



City of Madison
Agenda - Approved

City of Madison
Madison, WI 53703
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Homeless Services Consortium Board of Directors
Meeting

Friday, May 29, 2015

11:00 a.m.

United Way Dane County
Board Room A
2059 Atwood Avenue
Madison, WI 53704

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Yog hais tias koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus, ib tug neeg txhais ntawv, cov ntawv ua lwm hom ntawv los sis lwm cov kev pab kom siv tau cov kev pab, cov kev ua ub no (activity) los sis qhov kev pab cuam, thov hu rau tus xov tooj hauv qab yam tsawg peb hnuv ua hauj lwm ua ntej yuav tuaj sib tham.

Sue Wallinger 266-6520

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL

Call to Order

PUBLIC COMMENT

DISCLOSURES AND RECUSALS

Members of the body should make any required disclosures or recusals under the City's Ethics Code.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of 4/17/2015 Meeting Minutes

NEW BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Presentation on HSC System Map
Nicole Bahena, Corporation for Supportive Housing, Inc.
2. Other Business or Announcements

ADJOURNMENT

MINUTES FROM THE HOMELESS SERVICES CONSORTIUM BOARD MEETING
April 17, 2014

PRESENT: Karen Andro, Darcia Bell, Martha Cranley, Kristina Dux, Jani Koester, Garrett Lee, Torrie Kopp Mueller, Scot Sorensen

ABSENT: Casey Becker, Maggie Carden, Glenn Ruiz

GUESTS: John Danforth, Peggy Halloran, Karla Jameson, Brenda Konkel, Matt Kozlowski, Jen Patton, Sherri Schroeder, Heidi Wegleitner

City CDBG Staff: Anne Kenny, Sue Wallinger

Call to Order

Cranley called the meeting to order at 11:08 a.m.

1. Approval of 03/27/2015 Meeting Minutes

Sorensen moved to approve the March 24, 2015 minutes. Andro seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Not present for the vote were Koester and Lee.

2. Presentation from HSC Legislative Committee

Cranley said Konkel had returned to this meeting to discuss suggestions for changes made to the Legislative Committee's agenda from the March meeting.

Konkel reviewed the agenda. The first page is still the background. The next three pages have the plan in a box, with each item underneath. Equity didn't fit so well, even as a lens through which to look at the rest of the items, so she put it under Item A. The other thing the HSC Board asked them to do was to figure out if items on the agenda were proactive or reactive, but they weren't able to determine that information. On the last page, they listed some things not included on the survey that they know are issues in the community. Konkel said she talked to Chuck Kamp, and he said the small business unlimited ride bus pass that is used for employees could be used by an agency's clients as well. It doesn't necessarily have to be for employees only.

Konkel said the agenda was an attempt by the Committee to find a consensus for all agencies in the group.

Discussion highlights:

- Sorensen said that items like "advocating for transportation services" were sufficiently vague to be helpful and allow for interpretation. There are some specific items on the agenda also.
- Cranley said the agenda was still very huge, but some of it may stay the same from year to year.
- Konkel said the real problem is Item B.
- Konkel said the Legislative Committee voted to expand shelter. Wallinger said that one of the three major goals agreed upon by the group is providing a safety net until such time as it's no longer necessary, but providing more beds/space isn't necessarily part of

the plan. Konkell said the Mayor, the county, and several agencies are talking about expanding shelter. Wegleitner said they didn't necessarily mean to expand the entire shelter system, just gaps in it, as with a wet shelter or shelter for mothers with infants or pregnant women. Konkell said that 59% of the group voted on adding more shelter beds and eliminating the waiting list at shelters. She said perhaps the Committee should reword the statement to not focus on *expanding capacity* of emergency shelters. Dux said she didn't want the Board to lose its focus on Housing First so that people don't even have to go through the shelter system. Andro said the community needs shelters as a safety net to serve homeless people. Bell agreed wholeheartedly. She said expansion of space or number of beds would help tremendously. She said that homeless people also need training on how to live in permanent housing. Cranley said that a safety net is an important part of the plan. She asked if people wouldn't mind tabling this until the Board can hear what others in the Consortium have to say about each of these items, which would help the Board to prioritize.

Koester arrived at 11:30 a.m.

