

Continuum of Care Board

January 23, 2019

Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 3:34 PM.

Attendance

- **Board Members Present:** Dale Briese, Bridget Cannon, Tim Crowley, Angela Chapman, Sam Dompier, Jen Haynes, Michele Harris, Kelly Keenan, Erik Larson, Bob Lutz, Edie Rice-Sauer, Fawn Schott Dave Singley, Jan Simpson, Pam Tietz, Jeff Thomas, Arne Woodard, Dean Salvio, Leslie Whalen. Cat Nichols, Edie Rice-Sauer
- **Staff Present:** Kelly Burnett, Tim Sigler,
- **Guests Present:** Heather Thomas Taylor, Amanda Fowler

Introductions

Attendees went around the table and introduced themselves.

Spokane County Report

CoC Board Member Tim Crowley provided the CoC board with the following information: Spokane County opened up a 30 day comment period for their CDBG funding. After this 30 day comment period has closed there will be a public hearing and final funding recommendations will take place in March. There was some talk about how the federal government shutdown is affecting some of the programs. As of this moment HUD is still submitting vouchers and CDBG invoices are being paid.

There was further discussion as to what is might happen if the Federal Government Shutdown continues. Rental Assistance has been approved through the month of February, and all checks should be sent out on the 1st of February. Should this shutdown last longer than February and move into the months of March, payments will not be going out on the first of the month.

As for some of the grants provided by the City, the grants are still being process with the automated process. This covers CDBG, HOME and the CoC Program.

Coordinated Entry:

Providers put together a Diversion training, some did a train the trainer. Did an entire week of training. Pam asked that some of the providers be at today's meeting. Heather Thomas Taylor from Hope House and Amanda Fowler joined us to help give the board a little better understanding of Diversion and what it is that they are trying to accomplish with Diversion.

What is the meaning of Diversion? Diversion is a conversation with someone who is experiencing the trauma of homelessness to explore housing options before they enter the homeless system. Diversion requires the homelessness service system the organized to allow informal yet powerful conversations to prioritize self-determination, leveraging individual, community and system resources to ensure success. Lastly, the

spirit of the diversion conversation respects every person's capacity and agency to plan their life and recognizes the need for community support for their success. This also means coming up with some steps that need to be taken, by those who are experiencing homelessness, on how they can obtain their dream housing situation.

HFCA - Homeless Families Coordinated Entry - This is the entry point for families that are experiencing homelessness.

We would like to have a sub-committee from the CoC board. We would like to see if we can get this sub-committee up and running and then add this to the charter governance by the next meeting. It would be nice if we get people from all of the sub populations to be part of this sub-committee

Coordinated Assessment - SPDAT - Will no longer be the only factor if a person is to get into housing. Each population will have their own prioritization list. We can make this based on our need and where the gaps are. Score is not everything, we need to make sure that we are housing. If we can get people engaged with services, then we can get some of the documents together so that we can get them referred to housing. Would like to get some stakeholder engagement on how they feel about prioritization and how we can get this to work better, would like to have the Coordinated Assessment Committee working alongside the Diversion Sub-Committee. Please make sure that those who are complaining the most about this are those who are sitting at the table so that we can get a better understanding of what is working or not working.

A question was brought to the group about diversion. With diversion there is always a way for a person to self-correct themselves. Can a diversion program talk to families, friends or possibly the church that they are attending?

City of Spokane Update

City Staff Member Kelly Keenan provided the following report:

- 5 year RFP has been closed. We will have six different panels that will help with reviewing all of the applications that were received during this round. Three of the groups will be focused on the CoC side and there will be three groups for the CHHS focus side. Those who did not submit an application for funding from the 5 year RFP we would like to ask for you to be part of the review panels. Panels will be getting set-up and members will go through orientation in February, once orientation has been completed the panels will start reviewing the proposals. Proposals will then be ranked and given for council for approval. Once the approval has been made we will let applicants know that they were funded and which funding source they will be using.
- Warming Centers - All warming centers are fully operational and is the largest supported system that we know of. We have been tracking utilization of each of the shelters for the last couple of months. Family promise is just now hitting their overflow amount, and most of the shelters

are close to their capacity. The warming centers are planned to go through March. We are still unsure as to what is in store for the warming centers after March 1st. The City does have money to start a storage pilot program, and we are currently looking for sites where we think we can make this happen.

- Point in Time (PIT) Count starts tomorrow. City Staff trained over 139 volunteers over a course of nine different training sessions. Would like to make sure that all sites are staffed with volunteers. We have 200 different site locations set-up across the county, including the youth magnet, Veterans Magnet Event and the Homeless Connect that is taking place on January 30th. This year we are hoping to only hold a couple sessions to let everyone know the results of the PIT, unlike doing the many different sessions that we did last year. Question was raised as to if we will be counting those who are doubled up. The answer to that question is yes, we do have it as an option on our app that we created for this year.
- Anchor Community Initiative - We are currently trying to define the job description for an Anchor Community Staff person. What does this position look like where will the funding be coming from and most importantly where will this staff member be housed. The Anchor Community Initiative has been designed to help end youth homelessness.
- City Support - CoC board would like to have a support person to help with the CoC executive meetings by taking the minutes, collecting the information needed for the CoC board meetings, distribution of the packet and possible uploading the board minutes to a website.
- A request came in from City Council to do a work study of the CoC board on February 21st. would like to see the executive subcommittee at this work study session.

5 Year Plan Review: A workgroup was put together to discuss the upcoming 5 year plan. A system or plan of action needs to be devised to help with going through this 5 year plan. Group mentioned that they will need define the stakeholders and process. What is our starting point going to be. As for a timeline on this project we will need to have this completed by the November meeting.

Governance Charter Update:

CoC board chair has asked that we move to table this till the February meeting. Next steps is to look at some proposed changes. These changes are ones that staff have proposed, possible seeing if the board can do a rotation of non-profit seats, should there be different term limits. Another thought was possible adding a communications officer - formal communication to come out of the CoC. Lastly another idea to think about is if a board member is unable to attend a meeting maybe they can name a person to be their alternate and that person can fill in for them if needed.

2019 CoC Calendar:

Board Chair Pam Tietz created the 2019 CoC calendar with important dates along with meeting times. Board Chair Tietz asked the board to look over the calendar and provide

feedback to the calendar and hopefully we can have this finalized by February and can get it posted to the Website and viewable by the public.

One member mentioned that we should add the date that the EnVision center is to open.

Action Items

Election of officers need to take place during this meeting. There was some discussion back and forth about who should stay on and who might be willing to jump in to the Vice Chair Role. The person who would be willing to take on the Vice Chair role needs to be prepared that they would or could be required to step in as Board Chair. During this time we also need to have some volunteers to step up and be part of the CoC Executive Committee.

Pam Tietz - stay on as Board Chair

Fawn Schott - stay on a Vice Chair

Michele, Fawn, Dale, Jan, Erik and Joe volunteer to be on the CoC Executive Board.

Motion to approve the above nominations for Chair, Vice Chair and Executive Committee by CoC Board Member Arne Woodard and Seconded by Erik Larson.

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 PM.

The next CoC Board Meeting is scheduled for February 27th at 3:30PM.