

From: Cheryl Graves
To: Moore-Love, Karla
Subject: Re: Council Meeting in debt public golf courses and homelessness
Date: Monday, June 17, 2019 5:53:29 PM

Hello Karla,

Thank you for your prompt and informative message. I must have misunderstood the timelines while getting to know the City Council and yourself, Council Clerk. I would be glad to accept the August 28th position for the 9:30 AM meeting. How should I go forward? Shall I resend the information at a later time or do you keep it for later and or send it onto the Council as you see best?

I shall be attending 1 monthly meeting for around one year or more. I have been asked to write a book on Portland's homelessness and several related issues. The in-depth study and story along with a fool-proof recovery solution has turned out to be at times overwhelming but engaging and exciting. This book will be submitted for a documentary on these subjects and I am tasked to get the word out and to gain the best advice of promoting change in the greater Portland area. Because I am a native to Portland and love my city I was honored to be invited into the film, it has been my passion for quite some time.

Do you have a recommendation for being allowed a 3 minute space per month, I will need to cover all the Portland crisis prior to the filming?

No misunderstanding, I wrote this book because I love Portland, a friend told a friend and then I was asked about the film. The book and the film is secondary to the plan to offer a better life choice to thousands of misplaced people, especially the children.

The extensive mailing should begin very soon, so check your mail.

I look forward to meeting you,
Cheryl Graves
503-313-3556

On Mon, Jun 17, 2019 at 3:15 PM Moore-Love, Karla <Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov> wrote:

Hello Ms. Graves,

Unfortunately, you have to sign up in advance to speak during our Communications portion of the Portland City Council agenda. All five spots are taken for June 19th and the next available is August 21 but, Mayor Wheeler and Commissioner Fish are absent, or August 28, currently all members are attending.

Please let me know if you would like to speak during one of the available August dates and if you want me to forward your testimony to all members of the City Council today.

Regards,

Karla



Karla Moore-Love

Council Clerk | City of Portland

1221 SW 4th Avenue, Room 130, Portland, OR 97204

(503) 823-4086

www.portlandoregon.gov/auditor/councilclerk



NOTICE: The Council Clerk's Office (Room 130) is temporarily closed due to construction. Please visit Room 310 on the 3rd floor to drop off Council documents or to sign up for a Communication spot.

From: Cheryl Graves <cherylduboisgraves@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, June 17, 2019 2:57 PM

To: Council Clerk – Testimony <CCTestimony@portlandoregon.gov>; Moore-Love, Karla <Karla.Moore-Love@portlandoregon.gov>

Subject: Council Meeting in debt public golf courses and homelessness

Please add this to your agenda for June 19th. I am hoping for an early time for I will be on my way to work leaving the downtown by 10:45. Is there a place I can view confirmation that there is time for my presentation?

Page 1 is my subject and will complete in 3 minute. The 5 pages that follow include further detail.

Thank you,

Cheryl Dubois Graves

1400 SW Miller CT

Gresham, Or. 97080

Good Morning Portland City Council and Concerned Oregonians, Meeting 9:30 August 28, 2019

My name is Cheryl Graves and as a native Oregonian I have a lifetime investment and protective love for my city, Portland.

My vision is to shift the energy from nonfunctioning homeless individuals into productive-thriving-families and communities by way of a group called *YES! My Life Matters, The Homeless Cure a Community Village*.

The Village life is not a handout, or a temporary fix

- but a job, life and personal skills development community surrounded by fellow people with like issues and positive role models.
- For this plan to succeed we must remove the lost people from the city streets, getting away from temptations and into safe caring surroundings.
- This manageable, all-inclusive village will be established for the unconventional persons, the lost, the recovering addict, returned war heroes and children and seniors at risk.

I am here today asking for 300-400 acres of land for the community grounds.

After reading about the troubled Public Golf Courses, possibly they might be the better plots. Either way I would be grateful, and these sites might have a broader use for a greater number of people, while at the same time helping this city to be clean and safe.

- Over the next five years we will move over 4000 homeless people, young and old off the streets forever. Following this, each person on the streets or at risk will have a home and a place of belonging.
- Portland will be a city of pride and accomplishment.

This land would be used for

- A recovery community for the homeless offering: safety, food, clothes, living quarters and a job
- The available jobs will begin in the form of school, on the job training, apprenticeship programs, village marketplace filled with goods from our gardens, orchards, farm, ranch and projects.

