



Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 22, 2023
1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

Recording of Meeting:
<https://youtu.be/Mlgz9dNQFU>

Welcome and Roll Call (06:15: - 00:09:33)

- Dennis Pocekay called meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. Meeting facilitator went over the Zoom rules around public comment and Brown Act guidelines.

➤ *Absent:*

A quorum was present.

1. **Approval of Consent Calendar (00:09:40 – 00:13:05)** Dennis Pocekay, CoC Board Chair went over consent calendar, 2/22 meeting agenda, 1/25/23 Minutes and Summary of Follow-up from the Previous Meeting(s).

Una Glass moves to approve Consent Calendar as read; Kathleen Pozzi second's motion.

Public Comment: Gerry La Londe-Berg

Dennis Pocekay, CoC Board Chair shared that in an effort to minimize the time it takes to do a roll call vote for every action item it will be asked if there are any abstentions or objections. If there are none, it will be considered approved.

Abstentions or objections: None

Approved

2. Reports from Lead Agency Staff (00:13:12 – 01:04:18)

- **CoC Board Packet, Video and Committee Packet Website Posting:** Karissa White went over CoC Staff posting agenda, videos and meeting materials.

Public Comment: Alice Linn, Gerry La Londe-Berg,

- **Update on Community Housing Connectors Program:** Dot Irkis, Sonoma County Housing Authority (SCHA) provided update Housing Heroes campaign and Housing Location Services Project; update included overview of when program started, what has been accomplished to date and what is next.

Public Comment: Victoria Yanez, Gerry La Londe-Berg, Teddie Pierce

- **Update on local homelessness services Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA):** Michael Gause provided update on draft Notice of Funds Availability (NOFA) that was sent to the Funding and Evaluation Committee for review and comment for the February 16th F/E Committee meeting. Funds such as HHAP-4, HHIP, and residual funds from FY 22-23 are included in this NOFA with additional local funds to be added when released to the Lead Agency. Anticipated due date in March 2023 and approval of projects scheduled for April 2023 by the F/E Committee and CoC Board respectively.
- **Dry Creel Rancheria's Community Wellness Center project Letter of Support:** Michael Gause went over request for letter of support that was made and staff recommendation for future request to be sent directly to CoC Board Chair/Vice Chair when urgent/time sensitive.

Public Comment: none at this time.

3. Built for Zero Status Report (01:04:24 – 01:06:37)

Thai Hilton gave update on The BFZ improvement team, reported team has been making progress with the BFZ initiative. There are now 5 subregions that are hosting regular case conferencing meetings. Presentation was not able to be made as Andrew Henning was not present at meeting.

Public Comment: none at this time

4. Service Provider Roundtable (SPR) Update (01:06:48 – 01:11:18)

Margaret Sluyk reported meeting was held 2/21/23. Topics discussed included Built for Zero, feedback on NOFA's, Housing Connection.

Thank you was given to Dave Kiff and County for working on service provider session for collaboration.

Public Comment: none at this time

5. Word from the Street (01:11:30 – 01:19:31)

Chessy Etheridge reported on Sebastopol Inn, spoke about upcoming remodel and county workers who went onsite and gave voucher information. Those who don't hold voucher have until 31st of April to find alternative housing. Raised questions on what emergency vouchers are available, process for obtaining and breakdown on the different voucher categories.

Public Comment: Victoria Yanez, Alice Linn

6. Funding Recommendations for Community Development Block Grant Corona Virus (CDBG-CV), Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG), and/or Low and Moderate-Income Housing Asset Fund (LMIHAF) Notice of Funding Availability (01:19:35 – 02:06:06):

Recusals of persons or agencies that would benefit from funding. Board members who recused; Margert Sluyk, Danielle Danforth.

Veronica Ortiz-de Anda, Community Development Associate provided Funding Presentation at the request for CDC and the Cities and Towns Advisory Committee. Presentation went over application deadline, applications received, staff review process and selection criteria. Action requested was for CoC Board to provide input recommended funding.

Public Comment: Teddie Pierce, Tim Miller

Jack Ding motions to accept recommendations as consistent with CoC's goal; Kathleen Pozzi seconds.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Kelli Kuykendall, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Chris Keys, Kathleen Pozzi, Martha Cheever, Chessy Etheridge, Una Glass, Laura Sparks, Mark Krug, Jack Ding

Noes:

Recused: Margaret Sluyk, Dannielle Danforth

Abstain-Don Schwartz

Absent-Cheyenne McConnell

Motion passes with 1 (one) abstention

7. In-Person Meetings and Changes to Teleconferencing Rules (02:06:28 – 02:45:47)

Dave Kiff provided information on Governor Newsom's Fall 2022 actions to rescind a pandemic-related emergency order as of February 28, 2023, meaning that all California local agencies subject to the Ralph M. Brown Act return to open and in-person meetings. Shared staff recommendations pending legal counsel and legal input provided.