- Wegleitner said they could add Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing.
- Cranley suggested reordering the list in priority order with increasing the supply of affordable housing as number one, providing support services to households and families as number two, and then as number three, helping homeless families with a safety net.

Andro stepped out of the meeting at 11:35 a.m.

- Wegleitner said it would be helpful to think of everything as a platform and then having an agenda composed of distinct priorities. Part of the reason for getting the Board's approval on the Legislative Committee agenda is to make sure that the Committee is operating under their designated authority.
- Wegleitner said if the Board wants to table emergency shelter, that would be fine, but it would help them not lose momentum to have other items voted on today.
- Dux said creating housing subsidized at 30% is important, as well as emphasizing Housing First and harm reduction.
- Kopp Mueller agreed that creating affordable housing would be the number one priority in her mind.
- Cranley asked if people wanted to vote on changes with regard to prioritization and perhaps shortening the list. Wallinger suggested creating an executive committee of officers who could tell the Legislative Committee whether or not the HSC Board would approve of any changes. Cranley said that if something comes up outside of the current agenda, then the Legislative Committee should contact HSC Board executive officers.

Kopp Mueller moved to adopt the Legislative Committee's agenda with the following reordering changes: 1) provide adequate inventory of affordable housing; 2) provide support for homeless households and households at risk of homelessness; and 3) provide a safety net for homeless and at risk persons. Koester seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Not present for the vote were Andro and Lee.

Wallinger said that a group forming on a statewide basis against homelessness is planning a statewide Affordable Housing and Homelessness Day with the legislature on June 11.

Wegleitner announced that she'll be going to Washington, DC in June to attend an event on the National Forum on the Human Right to Housing and will report back to the Board later in the summer or early fall.

Andro returned to the meeting at 11:45 a.m.

3. Review and Approve Slate of Proposals for City's ETH Application to the State Division of Housing

Wallerger said the ETH application process has changed over the years. Right now, the State Division of Housing has a formula they impose over all the data from all the counties regarding how much of their federal ESG money and their state transitional housing and homeless prevention program money should go to each county. The City is the applicant on behalf of the Consortium. A broad announcement of the availability of funds comes out, and then they have a planning meeting or two. The recommendation that comes out of the meeting is a group consensus on how to spend the money. This year, the available funds add up to about \$470,000. The State and HUD require that the HSC Board approve the process and funding recommendations.

Cranley said that each agency present should describe their program to the members of the Board before a vote is taken.

On behalf of Briarpatch, Wallinger described their two programs, both of which are currently funded. One is the Transitional Living Program on Roth Street that serves homeless young adults between 18 and 21, and the other is Youth Outreach program that provides outreach services to young adults up to 24 or 25 years of age.

Dux said that Community Action Coalition's Rentable changed this year. Homeless Prevention will still involve a drawing. The assessments will be happening through Coordinated Intake. The Rapid Re-Housing component has turned into more of a program than a one-time assistance and will be able to help nine families and four individuals with an average cost per household is about \$4,500. Andro asked why the Rentable drawing is not based on priority. Dux said it actually is. Koester asked what happens to the families not chosen through the drawing. Dux said they have to call back to get placed again.

Jen Patton of Dane County Parent Council (DCPC) said that Hope House operates through a collaboration between DCPC and Bethel Lutheran Church on the west side of Madison. It serves their early Head Start moms with an onsite housing coordinator and a resident manager. They serve three families at a time for three years. They have an extensive goal-setting period with the average stay of nine months to a year. Family advocates also work on housing with them.

Wallerger said that ICA is the lead HMIS administrator. The State has set aside \$3,900 for HMIS.

Heidi Wegleitner of Legal Action of Wisconsin said they provide legal services to low-income folks. This funding is to continue their work with serving people facing imminent homelessness with representation in small claims eviction cases. Usually, they are successfully able to defend their clients and prevent eviction. They serve many families with children and many minority families.

Karla Jameson of Porchlight described their two programs. The Single Men's Outreach was newly funded through this process last year. Their outreach worker is primarily at the men's drop in shelter providing services to the men staying there. His goal is to connect them with services in the community and move them into permanent housing. He does a lot of crisis case management work. They also have outreach workers at the library and on State Street.