This community will eventually become self-supporting by its own labors and talents.

This life and personal-skills platform shall transform this community with the use of self-respect building programs. Portland is the perfect place to showcase this homeless solution to others.

It is a well thought through, common sense plan to be proud of.

This plan includes:

- Large and small animal care, gardening and landscaping, nursery stock and eco-systems, farming and orchards, wind, solar and peddle power fields, along with child and senior care programs.

With support from non-profits, philanthropist, Portland businesses, the City of Portland, (land) and caring citizens we will become independent from government money.

We will not be funded by city or state.

The soon to be skilled villagers will be paying income taxes.

By providing this all-inclusive community and grounds we will be better equipped to ensure future education, personal life and job skills with new ways to cope with life. The key to success is the all-inclusive nature of this plan.

These folks that need our help will **not** be on the streets or attempting to dash from one non-profit or city project to another while stopping at their neighborhood drug dealer for a fix.

This is an aggressive plan to produce a higher qualified job seeker and stronger Portland.

At the same time, we are placing our efforts into this new community, the streets of Portland can be clean and safe once again.

- No More people on the streets
- Hungry and cold children will be in safe and clean surrounding's.
- People will soon discover there is a place and a purpose for them.

A purpose that is interesting and engaging, filled with hope and direction offering a meaningful life that they can be proud of, with NO MORE HANDOUTS!

With your help this plan can become the one of the most rewarding and proud projects Oregon has ever backed.

I have included a detailed letter as well as access to my book, YES! My Life Matters, in hopes that you will fall in love with this fail-proof plan.

This is not

- a low-income community
- or low-income housing
- and no free food

But this is

- A community built on hard work, better education and skills training opportunities with positive goals.
- Every person will have a safe place to live while they learn to trust and become engaged in their future.
- The team leaders and mentors, will be there every minute, living and showing these frightened people that it's going to be OK.

A plan worth investing in. This plan does not provide housing and food but provides the necessary foundations to grow and produce eco-friendly crops and proteins along with the necessary tools to build their own homes and share workspace. This project-based learning program will revitalize lives and set boundaries to literally re-build this community. Read this book, it 77can change lives and change how our system can be redirected towards greatness again.

I ask that we set a meeting date at your convenience to go over the entire plan and identify why the other plans are not meeting the needs and how we can do it better.

This is a methodically thought out, common sense approach to helping people to learn to help themselves.

Thanks for your time,

Cheryl Graves

cheryl@yesmylifematters.com

Please read on for more detail

Cont...

Presently we have hundreds of groups providing help, including the city of Portland like, temporary showers and toilets at the cost of \$\$\$\$\$, providing a bed, clothes and a meal again to the cost of \$\$\$\$\$. We as a city including non-profits, philanthropist and governments have spent millions upon millions of dollars, with no real success, so essentially, we have spent millions of dollars, but have also lost years of valuable time not correcting this situation. Please STOP, wasting money on temporary band aids and INVEST this money into long term solutions, not quick fixes. The past plans have failed because they were incomplete, each hand was not seeing what the other hand was doing.

- This plan, YES! My Life Matters brings every organization under the same roof, joining forces, for sustainable results.
- Mental Health---Suicide---Homelessness---Homeless children---Foster children---Veterans---Low risk crime offenders---Undereducated children and adults who without education have no chance at independent living.
- Once you have read this letter and the book, will you be able to see the picture and get the true sense that this is and can be the answer to so many crises in this state.
- Very much like your plan, to bring all the non-profits together to work more closely, this plan does it in a way to guarantee successful rehabilitation.
- The eco-system village, housing, classrooms, eateries and skills training platforms will be funded through non-profit agencies. It is imperative to discontinue using our tax dollars for homeless clean up and give away programs that are enabling leading to simply more homelessness.
- The present agencies, non-profits and donors are generously providing much needed food, clothing and shelters but to date there is no plan that puts an end to homelessness.
- The YES! My Life Matters has a plan to see people from- the streets, through re-habilitation, through apprenticeship programs, acquiring job and personal skills to become a trained and dependable employee, neighbor and friend.
- The vision is to elevate the education platform with creative tools, personal esteem, and community spirit of our fellow Portlanders.

I ask that you see your way through this letter outlining a positive plan towards the solution to homelessness, it's not another band aid but a life changing solution.

Before we take off and begin the process, we need to do a bit of housekeeping.

