



Strategic Planning Committee Meeting Minutes

Location: Housing Authority of the County of San Joaquin
2575 Grand Canal Blvd., Room 222
Tuesday, June 4, 2019

PRESENT:

Kristen Birtwhistle, United Way
Jane Butterfield, Business Council San Joaquin County
Adam Cheshire, San Joaquin County
Lakshmi Dhanvanthari, Health Plan of San Joaquin
Natasha Garcia, San Joaquin County Health Services
John Ledbetter, Lodi Community Foundation
Jolyn McMillan, Stockton Shelter for the Homeless
Jon Mendelson, Ready to Work
Randy Pinnelli, Community Medical Centers
Peter Ragsdale, Housing Authority of the County of San Joaquin (Chair)
Tammy Shaff, Dignity Health
Amy Smith, San Joaquin County Behavioral Health Services
Kay Speckels, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

ABSENT:

Max Vargas, Office of Mayor Michael Tubbs

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m.

The group discussed the City of Stockton Councilmembers/San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors joint meeting, anticipated funding from the City of Stockton to hire a consultant, San Joaquin County funding, and CoC funding.

Adam shared names from a list of consultants that he is compiling and advised that he will be contacting a referral at City of Rafael. Anyone from the group who has a referral can provide it to Adam to be included on the list that Adam will be providing to Max.

Randy indicated that he was going to recommend Home Base, he has a summary from Solano County, and a copy of their Strategic Plan that he will distribute to the group.

Jon stated that the consultant the City hires needs to work primarily with the CoC. The group discussed the City's involvement and the need to clarify the following expectations: The City of Stockton will be providing the funding to hire a consultant; there will be one Strategic Plan; and, the City will work through the CoC which will act as the lead entity to decide priorities. Jon advised that the CoC is not able to hire anyone and that the CoC needs to discuss being its own entity. Kristen explained that the CoC can come under the arm of United Way as an LLC and would have the ability to utilize funding. The group agreed that it is important the COC be visible as the lead, the City of Stockton be involved, and that there be a collaborative effort.

Peter distributed a list of strategic objectives that encompasses objectives from the United States Interagency Council on Homelessness (USIH), City of Stockton and County of San Joaquin.

Adam distributed a copy of the February 27, 2017, letter from Monica Nino, County Administrator, addressed to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Adoption of Strategic Priorities on Homelessness for San Joaquin County.

The group discussed setting priorities that are applicable to San Joaquin County, establishing a plan based on population, and then having the City and County adopt as their priorities. John expressed concerns about ensuring all appearances as being fair and open minded as possible and being careful about the way it is presented to the Community.

The group discussed the RFP, strategic plan timeline, and the City of Stockton's desire to have the Scope of Work by the end of June. Adam will distribute a Scope of Work to the group for comment.

John asked if a paragraph outlining what is going to happen can be written and sent to the group. Peter advised that the RFP will identify the process, the multiple funding sources, the managing parties, and a timeline.

Adam shared information about funding opportunities and advised that an application for California Emergency Solutions and Housing (CESH) grant funding, to be administered by the County, will be submitted by the June 14, 2019 deadline. The group discussed the amount of funding that would be available if the CESH award is received and agreed that 5% (\$50,000) should be applied towards the Strategic Plan.

Peter moved, seconded by Tammy that if the CESH grant is awarded, 5% or \$50,000 of the award be utilized for the Strategic Plan; Randy suggested the motion be amended to include that the Strategic Planning Committee will identify and recommend use of the CESH funds to the County Administrator. Tammy amended the motion to include Randy's suggestion. All present members, except Adam Cheshire who abstained, voted in favor of the motion as amended by Tammy.

The group discussed composing a letter to the City Manager. The group shared ideas about components of the letter such as an introduction, it should focus on the idea that homelessness is solved with housing, it should identify how other cities in San Joaquin County can contribute funds towards the Strategic Plan, how the County will manage the funds, and it should reflect funding amounts that other cities have already contributed towards homelessness. Jon added that the letter needs to reinforce that services without shelter and housing are not going to work. Jon advised that he has reached out to the Cities of Sacramento and Modesto to request a copy of their line item budgets for homelessness. Jon suggested the letter also contain information pertaining to the high price tag for expanding capacity.

Jon distributed a copy of the San Joaquin Continuum of Care Strategic Plan visualization document he created.

Jon informed the group that he prepared and sent a letter to each organization that operates an emergency shelter in San Joaquin County, requesting a sample budget of what it would take to double the capacity of their shelter. Jon advised the deadline for a response is June 30th and that to date he has received a response from Lodi. Jon will email a copy of the letter to Peter and Peter will distribute to the group.

The group discussed the need to obtain rough estimates pertaining to the number of emergency beds, impacts on health, beds for persons with dementia, how numbers will increase due to SB1152 (discharge law) which calls for tracking. Following the discussion, Adam asked that members in the health field send their information to him.

Lakishma stated that there are a lot of intertwined issues and suggested obtaining information that would be helpful from Stanislaus County since they are further along in this process. Natasha added that it would also be good to have incarceration numbers and law enforcement numbers. Tammy believes there is a need to figure out the return on investment.

The group discussed expectations of the consultant. Adam informed the group that the expectations will be identified in the Scope of Work. Lakishma added that the Scope of Work should include an introduction that addresses the investors return on their investment, it should identify current issues, financial impact, how costs will increase over time, how much is currently being spent, etc. Adam distributed a copy of the Fort Worth/Arlington/Tarrant county Strategic Visioning and Planning RFP. The group discussed setting ambitious and realistic goals and the importance of making progress.

Randy asked about federal funding. Kate explained that federal funding is now open ended as it is a cycle. The group discussed HUD/VASH vouchers and the ability to convert the vouchers to project-based vouchers.

The group discussed the need for affordable housing and Adam pointed out that Victory Gardens is currently the only affordable housing project slated for fall 2022. Peter discussed funding for the Victory Garden's project and informed the group that there is an approximately

\$2.2 million gap in the project and that he has reached out to the City Manager's office to discuss the project.

Adam moved that the Minutes of the May 7, 2019, Strategic Planning Committee Meeting be approved as presented, seconded by John, and unanimously approved.

Jane asked about system-wide performance. Jon advised that it will flow from priorities stated in the Strategic Plan and that it helps to evaluate the progress being made in increasing capacity, reducing the amount of time that the homeless are homeless, and that it is critical in measuring outcomes, evaluation and scoring. Jon informed the group that the local ranking tool was approved by the CoC. Kristen suggested that key Councilmembers be provided with updates.

JoLynn advised that a model with changes for the Stockton Shelter, transitional housing, and sober living, are forthcoming to gain support around all the issues. The group discussed the effects additional capacity would have on homelessness and new shelter space. Amy suggested having a marketing campaign on homelessness prevention. Jon informed the group that there are recommendations for prevention items.

Adam moved to adjourn, Peter seconded, unanimous vote to adjourn at 4:28 p.m.