



Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 24, 2022

1:00 – 5:00 p.m. Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

Recording of Meeting: <https://sonomacounty.ca.gov/board-meeting-august-24-2022>

Welcome and Roll Call (00:05:18 - 00:00:07:11)

- Tom Schwedhelm, Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m. He went over the agenda and clarified Zoom rules around public comment and Brown Act guidelines.
- Roll Call was taken:
 - *Present: Ben Leroi, Santa Rosa Community Health Center (arrived late); Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa); Tom Schwedhelm, City of Santa Rosa; Dennis Pocekay, City of Petaluma; Chris Coursey, Sonoma County Supervisor; Margaret Sluyk, Reach for Home; Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Sonoma County Behavioral Health; Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Lived Experience Advisory and Planning Board; Cheyenne McConnell, Youth Community Member; Una Glass, City of Sebastopol; Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park; John Moore, City of Cotati; Madolyn Agrimonti, City of Sonoma; Stephen Sotomayor, City of Healdsburg*
 - *Absent: Chris Keys, Redwood Gospel Mission*

A quorum was present.

1. Agenda, Consent Calendar, and Minutes Approval (00:07:12 – 00:11:38)

Tom Schwedhelm reported the November 23 Regular CoC Board Meeting has been rescheduled to November 30 and there will not be a Regular CoC Board Meeting in December; however, there will be a Special CoC Board Meeting tentatively scheduled for December 15 that will include Board elections. Jennielynn Holmes and Margaret Sluyk requested that Agenda Item #8 be moved to Item #3.

Public comment: None at this time.

John Moore moved to approve with the suggested adjustment to the agenda order; seconded by Dennis Pocekay.

Ayes: Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Una Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ben Leroi, Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell,

The motion passed.

2. Vacant Service Provider Seat Selection (00:11:39 – 00:36:09)

Lisa Fatu, formerly with Social Advocates for Youth who held the Homeless Service Provider CoC Board seat, has stepped down from the Board. According to the CoC Charter, “In the event of a vacancy of an elected member, the members of the CoC Board will elect a successor to hold the seat until the next regular election.” This seat will complete Lisa’s 2-year term now that the Governance Charter has been updated to say, “In the event of a vacancy of an elected member, the members of the CoC Board will elect a successor to hold the seat until the remainder of the vacated seats term.” CoC Staff opened the nomination period on Thursday, July 28, and set a deadline of 5:00 p.m. on Monday, August 15, for nominations to be submitted. Staff received four nominations:

1. Mark Krug
2. Mary Haynes
3. Alethea Larson
4. Arthur George

All nominees provided a brief statement to the Board.

Public Comment: Adrienne Lauby, Diana Rich

Madolyn Agrimonti moved to approve the nomination of Mark Krug; seconded by Dennis Pocekay.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: Chris Coursey, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Cheyenne McDonnell, Una Glass

Abstain: None
Absent: Chris Keys

The motion passed.

3. Homeless Service Provider Group Update (00:36:10 – 00:59:12)

Margaret Sluyk provided some background on why this group was formed, which is to provide feedback. They will meet twice a month. She thanked Dave Kiff for his assistance in getting the group up and running and answered questions from the Board.

Public Comment: Teddie Pierce, Gail Simons

4. Reports from Lead Agency Staff (00:59:13 – 01:13:18)

- Housing and Homelessness Incentive Program (HHIP) Progress Update: Michael Gause reported a draft budget and goals will be presented at the September CoC Board Meeting.
- Built for Zero Update: Thai Hilton reported they decided on Foundations for Success as a cohort. Plenty of seats are available if anyone is interested in participating.
- Joe Rodota Trail Update: Dave Kiff provided information on the trail activities and that 98 people were contacted, with a large majority of them being housed in non-congregate shelters. The trail has been reopened to the public with some additional fencing to keep the trail open and the encampments away.
- Centralized Housing Locator Update: Dave Kiff reported that Thai's team is working with Martha Cheever to develop policies and procedures for results-based accountability. Metrics associated with performance need to be presented to the Board of Supervisors

Public Comment: Gregory Fearon, Cathleen Tandy

5. 2022 CoC Competition Overview and Scoring for New Projects (01:13:19: – 01:32:09)

Dennis Pocekay shared a presentation that included a timeline for the review and approval of the Final Priority List that will be presented at a Special Meeting on September 7, 2022. Michael Gause answered questions from Board members.

Public Comment: Teddie Pierce

Kathleen Pozzi moved to approve the Competition Program Scoring Tool for New Projects; seconded by Una Glass.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Una

Glass, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor, Mark Krug

Noes: None

Abstain: Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge

Absent: Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell

The motion passed.