First, **mental health and addiction** has been and remains the main reason why homelessness has not been dealt with and must be dealt with separately, it's the humane thing to do. The plan is for hospitals and government to establish several mental health and addiction facilities, giving refuge for those who need help. Only by separating the group can we go forward with a revitalization plan. We must un-muck the water to pave a path for greater success. This element will help reduce the misunderstanding between mental health, poor luck and life choice.

Instead of reinventing the wheel we will join existing **non-profits** to fund the program, we will collaborate our efforts to gain financial and group strength.

The next step will be providing opportunities for people who have chosen to live off the grid, like, **on the job training**, better day care and schools, lifestyle skills and good choices. The **apprenticeship programs** can become the standard for job training by helping to elevate performance of new hire employees.

The success rate for revitalization will be greater with the establishment of the **My Life Matters model village**. We will be better equipped to ensure future education, personal life and job skills, and new ways to cope with life. This is an aggressive plan to produce a higher qualified job seeker and stronger American. A lifestyle boot camp so to speak.

Learn Through Caring Program

When caring for others you learn to understand, not just your life matters. Having something or someone depend on you is a learned responsibility. The skills needed for successful human and animal care are, patience, forgiveness, responsibility, making choices and leadership. Here are just a few of our caring programs.

- Safe housing with neighborhood watch
- Reading and language skills, math and science
- Nutritional education, cooking, gardening, and meal budgeting
- Clean and sustainable living through solar and wind, eco systems and reusable products
- Revised education for pre-school and higher , establishing early learning and behavioral skills
- Learn through apprenticeships and hands on life skills, thanks to local and start-up businesses
- Specialty Care for children, senior, medical and handicap care, facilities within the village
- Animal care; service dogs, pet training, dog breeding and obedient training, disciplinary skills
- Learn and Grow Parks; safe, learn while you play, for children and their families, interactive skills
- Farm animals including, mustang horses. There are presently successful programs using horses for physical therapy and disciplined skills therapy. The farm that resides within the My Life Matters village could be the perfect place to offer this incredible platform.

Residents of the village

We must truly understand the laws and work within them. To gather the lost and forgotten is a touchy situation. Following evaluation, the persons diagnosed with conditions will be admitted into hospitals care. The persons whom are not suffering from mental health and addiction are brought to MLM campus. When they arrive to the village, they will be introduced to the group and asked to tag along. Once they have acclimated themselves to the village, they can become involved in the daily events. As the new arrivals come and go, they will quickly discover that the incentives to stay are far better than the alternative, the village will be attractive for the wanderer's taste in lifestyle. Each new and returning person will start at the beginning of the program and work their way up, each time getting a bit farther.

My Life Matters village and plan can succeed!

1. The My Life Matters is a new lifestyle village of housing, jobs, education and safe surroundings for the unincorporated person
2. Involves all productive non-profits for supportive efforts
3. It is attractive to the masses because it speaks to all sides. The citizens who wants to
4. support MLM efforts can get involved with non-profit fund-raising groups and or
5. donate to the cause. The persons who are presently unhappy with their tax dollars
6. going to homeless will now see their dollars support mental health, addiction and higher education
7. It shifts the tax dollars from homeless to mental health care

8. It can become the templet for rehabilitation in many situations, returning vets, welfare, foster care, noncriminal offence rehabilitation, drug and alcohol rehab, abuse and many others
9. It can become the standard for job skills training
10. It reduces the tax burden from welfare by rehabilitating back into a thriving lifestyle
11. School Programs to focus on early development, learning and behavioral skills
12. It creates an opportunity for individuals to stand strong while building self-respect
13. It provides much needed safe housing and a place to call home
14. Reduces the misunderstandings between mental health, poor luck and life choices
15. Offers much needed trade education and apprenticeship work programs
16. Language skills and English speech classes of all ages
17. Available medical, dental and mental health care
18. Reward for steppingstone success is a new-found self-esteem
19. Eventually ownership of their own home, built with their own hands and the skills they have learned through our on the job and apprenticeship training programs.
20. Over the first 10 years this plan can save millions if not billions of County, State, City and Federal funds.

My Life Matters plans to secure a **300-400-acre area of land**. We would initially build a city of tents and eventually buildings to provide a safe place to live for transitional individuals looking toward a conventional lifestyle. Basic amenities such as food and clothing would be provided upon each person's arrival followed by an evaluation to determine their desire to go a step further. The village will provide a safe and nurturing community where any resident can receive education and hands-on training. This enables participating members to progress from one level to the next, whereby they would ultimately be qualified to seek employment and go on to procure their own housing, choosing to live within or away from the village. This village community will be built by the residents through on the job training programs and business partnerships. The residents would be responsible to help sustain the community.

