that it is the responsibility of all who can to help those who are unable, for whatever reasons, to have necessary food and shelter. These are the Christian things to do or, if you prefer, doing for others as you would want done for you in similar situations. I, and my church, have supported Hospitality House financially for several years - putting our \$ where our beliefs are.

Linda Banta, Fort Bragg resident

COMMITTEES

CHAIR: HEALTH
APPROPRIATIONS
BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONS
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT
NATURAL RESOURCES

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CHAIR: DIGITAL DIVIDE IN RURAL
CALIFORNIA
CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND
BUILDING A 21ST CENTURY WORKFORCE
WINE

Assembly
California Legislature



JIM WOOD
ASSEMBLYMEMBER, SECOND DISTRICT

STATE CAPITOL
P.O. BOX 942849
SACRAMENTO, CA 94249-0002
(916) 319-2002
FAX (916) 319-2102

DISTRICT OFFICES
50 D STREET, SUITE 450
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 576-2526
FAX (707) 576-2297

710 E STREET, SUITE 150
EUREKA, CA 95501
(707) 445-7014
FAX (707) 455-6607

200 S SCHOOL STREET, SUITE D
UKIAH, CA 95482
(707) 462-5770
FAX (707) 463-5773

August 8, 2017

Fort Bragg City Planning Commission
c/o Marie Jones
City of Fort Bragg
416 N. Franklin St.
Fort Bragg, CA 95437

Dear Members of the Planning Commission:

I write in strong support of the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center (MCHC) and the Hospitality House programs operated at 237 N. McPherson Street in Fort Bragg.

As I travel throughout the 2nd Assembly District, I am concerned by the increases I see in the homeless population in all of our communities. Many of these communities do not have the resources provided by the MCHC and the difference is notable. Where there is no shelter or system in place, a much larger and more serious situation tends to develop and resolving the problems can be more difficult.

I believe that Fort Bragg is fortunate to have an organization providing crucial services such as daily shelter, meals, laundry and showers to the homeless population. While I recognize that this type of facility comes with inherent issues, I am confident that MCHC and the Planning Commission will be able to come to an agreement that will benefit the Fort Bragg community.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim Wood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal line extending from the end.

JIM WOOD
Assemblymember, 2nd District



Wendy Pollock
45341 Mar Vista Drive
P. O. Box 24
Mendocino, CA 95460
wendyp@mcn.org
707-936-7010

August 12, 2017

Dear Ms. McCormick,

I am writing in regards to the hearing concerning the permit for the Hospitality House on August 23rd, 2017

I am a property owner of 306 Redwood and 242 N. McPherson.

It is my experience that the Hospitality House performs a great service to our community and to the clients it serves. Not only is it a safe and supportive haven for those qualified residents, but it also provides hot meals to needy and homeless citizens.

The clientele of Hospitality House has not compromised or abused our property!!!

As a neighbor, I support the work and outreach of Hospitality House. And I understand that some of the complaints have extenuating circumstances that need to be clarified. Hospitality House has reached out to be community friendly and conscientious.

I strongly support the continuation of their use permit and their work in our neighborhood!!!!

Sincerely yours,



Wendy Pollock

ARLENE L. MOOREHEAD
P.O.Box 952
Mendocino, CA 95460
707.937.4828
alm@mcn.org

August 14, 2017

To: Planning Commission Members
Marie Jones, Community Development Director

Re: Hospitality Center Hearing August 23, 2017

We have lived on the coast since 1989, operate a business in Mendocino and support various organizations in the area including the Mendocino Coast Hospitality Center.

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Over the years we have seen the homeless situation increase and decrease depending on the economy and the services provided. At this point in time the services provided by the Hospitality Center at the Old Coast Hotel are desperately needed due to the lack of housing for the homeless and the state of the economy.

We support the continuation of their use permit and their mission. Do not let the negative voices of a few overshadow the voices of the majority that support MCHC.

Sincerely,



Arlene and Jim Moorehead

August 5, 2017

City of Fort Bragg
Planning Commission
363 N Main St.
Fort Bragg, Ca 95437

Dear Teresa Rodriquez, Nancy Swithenbank, Stan Miklose, Mark Hannon and Curtis Bruchler:

I'm writing to voice my feelings regarding the Hospitality House, I'm afraid I won't get a chance to talk at the Aug 23 meeting.

I've changed my drug store from CVS to Mendo Coast Pharmacy because I'm tired of seeing street people sitting on the sidewalk in front of CVS asking for handouts. I can't go into the Post Office after hours or on weekends to mail a bill in because the doors are locked due to street people and I'm afraid to drop it in box outside for fear of it getting stolen. My hairdresser is right down town but when I'm in the shop we have to keep our purse right next to us and feel like locking the door because of some of the people that loiter around. I see pop up tents here and there offering free cell phones to the homeless. There are many other services available to them such as food, dog meds, toys, dog beds, flea meds etc. Cloths and blankets are readily available to them. In other words we are enabling them to be homeless. All they need to do is beg for spending money.

There are many help wanted signs and jobs available but none of these people want to work. The truly needy and willing to work people can easily get the help they need. Social Services, neighbors, family and friends will help these kind of people. The ones who want to be on the street are taking advantage of the free services and have no intention of changing their lifestyle.

Fort Bragg has a real chance of coming back because of tourism. Logging and fishing are gone, please don't spoil the tourism for us. We need it. Tourists don't like seeing street people with their dogs and dreadlocks loitering and begging. They will stop coming here if we can't stop the homeless from being downtown.

Please don't allow the Hospitality House to increase their bed size. Don't make Fort Bragg a haven for the homeless.

Thank You,

Sharon meyer
32550 Boice Lane
Fort Bragg, CA 9537
964-0678

Sharon meyer