6. Word from the Street (01:32:10: – 01:36:10)

Rebekah Sammet expressed her appreciation for this topic being on the agenda for each meeting. She reported on an August 16 march by unsheltered people from Courthouse Square to the City Chambers. Their main message was they can't wait on a 5-year plan and need a plan right now.

Public Comment: None at this time.

7. MOU Between the CoC Board and Lead Agency (01:36:11 – 02:31:43)

Don Schwartz provided information on a proposed Memo of Understanding (MOU), which is meant to clarify expectations and formalize what the CoC Board can expect and what the County would expect from the Board.

Public Comment: Teddie Pierce, Cathleen Tandy, Gerry La Londe-Berg, Adrienne Lauby, Gail Simons, Dannielle Danforth

8. 10-Minute Break (02:31:44 – 02:46:59)

A quorum was present.

9. Reports from Standing Committees: (02:47:00 – 04:25:05)

- **Funding and Evaluation Committee:** Teddie Pierce reported a planning and orientation meeting was held in August. In September, they are going to be reviewing definitions of the homeless service response system as they relate to the data.

Public Comment: Adrienne Lauby

- **Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee:** Thai Hilton shared a presentation on proposed updates to the Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures.

Public Comment: None at this time.

Kathleen Pozzi moved to approve the changes to the Coordinated Entry Policies and Procedures; seconded by Dennis Pocekay.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor, Mark Krug
Noes: None
Abstain: None
Absent: Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass

The motion passed.

Thai Hilton shared a presentation on the Emergency Housing Voucher Supportive Services Gap and Referral Subpopulations and answered questions from the Board. Rebecca Lane, Manager of the Santa Rosa Housing Authority, provided additional information about vouchers.

Public Comment: Lynn Scuri, Gail Simons, Adrienne Lauby, Hunter Scott, Teddie Pierce, Cathleen Tandy,

Don Schwartz made the following motion:

1. Approve staff recommendation with following changes:
2. When supportive services are available for those with scores of 12 or below, Lead Agency staff and providers will prioritize these individuals.

Board Direction:

3. Explore and report back on the use of the following as funding sources for supportive services for current or future voucher holders, as well as higher-need individuals in PSH:
 - a. CalAIM
 - b. Future CoC funding
 - c. Cities' funding
 - d. Measure O
 - e. Catholic Charities funding for families
4. Explore reducing barriers to supportive services:
 - a. Increasing wages
 - b. Extending duration of contracts with service providers
 - c. Different regulations between Housing Authorities and CoC

5. Request the County Health Department to explore and report back on feasibility of re-allocating highly skilled IMDT staff to supportive services for voucher holders or others in permanent housing.

Chris Coursey suggested a friendly amendment to make the motion just numbers 1 and 2 with 3, 4, and 5 as just the Board's direction to staff. Don Schwartz accepted the friendly amendment.

Ayes: Jennielynn Holmes, Tom Schwedhelm, Dennis Pocekay, Chris Coursey, Margaret Sluyk, Kathleen Pozzi, Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Rebekah Sammet as proxy for Chessy Etheridge, Don Schwartz, John Moore, Madolyn Agrimonti, Stephen Sotomayor, Mark Krug

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Ben Leroi, Chris Keys, Cheyenne McConnell, Una Glass

The motion passed.

- **Strategic Planning Committee:** Stephen Sotomayor reported they met on August 19 to continue their work on Phase 2 of the Strategic Planning Process, which is the development of a Strategic Plan. The work groups are starting to conclude their work, and he invited everyone to their September meeting.
- **Lived Experience and Advisory and Planning (LEAP) Board:** Rebekah Sammet reported they are continuing to meet every other week, and many members are on other standing committees. They hosted a discussion with Coordinated Entry about creating a subcommittee for shelter monitoring, and they created an adult shelter solutions subcommittee. They will finalize their charter at their next meeting.

Public Comment: None at this time

10. Review Agenda for September 28, 2022, Meeting (04:25:06 – 04:26:28)

Don Schwartz requested a discussion on what the CoC wants to include in the MOU with the Lead Agency with the potential for taking an action.

Public Comment: None at this time.

11. Board Member Questions and Comments (04:26:29 – 04:32:58)

Rebekah Sammet would like to get involved with landlord negotiations and coaching voucher holders to bridge the gap. Jennielynn Holmes extended an invitation to the opening of Caritas Center on September 9 from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. and thanked everyone who had been a part of the journey. Madolyn Agrimonti asked if geography is part of

equity. Mark Krug asked what time the Special Meeting on September 7 will be held. Alea Tantarelli verified it is from 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Public Comment: None at this time.

12. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items (04:32:59 – 04:37:00)

Public Comment: Gerry La Londe-Berg, Adrienne Lauby

Meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.