Now that the city of Portland has declared the public golf courses to be too costly, maybe they will allow us to take them over, all 5, and build our community surrounding these beautiful grounds. These courses could provide the much-needed space to contain our village, marketplace, schools, apprenticeship programs, child, senior and foster care along with maintaining one half of the existing courses for public use. Our plan includes gardens, agriculture, farming, eco systems and self-sustaining food sources. The educational play parks and learning platforms will be like Portland's own Green Parks and Gardens. They are strategically planned to draw tourist from around the world as well as all of us from the north west. You must read this book; it is a solid plan to help people who need our help.

The decline in education and the increase of homeless families is staggering. I would like to hear about your ideas and determine how the My Life Matters could become a part of your vision. I would like to meet and share the many ideas for a recovery plan. During our meeting there is available preliminary sketches, strategies, contacts, funding groups and goals.

While preparing the My Life Matters outline, the biggest question has been, who would be the best person to get this plan into action, and several names came to mind. The reason I am contacting you, besides money is that you have a heart for the people and a care for this country. Due to your strong connections and experience, I ask that you consider the My Life Matters as your project. Your generous offer to help people in need will be well invested.

This new plan offers nothing for free. We offer re-visted education, on the job training, apprenticeship programs, working education programs, and personal skills growth. By building a strong and loved family we can begin to love ourselves, be a good neighbor and excel at our jobs. In a way we are returning to the days when life itself was our boot camp.

A bit about myself. Have I mentioned that I love my city! As you will read after downloading the eBook, is a more in-depth resume and detailed plan for this project.

With forty years' experience, eight years of college, six of these years in private academy including business management, specifically in the health and beauty industry, along with writing, developing and managing apprenticeship programs. During the most productive years of these programs I was awarded a Federal Grant with the condition I shared the program to others outside of my own business and converted my 400-page team building book to include Spanish. The goal was to train graduates out of beauty school earning minimum wage by developing technical and language skills. This plan would continue until they increased their income 400%, and in 2 years or less. With a graduating rate of 92% the programs proved to be very successful. By offering specific training in personal presentation, language and technical skills most students completed the program in less than two years. Besides the employees enjoying this newly found self-esteem and elevated compensation they also became proud taxpayers. During the late 70's I gave birth to two children while being treated for uterine cancer. My husband left for a life of parties and drugs and I lost my job due to pregnancy. At that time, I held the position of Fashion Liaisons between Europe and the United States and delivered these new trends to the west coast. This incredible job included many professional elements and required maintaining a perfect figure and fashion forward appearance. In that time being pregnant was far from cool. Now I am pregnant, have cancer, husband moved on, and I am too proud to accept handouts, although they were offered. Alone, scared, unemployed, sick, and pregnant. I landed another job and on with my new life I went. My daughters started in day care at 3 weeks old and continued until they entered junior high school. My desire to raise strong children without feeling the void of a father lead me to the Montessori school in our area. I felt that the extra structure would help to balance the missing parent and a second job would cover the cost. My daughters have never met their father.

Detailed information begins here:

Whoever claims this opportunity to finally fix Portland's Homeless crisis, will be a hero. Once a group makes claim, this program will need to be tailored to fit their business plan.

Role of Non-Profits- depending of the governing body

My life Matters will be supported by donations and sales from farmer market goods and on location startup businesses. We are here by choice, and choice is how we will pay for our new life. We are presently contacting all non-profit organizations that service groups falling into like categories and invite them to informational gatherings, asking each interested group or individuals to contact 100 persons and invite along to our next gathering. This is a strategy used often when building businesses of any sort, groups building strength.

1. The YES! MLM teams will become supporters of all functional non-profits supporting mental health, education and homelessness, that in turn will support the MLM and its mission

Role of Oregonians

- Get involved with your favorite non-profits and SUPPORT! Help yourself by helping others
- Shop in the village stores and markets providing education, homes, food, and job skills
- Stop homelessness by funding the MLM in place of dollars on the streets.
- Vote

What does the startup look like?

