



Sonoma County Continuum of Care Board Meeting Meeting Minutes

March 10, 2021

1:00 pm – 5:00 pm Pacific Time – Meeting held by Zoom

[Recording of Meeting](#)

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Ben Leroi, Continuum of Care (CoC) Board Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. Ben Leroi went over the agenda, clarified Zoom rules around public comment and Brown Act guidelines.
- Roll Call was taken:
 - Present: Supervisor Chris Coursey, District 3; Tom Schwedhelm, City of Santa Rosa; Kevin McDonnell, City of Petaluma; Chuck Fernandez, Committee on the Shelterless; Margaret Sluyk, Reach For Home; Don Schwartz, City of Rohnert Park; Ben Leroi, Santa Rosa Community Health; Stephen Sotomayor, City of Healdsburg; Angela Struckmann, Sonoma County Human Services; Bill Carter, Sonoma County Health Services
 - Absent: Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities of the Diocese of Santa Rosa; Ludmilla Bade, Community Member; Kitchi Maron, Community Member; Alena Wall, Kaiser Permanente; Lisa Fatu, Social Advocates for Youth

2. Agenda Approval

- DHS Staff Leah Benz proposed to move agenda item 6 to March 24th as staff is not prepared to make a recommendation.
- Chair Ben Leroi confirmed that staff is prepared to answer questions.

Chris Coursey motioned to approve the agenda making Item 6 a discussion item; Tom Schwedhelm seconded.

Ludmilla Bade joined at 1:05 pm

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonnell, Chuck Fernandez, Bill Carter, Margaret Sluyk, Ludmilla Bade, Sean Hamlin, Don Schwartz, Stephen Sotomayor, Angela Struckmann

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Kitchi Maron, Lisa Fatu, Alena Wall,

The motion passed.

3. Approval of Minutes from 2/24 meeting

Alena Wall joined at 1:08

Angela Struckmann notes that she was not recused from item number 9.
Alena Wall to email edits into staff.

Kevin McDonnell motioned to approve the minutes from 2/24 with the proposed edits to include Alena's email; Don Schwartz seconded.

Jennielynn Holmes joined at 1:13

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Jennielynn Holmes, Chris Coursey, Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonnell, Chuck Fernandez, Angela Struckmann, Bill Carter, Margaret Sluyk, Don Schwartz, Stephen Sotomayor

Noes: None

Abstain: Ludmilla Bade, did not review; Chris Coursey, not present for the meeting.

Absent: Kitchi Maron, Alena Wall, Lisa Fatu

The motion passed.

4. Word From the Street

Ludmilla Bade gave an update on current encampment sweeps, described her ideas on fundamental character attribution, and gave a goal on what she would like to further enhance on in the future.

5. System Performances Measures Overview (Informational Item)

The Community Development Commission's HMIS Coordinator Daniel Overbury-Howland gave an overview of the HUD required annual System Performance Measures (SPM) and Sonoma County's 2020 SPM submission. The purpose of these measures is to provide a more complete picture of how well a community is preventing and ending homelessness.

Board discussion ensued around the benefit of the data and the potential use of a future committee to highlight important and relevant CoC data and data comparisons.

Lisa Fatu arrived at 1:30 pm

Daniel will send out 7c to the board as it was not included within the packet materials.

Alena Wall requested information on race and ethnicity.

Don Schwartz requested for a RRH and PSH break out and the use of bigger fonts in future reporting.

Jennielynn Holmes suggested a quarterly or biannual data review.

Executive Director Barbie Robinson noted that subcommittees can help strategize data pulls and provide direction to staff with regards to specific data they would like to make informed decisions.

6. Approval of Allocations of Unspent Homeless Emergency Aid Program (HEAP) Funds (ACTION ITEM) (Item Moved to March 24, 2021)

This item is being delayed, Chuck Mottern and Tina Rivera are available to answer questions today, but not prepared to make a recommendation. Staff will be requesting proposals that include a spending plan by June 30, 2021. Proposals will be presented to the board on March 24, 2021.

7. 5-Minute Break

8. Approval FY 21-22 Homeless System of Care Funding Policies (ACTION ITEM)

The CDC's Homeless Services Funding Coordinator Chuck Mottern provided a presentation on the revised policies for the Fiscal Year 2021-22 Sonoma County Consolidated Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA). The Policies govern the allocation and administration of an estimated \$2,493,660 in combined annual and one-time Federal and State Funding for homeless services in Sonoma County under the purview of the CoC Board.