Public Comment: Gerry La Loden-berg, Teddie Pierce, Alice Linn, Victoria Yanez

Jennielynn Holmes motions to accept staff recommendations to follow Brown Act in all respects, except for the return to Brown Act teleconference meetings; Ben Leroi seconds.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Kelli Kuykendall, Dennis Pocekay, , Margaret Sluyk, Chris Keys, Kathleen Pozzi, , Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McConnel, Una Glass, Don Schwartz, Laura Sparks, Mark Krug, Jack Ding, Danielle Danforth

Noes: Chris Coursey, Martha Cheever

Abstain:

Absent:

Motion passes with 2 (two) oppositions

8. 10-Minute Break (02:45:54 – 02:56:07)

Meeting resumed; a quorum was present.

9. CoC Governance Charter Revisions Recommendations: (02:56:15 – 03:21:23)

Karissa White presented PowerPoint on current proposed revisions to CoC Governance Charter. In an effort to keep the charter current and resolve points of confusion, staff are proposing 10 revisions.

Public Comment: Gerry La-Londe-Berg, Alice Linn

Don Schwartz purposes adopting items 1 through 8 and item 10, eliminating the Governance Charter Committee and 3 instances where lead agency is mentioned should be struck out and inserted with collaborative applicant (Page 39 of packet); Kelly Kuykendall second's motion.

Abstentions/Objections: none

Mark Krug motions to move item 9 to a future meeting with additional material brought back by staff, Una Glass seconds.

Abstentions/Objections: none

The motion passed

10. Reports from Standing Committees: (03:21:29-03:46:46)

• **Funding & Evaluation Committee:**

Teddie Pierce provided update on what was discussed at the last Funding and Evaluation Committee meeting. Updated included update on special guest who attended last meeting serving as proxy for Don Schwartz, committee openings, conversation on long-term funding strategy.

• **Coordinated Entry Advisory (CEA) Committee:**

HomeFirst was to provide presentation with updates on CES policies and procedures. Don proposed approval without presentations.

Don Schwartz Motion to approve updates to policy and procedures as well as updates to the emergency shelter, permanent supportive housing, and rapid rehousing standards with recommended amendment made by staff for project-based vouchers; Una Glass seconds motion.

Public Comment: Gerry La Loden-Berg

Objections/Abstentions: None

The motion passed

- **Strategic Plan Committee:**

Dave Kiff provided update on staff recommendations on future direction for the CoC Strategic Planning Committee. Two recommendations provided, on page 58 of packet.

Public Comment: Alice Linn

Don Schwartz moves to approve first option, for SPC to continue meeting for 1 hour every 2 months, with special attention to updating first year action items; Danielle Danforth seconds.

Abstentions/Objections: none

The motion passed

- **Homeless Information System (HMIS)/Data Committee:** Daniel Over-bury-Howland gave update, HMIS committee met last week items reviewed/discussed included, local data collection requirements, next steps on Lead Agency Evaluation Plan.
- **Lived Experience Advisory & Planning Board (LEAP):** Chessy Etheridge provided update. Two new members elected to LEAP Board, four members participating in HomeFirst discussion to support policy design, provided feedback on pending encampment resolution fund, and revamping long-term and short-term priorities.

Public Comment: none

11. Review Agenda for Next CoC Board Meeting: (03:46:50-03:56:30)

Dennis Pocekay went over March 2023 draft agenda.

Martha Cheever would like to add MOU between Human Services department and the CoC for Family Unification Vouchers to March agenda.

Don Schwartz would like to add Keep Oakland Housed model, model of prevention.

Public Comment: none at this time

12. Board Member Questions & Comments: (03:56:35-04:00:54)

Don Schwartz extend invitation for next Tuesday 10 o'clock tour at Labath Landing. Our can accommodate 4 more people, email Don in advance if interested.

Chris Coursey expanded on new encampments that BOS approved funding for up to two safe parking, safe camping sites on county property. This is in response to rapid growth to number of people who are camping on the JRT. Money used is for a year under the control of DHS through some medical reimbursements and unspent ARPA funds that were allocated to Corona virus response. Approval is for 1 year, meetings with community to be held.

Mark Krug shared update on PSH projects that will be coming online. 1. Studios at Montero located in Northern Petaluma using Homekey funds and in partnership with COTS and City of Petaluma to wrap up construction in May, referrals from CES. 2. SR Caritas Homes phase one, under construction done to be completed in June. Referrals through CES. 64 units 30 set aside for CH with psychiatric disabilities.

13. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items: (04:01:01-04:04:52)

Teddie Pierce, Alice Linn

Meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.