In the beginning we build a campground and offer tent style living, offices, dorms, cafeteria and day care along with the inception of our small businesses. Once the campgrounds are established, it will be time to offer our

skill building trades and jobs, performed inside and outdoor spaces. The groundwork for farming, agriculture, open air shops and eateries will be next inline. The Village residents will participate in skills training practices throughout the week and work the open markets each weekend. We plan to become the year around marketplace for local fair, products, entertainment and positive social surroundings.

5-year plan

To cover the plan in its fifth through tenth year will require you to read the book, it covers most everything.

But I can give you a peek;

- Final build out to the second and third greenhouses
- Complete the ranch, second and third barns and guest bunk houses
- Complete planting the deciduous and evergreen plots
- Eco system to be in full production delivering, fertilizers, fresh fish, fowl and recycled water
- Complete ranch stock, goats, cows, chickens, pigs and horses
- Final build out to the Main House, offices, dorms, classrooms, ballroom one and two, catering kitchen, The Brunch Restaurant, Hotel, Hall of Heroes, courtyard including; courts, pool and pool house, Bar-B-Que and picnic areas, court landscape, perimeter landscape (exotics), pavers, fences and gates
- Available one thousand prime landscape trees and shrubs for market.
- Complete the fifty-acre Global Gardens, with physical fitness courses, educational tour of the world, pools and playgrounds
- Begin the outdoor and indoor events including fund raising

Role of other businesses:

Extend their present business into the MLM village, adding job training with promotional opportunities. We will bring outside business into our community and later our businesses can reach outside of the village to allow for re connecting with new friends.

Village plan includes:

Tents, gravel roads, markets, buildings, eateries, stores, events and social gathering space
No machinery, cars, trucks, only people powered travel

Role of Government-land use-mental health-law enforcement

- Supporting hospital with mental health facilities
- (engage all hospitals; prioritize their next foundation goals to include a new mental health wing)
- Ask State, City, County and Federal agencies to provide 1 plot of land 300 to 400 acres to develop our village, eco-system, utilities fields, agriculture plots, ranch and farm. At the same time, we will be investigating the long-term use and conversion of the city owned golf courses in place of the acreage. These five courses will include all the details for this entire program in the book YES! My Life Matters, The Homeless Cure
- We ask the government to discontinue spending their tax dollars on homelessness and redirect this money to mental health
- Accessible, alternative, new and improved learning centers
- Locate and deliver Oregon's wild mustangs to the plot that surrounds the village, called the ranch

As a customer of local businesses, medical centers and social outings I am often out in the city, in all corners. Everytime I venture out either by car, train or plane I am aghast of the number of homeless individuals and camps that have taken over our city streets. One of the most tragic scenarios are the children. Many are being raised to believe that the streets are a way of life. School and medical attention is optional and seeking knowledge is unnecessary. My husband Tom and I walk our dogs throughout the city daily and I am ashamed of the camps and begging on street corners that has become the normal. We must believe that many of these displaced people suffer with mental health, and others might be there by choice. Either way, it is a disturbing sight for the entire city, its residents and travelers. There must be change, and soon!

My Life Matters Mantra: I take responsibility for my life. No matter how we arrived here we are all going forward together. We are here to grow as a person, family, and neighborhood where all life matters. The training and apprenticeship programs are created to include subjects that could be of interest to the unincorporated citizen. The invited businesses and learning platforms will allow for personal and professional growth while helping to increase self-esteem. Only when we have self-worth can we have success!

This 200-page detailed publication, YES! My Life Matters is a place with a program to serve the unfortunate people who have lost their way. For the people in this room we personally don't understand the entire reality of how people have ended up on the streets and have lost their way. Poor role models if any at all, missing or otherwise unconscious parents, abuse, or simply bad luck, in some cases by choice. They need help to find their way towards a better life, a humane life, a life that gives them cause to lift their heads and be thankful for this second chance, they need us.

This book was written to benefit Portland and its caring citizens. It has taken three years of endless research, planning and all my free time to bring this book to you. Please take this plan, this effort, and make it a part of our near future, because yesterday was even too late to take a stand towards rebuilding these lives.

Thank you for your time and consideration,

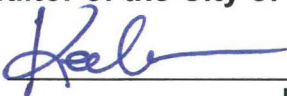
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Request of Cheryl Graves to address Council regarding a community village
(Communication)

AUG 28 2019

PLACED ON FILE

Filed AUG 20 2019
MARY HULL CABALLERO
Auditor of the City of Portland

By  Deputy

COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz		
2. Fish		
3. Hardesty		
4. Eudaly		
Wheeler		