Board notes that they had voted to include the all of the potential funding sources supporting the homeless system of care and the flexibility on budget cuts for the organizations during the last meeting

Ben Leroi clarifies that the budget cut flexibility will be added into the document and an appendix of the other available funds so that the board can ensure they make a holistically minded decision. (section 4.2.5 Summary of Available Funds by Funding Source)

Don Schwartz suggested changes:

PG 42: 6.1.7: says BOS is legally responsible... INSERT appropriate qualifier

6.1.6 Propose change: "SC BOS will approve CoC's decision on homeless funding." Clarify the role of the Board of Supervisors in terms of the contracting process. Do they have the authority to change the decisions of the CoC Board or are they only approving the administration process to go into a legal contract?

PG 42: 6.1.7: Include reference to federal and State ESG.

PG 49: 8.4.2.1: BOS shall be responsible for CDBG/local -> say county discretionary fund rather than local fund dollars

PG 42: last paragraph: 6.1.8 – CDBG publicservice funds... CoC decisions to be ratified by BOS?

Don Schwartz asked for further clarity on whether the decisions made by CoC board are subject to change by the Board of Supervisors (BOS).

Don Schwartz made a request to have a joint meeting with the BOS.

Item moved to March 24, 2021. The Board directed staff to make the changes to the policies as discussed during the previous CoC Board meeting and to include line item edits per Don Schwartz request.

9. 5 Minute Break

10. Committee Status Updates & Approval of Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee (Action Item)

Department of Health Services Leah Benz gave an overview of the approved committees. The application period for the Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee is currently closed, and applications for the remaining committees will be accepted through April 1st. Jennielynn Holmes, Vice Chair, reported on the application selection process and explained the reasoning behind the members selected to participate in the Coordinated Entry Advisory Committee. Selection criteria included diversity of views, location, population experience, and considered who applied to multiple committees. Other subject matter experts will be brought into committee meetings as staff. As of this meeting, no CoC Board members have applied

to participate on the 2021 CoC Competition Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee. Staff encouraged nonconflicted CoC Board members to apply.

The Coordinate Entry Committee Roster:

Kathleen Finigan, Homeless Action!; Mary Hanes, Nation's Finest; Jennielynn Holmes, Catholic Charities & CoC Board Member; Jaclyn Ramirez, Reach For Home; Lisa Fatu, Social Advocates for Youth & CoC Board Member; Amy Ramirez, Providence St. Joseph Health / Memorial Hospital; Jed Heibel, Santa Rosa Community Health; Asya Sorokurs, Legal Aid of Sonoma County; Robin Phoenix, Committee on the Shelterless; Mark Krug, Burbank Housing

Board Comments:

Don Schwartz: Will we see the letter of intent?

Board discussion around current Catholic Charities contract ensues.

Public Comment was made by the following individuals:

Thomas Ells

Teddie Pierce

Maria Barakat

Gregory Fearon

Dannielle Danforth

Adrienne Lauby

Jennielynn Holmes motioned to approve the Coordinated Entry committee as stated; Kevin McDonnell seconded.

Ludmilla Bade noted that she would have liked to see all applicants.

Ayes: Ben Leroi, Tom Schwedhelm, Kevin McDonnell, Jennielynn Holmes, Chris Coursey, Chuck Fernandez, Don Schwartz, Stephen Sotomayor, Alena Wall, Margaret Sluyk, Ludmilla Bade, Bill Carter, Lisa Fatu, Angela Struckmann

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Kitchi Maron

The motion passed.

11. Review Draft Agenda for March 24, 2021 Continuum of Care Board Meeting

Board Comments:

Don Schwartz: Is agenda item #7, is 5.7 in state EG CV Funds

Margaret Sluyk: Item 6 needs recusals for the HHAP funding.

Tom Schwedhelm: Can item 5 be sent as an informational item or be moved to the end of the meeting?

Lisa Fatu: Recommends postponing the 100 day challenge and it not be sent out as informational item.

12. Staff Report

No Staff Report was given.

13. Board Member Questions & Comments

Alena Wall: Built for Zero initiative is being supported by Kaiser in Sonoma County. Can the board be engaged in this opportunity?

Ludmilla Bade: Can that be a standing item?

Don Schwartz: Can funding sources be sent out as an informational item?

Ludmilla Bade: Can we have more opportunities to discuss committees? Can we also create a protocol for suggesting agenda items?

14. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items

Gregory Fearon

Teddie Pierce

Melissa

Allegra Wilson

Gail Simons

15. The meeting adjourned at 4:41 pm.