



Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting #1 Meeting Minutes

December 9, 2020

2:30 PM – 5:00 PM Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

[Recording of Meeting](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Barbie Robinson, Interim Executive Director of the Community Development Commission (CDC), called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and introduced staff members who will be supporting the governance body (Michael Gause, Karissa White, Leah Benz, Alea Tantarelli, Natasha Otis), and went over the agenda.
- Michael Gause, Ending Homelessness Manager, welcomed everyone and went over basic ground rules.
- Roll Call was taken:
 - *Present: Leo Chyi for Lynda Hopkins, County of Sonoma; Tom Schwedhelm, City of Santa Rosa; Kevin McDonnell, City of Petaluma; Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa; Chuck Fernandez, Committee on the Shelterless; Angela Struckmann, Sonoma County Human Services; Bill Carter, Sonoma County Health Services; Margaret Sluyk, Reach For Home; Ludmilla Bade, Community Member; Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park; Ben Leroi, Santa Rosa Community Health; Stephen Sotomayor, City of Healdsburg; Lisa Fatu, Social Advocates for Youth.*
 - *Absent: Kithci Maron, Community Member; Alena Wall, Kaiser Permanente.*
- Michael Gause and Tina Rivera, Assistant Director of Sonoma County Community Development Commission, gave an introduction of the Sonoma County Continuum of Care (CoC) program, history, core operations, purpose, member roles, lead agency and HUD-Designated “Collaborative Applicant.”

2. Election of CoC Board Chair and Vice Chair

Alela Wall arrived at this time.

- Members eligible for the role of Chair are those who do not receive funds from the CoC. Nominees for the role of Chair: Ben Leroi was nominated by Chuck Fernandez. Kevin McDonnell was nominated by Tom Schwedhelm. Don Schwartz seconded Tom’s nomination.
- The Vice Chair role is eligible to all members.

Nominees for the role of Vice Chair: Jennielynn Holmes was nominated by Stephen Sotomayor. Angela Struckmann was nominated by Chuck Fernandez.

- The Chair and Vice-Chair nominees provided statements and the CoC Board members voted. The meeting continued as staff tabulated votes.

3. Ratification of Previous Leadership Council Actions

Brendan Kearns, outside counsel, went over the proposed ratification of previous Leadership Council actions, explained that these actions have already been taken and how this was merely for informational purposes.

Kevin McDonnell motioned to accept the Leadership Council Action Items report and Ludmilla Bade seconded.

Ayes: Leo Chyi, Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonnell, Jennielynn Holmes, Chuck Fernandez, Angela Struckmann, Bill Carter, Margaret Sluyk, Ludmilla Bade, Don Schwartz, Ben Leroi, Lisa Fatu.

Absent: Kithci Maron, Alena Wall, Stephen Sotomayor.

The motion passed.

4. CoC Board Chair & Vice Chair Election Continued

Alena Wall left at this time.

Ben Leroi was voted in as the new CoC Board Chair. There was a tie for Vice Chair. A discussion ensued.

Kevin McDonnell motioned to conduct an immediate Vice Chair vote by email and if results ended in another tie, then this item would be moved to January. Bill Carter seconded.

Ayes: Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonnell, Jennielynn Holmes, Margaret Sluyk, Ludmilla Bade, Don Schwartz, Ben Leroi, Stephen Sotomayor, Lisa Fatu.

Noes: Leo Chyi, Chuck Fernandez, Angela Struckmann, Bill Carter.

Absent: Kithci Maron, Alena Wall.

The motion passed.

CoC Board members submitted their votes by email. The meeting continued as staff tabulated votes for the Vice Chair position. **Jennielynn Holmes was voted in as the new CoC Vice Chair.**

5. January 2021 CoC Board Agenda items

Two meetings will be held in January 2021 due to funding and charter deadlines. The January CoC Board meeting dates are January 15, 2021 from 1:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. and January 22, 2021 from 2:30 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. A formal presentation will be made at a future meeting regarding the recommended allocations for funding.

The CoC Board Chair will be sending out an email to CoC Board members to solicit future agenda items. Ludmilla Bade asked to address in future Board meetings the issue of encampment sweeps, and creating a subcommittee or taskforce for lived experience.

Don Schwartz motioned to have the existing charter, in Word format, and the accompanying HUD document be emailed to CoC Board members, and also posted on the website as soon as possible. Ludmilla Bade seconded.

Ayes: Leo Chyi, Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonnell, Jennielynn Holmes, Chuck Fernandez, Angela Struckmann, Bill Carter, Margaret Sluyk, Ludmilla Bade, Don Schwartz, Ben Leroi, Stephen Sotomayor, Lisa Fatu.

Absent: Kithci Maron, Alena Wall.

The motion passed.

Don Schwartz motioned that any proposed charter amendments received one week prior to the meeting from the public or Board members, be sent to all Board members - subject to change pending conversations with Chair and Vice Chair. Stephen Sotomayor seconded.

Ayes: Leo Chyi, Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonnell, Jennielynn Holmes, Chuck Fernandez, Angela Struckmann, Bill Carter, Margaret Sluyk, Don Schwartz, Ben Leroi, Stephen Sotomayor, Lisa Fatu.

Abstentions: Ludmilla Bade.

Absent: Kithci Maron, Alena Wall.

The motion passed.

6. Public Comment

The following members of the public made comments during this time:

- Teddie Pierce
- Adrienne Lauby
- Alice Linn
- Mary Haynes

7. Adjournment

Jennielynn Holmes motioned to adjourn the meeting and Bill Carter seconded.

Ayes: Kevin McDonnell, Jennielynn Holmes, Chuck Fernandez, Bill Carter, Margaret Sluyk, Ludmilla Bade, Don Schwartz, Ben Leroi, Stephen Sotomayor, Lisa Fatu.

Absent: Leo Chyi, Tom Schwedhelm, Angela Struckmann, Kithci Maron, Alena Wall.

The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 5:14pm.