

Continuum of Care Board

November 20, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 3:34 PM.

Attendance

- **Board Members Present:** Jennifer Haynes-Harter, Michele Harris, Joe Ader, Chrystal Alderman, Dale Brieze, Angela Chapman, Tim, Crowley, Teresa Michielli, Sally Pritchard, Jan Simpson, Pam Tietz, Rayan Orbom, Shannon Boniface, Mark Mattke (phone)
- **Staff Present:** Kelly Burnett, Tija Danzig, Matt Davis, Tim Sigler, Niki Madunich
- **Guests Present:** Dawn Kinder, Sharon Stadelman, Nick Drake, Ami Manning, Morgan Koudelka, Billie

Introductions

Attendees went around the table and introduced themselves.

Approval of the October summary:

Motion to approve the October Stakeholder Meeting Notes and Written Committee Reports by CoC Board Member Jan Simpson and seconded by CoC Board Member Dale Brieze.

➤ MEETING SUMMARY APPROVED

Spokane County Report:

Tim Crowley provided the following information:

- House Bill 1406 made it through rule making but significant issues with the bill include lack of allowable expenses for administration. At this stage, more details are needed from the legislature and the county does not plan to implement until those details are available.
- The County Homeless Housing Assistance RFP closed 11/20/2019 at 5pm. The Advisory Board will meet on December 12th, all applying agencies should be in attendance to answer questions and facilitate decision making.

City of Spokane Valley Report:

Morgan Koudelka provided the following information:

- Spokane Valley City Council enacted a No Camping ordinance this month which is a preliminary step to work with outreach services in order to understand who is camping and homeless within the city limits which will better inform strategy and decision making moving forward. There was coordination with local experts and service providers in the region, including the Spokane Housing Authority and all were in agreement that this was a necessary step in addressing homelessness in Spokane Valley.
- Balfour Park currently has a large contingent of campers. Campers were previously being assisted by a local church, but the church was overwhelmed by the need. Currently, Jewels Helping Hands (JHH) is working to transition people out of that park and will be coordinating their transportation to the warming

center, once it opens. The City is trying to coordinate support services as necessary to help facilitate a smooth transition for those effected.

City of Spokane Report:

Matt Davis provided the following information:

- The Warming Center (WC) was approved for purchase by the City Council. Currently planning is for a phased approach to opening. Eventual WC capacity will be 120, but as improvements are made to WC space initial capacity (starting Friday, November 22) will be for 49 occupants including WC staff.
- City Council has approved funds for improvement of the WC site. Funds approved will improve accessibility, safety, security (lighting/cameras) and add bathroom and shower space to the site.
- The City Council has also approved funding for overflow space during winter months. Catholic Charities will operate space at the Rising Strong campus with capacity for 45 beds. Additional funds were allocated for Hope House, Women's Hearth and Truth Ministries. Additional capacity space is expected to be available in mid-December. If Volunteers of America and Transitions can find the space, they could add up to 100 beds for men by moving 50 beds for women to scouted location. The City expects that their plans will match or exceed total beds available last winter.
- There is currently no plan for a young adult targeted warming center. The city will post locations with a map to their website for public access.
- 211 will help with vacancy accessibility. Each evening all shelters will text their current capacity at 5:30 and 8:00 pm which will then be posted to a Facebook event.

Board Recruitment and Nomination Update

CoC Board Member Rayan Orbom provided an update as to the status of the recruitment and nomination process planning being undertaken by the Executive Committee. At their meeting earlier this month the committee established that they are seeking to create a process that will act as a long-term solution rather than a short-term band aid. There were some documents generated for the Stakeholders meeting that can be repurposed for recruitment goals which will alleviate some additional work toward those efforts. The recruitment and nomination process is taking into account an already in-process re-engagement effort. In the process of re-engagement it was noted that non-conflicted board members tend to be less engaged and more absent. Moving forward, in the interest of setting clear expectations, attendance requirements will be added to the governance charter. The only new position under continued consideration is a Landlord seat.

Action Items

Review and approve Interim Permanent Supportive Housing Prioritization Proposal for Singles Homeless Coordinated Assessment

CoC Board Member Rayan Orbom presented proposed changes to the prioritization of singles coordinated assessment. Historically, Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

resources and placements have been prioritized by length of homelessness (10+ years) which obliterated Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (SPDAT) scores. Prioritization can be simplified by utilizing targeted age groups (18-24 and 55+) and 3 years length of homelessness. The new prioritization still falls in line with HUD guidelines.

In the 2-3 months, 100+ units should be coming available creating an opportunity to immediately test the new prioritization proposal. The proposal is being presented as an interim solution to allow time to complete a review of Coordinated Entry and utilization management. An interim plan allows for adjustment as the data is reviewed.

The new guidelines should provide access and participation in PSH solutions rather than Rapid Rehousing when indicated as more appropriate by SPDAT scores and utilizing a tiered approach will allow for diversity in severity of placements.

Motion to approve the Interim Permanent Supportive Housing Prioritization Proposal made by CoC Board Member Joe Ader and seconded by Michele Harris.

➤ PROPOSAL APPROVED

Review and Approve Final Draft of 5-Year Plan - Including 5-Year Performance Management Plan

City staff member Tija Danzig gave a brief history of the development of the current iteration of the 5-Year Plan to End Homelessness. Over the course of the last year the City, County, CoC and subcommittees have worked collaboratively to build the area's first regional plan in quite some time and it has been written locally, by the very people who will work towards the plan's objectives rather than by consultants. The plan includes three attachments: HIC, forecasting tool from Department of Commerce (DoC) and the performance management plan. All feedback received to-date has been incorporated into the plan and the final version has been approved by County Commissioners as of November 18. If approved, the 5-Year Plan will become policy at every level of local government.

The plan was designed to be a living document and will be continuously reviewed and revised in ways specific to this area. The plan has accountability built in for measurability. The baseline from the Department of Commerce has been met and can be expanded upon to address specific regional issues. Each year, progress will be reviewed and feedback received from various groups including, but not limited to, County Commissioners and stakeholders in order to evaluate progress and update as needed. IN addition to annual reviews, quarterly scoreboards will be provided to the CoC. Quarterly scoreboards will be provided by HMIS and will also be available to the public online. At this time there is no concrete plan for monthly reporting or push-button reporting for performance measuring, although an update will be provided at the next CoC meeting by city staff.

Motion to approve the 5-Year Performance Management Plan made by CoC Board Member Jan Simpson and seconded by Angela Chapman.

➤ PERFORMANCE PLAN APPROVED

Motion to approve the 5-Year Strategic Plan to Prevent and End Homelessness made by CoC Board Member Jan Simpson and seconded by Angela Chapman.

➤ STRATEGIC PLAN APPROVED

Announcements:

Steve Walker named new Executive Director of the Washington State Housing Finance Commission.

The Spokane Homeless Coalition has held their elections and results will be announced November 21.

Meeting adjourned at 4:41 PM.

The next CoC Board Meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2019.