

Continuum of Care Executive Board Meeting Minutes: 2.23.16

Attending: Shannon Reed, Jim Mathy, Clifton Crump, Jim Eigenberger, Dent Hunt, Luke Radomski, Greg Schramka, Gwat-Yong Lie, Kristin Haglund, David Pifer, John Stibal, Rafael Acevedo, Steve Mahan, Nancy Monarrez, Audra O'Connell, Ahong Xiong, Jan Wilberg, Kent Lovern, Greg Williams, Claire Johnson, Peggy Romo West.

John Stibal began with introductions and called for a review and motion to approve the December 2015 meeting minutes. 1st: David 2nd: Jim Mathy

Consent Agenda Approval 1st: David 2nd: Jim Mathy

Governance Charter: There was a question in regards to the purpose and reasoning behind creating and formalizing the CoC Governance Charter. John Stibal stated that this will help put perimeters around what each body does and essentially will help cut down the Executive Board meetings to about an hour, hour ½. This is an effort to move the Executive Board forward to discuss on real issues. He also noted that the Executive Board should be moving quarterly. Additionally, Rafael stated that the Governance will put in place for the Executive Board a formalized manner of electing officers. Currently, the Governance Charter is in draft form and will be moving to the Provider Advisory Group. There was a question on why the CoC needed to revise the governance charter. The City responded that HUD mandates that each CoC has a Governance Charter that reflects the current situation and that its main purpose is to give structure to the CoC. There was attention brought to ICA being the HMIS lead, IMPACT for Coordinated Entry and the Provider Advisory Group Representation; that these individuals will now be voting members to the Executive Board. David stated that his understanding that when the original Governance Charter as created, there were mandated members. Steve stated that there are still mandated but the restructure is to improve representation and input. Kristin commented on the PIT consent agenda item: she stated that she could have someone at Marquette to scan and upload the PIT surveys and they could then be exported if needed. Nancy stated that this has been tried in the past but it was not as efficient as expected because folks would still need to input that data into ServicePoint.

Dates & Times: There has been much conversation around moving the Executive Board meetings to a quarterly schedule with the flexibility to call a meeting when necessary. The City asked what would be an ideal time and location. John stated that the next meeting will be at the Greater Milwaukee Foundation. There are other locations that would work better for the board; some stated that they would like a location with better parking. Motion of moving meetings to quarterly with a motion from David Pifer and a second from Kent Lovern. Motion carried.

ETH State: Steve explained that there are two pots that go into Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds. He stated that there is the State of Wisconsin grant will be released in the two weeks. The direction that HUD is moving towards RRH as the prefer program type to fund. The City is the grant manager but the State has the power to award the funding. The State also creates the funding Matrix on who is going to be funded and what is the best practice. The City may be sending out an RFP on who is willing to continue with this funding. Steve also stated that there is \$45,000 in HOME dollars that will be available. The City asked the Board if they would recommend the \$45,000 going towards RRH for families. Jim is looking for clarification in regards to HUD; HUD mentioned that folks that enter into RRH can maintain their CH status, this is true? And if so, then can they be placed into PSH? There was a discussion around

the success and retention rate of RRH programs for families in Milwaukee. Hope House was a prime example on the success. There was also discussion on the implications RRH for families would have on the Emergency Shelter system and how the Emergency Shelters should be strictly for emergency situations. Those that are CH should not be in ES ever after this year. Jim advised that the CoC should not do RRH programs for those CH. The City stated that there will be a RFP issued for the \$103,000 available from the City and in the next two weeks we will be sending out the RFP for State ESG.

Current Hot Topics: Angels among Us—Rafael stated that with the winter weather, warming rooms for those experiencing homelessness are currently a topic in the larger community. With groups, such as Angels Among Us, who have a keen interest in supporting the homeless, what the CoC is finding is a gap between faith-based organizations and non-faith based organizations that are not a part or aware of the CoC and engaging them to see what is already being done and how they can assist with the system we have in place. Due to this along with growing interest from the media, there is a sense of urgency around addressing the issue of homelessness and how there is a system in place that is working to end homelessness in Milwaukee. In an effort to bridge this “gap,” the CoC is considering to plan a symposium on Homelessness. The CoC is looking to the Executive Board for direction on how to control messages that speak to the CoC data and system.

Sex Offenders—there was conversation in regards to how to begin the question of how to house sex offenders who are experiencing homelessness. An idea was to (post elections) have an open and honest conversation: this is a crisis problem and we need the power players to be at the table. Can we be proactive enough to start thinking together and risk thinking out loud? Jim Mathy will be assisting on this.

Coordinated Entry—the Coordinated Entry workgroup has been disbanded and instead the CoC will be working to create an Advisory Board. Currently, the lead agencies for Coordinated Entry are working on a MOU with providers but have found that there is a need to create formal policies and procedures. Some items will need to be reviewed by attorneys to make sure that there are no areas that cannot legally be crossed. Examples of legal review are for situations such as: children services where families that refuse to go into shelter, should they be reported? Service Animals, what are the fair housing laws and do they apply to shelters? The CE leads are asking that the attorneys that sit on the CoC board help where they are able to. Kristin stated that she can help with legislation around children. David and Kent will be reached out by Audra. However, Audra is stepping out of CE and will be moving to be the ED of Walker’s Point. The City stated that the City Attorney is also available to work with the CoC; just need to refer.

Announcements: Kent had an update on the meetings with the Downtown BID, Jim Mathy and a few others: the group has been working together to identify those who are CH in the area and has helped them to gain housing. One day a week, the D.A goes out with the police to identify who are homeless and/or panhandling and provides services for them. Currently the City and County D.A.s are looking to create full time community prosecutors to assist with this initiative.

The City stated that March 15th and 16th are potential Housing First training dates.
Meeting adjourned.