Jameson said that the Skills Labor and Barrier Limited Education (STABLE) program is a transitional housing program that's been existence for quite a while. It is eight SRO units for women located at Brooks Street. The women have to have a documented mental illness and must be homeless. They do not have to be on medication or connected to services. Rent is 30% of income. The case manager works with them once a week, as opposed to once a month, to connect them with the services they need and ultimately with permanent housing. The participants can stay there up to two years.

Peggy Halloran of The Road Home said that they explicitly serve homeless families with children with the Shelter Case Management program. This funding would be for case management for their shelter. They typically provide shelter to three to five families depending on family size and provide day services at their shelter. In the evening, families are hosted by different churches in their community for a week at a time, so it's a travelling shelter. They rely heavily on volunteers to provide roughly 15,000 hours of services a year to their families. Last year, the average stay for a family was 60 days.

Sherri Schroeder of Stoughton United Ministries said that the Pathways to Self Sufficiency program focuses on prevention and doing a lot of case management and connecting people in Stoughton to resources in Stoughton, Madison, Dane County, and the State of Wisconsin. They focus on getting families into housing and helping with first month's rent or security deposit. To be eligible for the program, participants must be facing housing barriers.

Waller said The Salvation Army's Medical Vouchers program is for short-term stays in motels for those with medical issues that need 24-hour shelter or there's an issue with contagion. The Single Women Case Management is the case manager for women's shelter and used to be funded through the Continuum of Care funding application process. Waitlist Case Management is for families interested in getting into shelter but who don't have the resources. They are offered case management instead.

John Danforth said the Building Opportunities through Occupational Skills Training (BOOST) program is focused on assisting homeless individuals having a leg up when it comes to finding employment. They are reaching out to employers in Madison to develop a curriculum to train individuals to have more opportunity for employment. The program was piloted last year. They follow participants at 30, 60, and 90 days to track retention of employment.

Lee arrived at 12:15 p.m.

Konkel said that \$10,000 helps to fund Tenant Resource Center's (TRC's) Housing Mediation program. Most of the money goes for service point entry and sending out postcards to people in the eviction process. They provide trained mediators to facilitate either a payment plan or a move-out date that works for both parties. They serve mostly people of color and women. TRC's Street Outreach program provides a half-time case manager for homeless people who don't have case managers.

Konkel said this ETH application process was very confusing for her this year and suggested having a conversation about the process before next year's process. She was curious as to where the conversations on funding and priorities took place. Wallinger said there are conversations going on all year long to assess the needs and gaps in the community. She said that a notice goes out to everyone in the Consortium about the funding available and the process.

Kopp Mueller said the YWCA has two programs, the Rapid Re-Housing for Families, where they provide financial rental assistance, and the Family Shelter Case Management, where case management is provided by YWCA, The Road Home or The Salvation Army.

Wallinger said that CareNet came to the first funding meeting to make a plea for their shelter for their homeless clients at Elizabeth House.

Lee stepped out of the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

Sorensen moved to accept the 2015-2016 ETH Application as written. Bell seconded. The motion passed unanimously. Lee was not present for the vote.

4. Update on Zero: 2016 Campaign—End veteran homelessness by 12/15 and chronic homelessness by 12/16

Matt Kozlowski, the coordinator for Registry Week, passed out the draft plan for the week. He has met with different providers to get feedback on how to do this outreach and engage people in the process. The only way to address homelessness in the community is to identify a list of people needing services. They will send volunteers to do outreach, interviews, and assessments in places where homeless persons congregate most, such as the central library, Bethel Lutheran Church, the City County Building, and Hospitality House. They will be providing incentives like bus passes to people to participate. They need feedback on where else to send the volunteers out to engage homeless participants in the assessment interviews. Volunteers include Porchlight outreach workers, Friends of the State Street Family, Second Harvest Food Bank, and YWCA employees, but they need a lot more people to do assessments. There's a link to the volunteer sign up page on the www.danecountyhomeless.org. They prefer people with outreach experience. A launch event is planned on May 5 at 10:30 a.m. at the City County Building, and the Mayor is available to participate.

5. Institute for Community Alliances—Lead HMIS Agency Report

There was no report.

Other Business or Announcements

There was no other business or announcements.

Adjournment

Andro moved to adjourn at 12:40 p.m. Kopp Mueller seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Anne Kenny, recorder