

MINUTES: Board of Directors — Special Meeting

May 8, 2020, at 8 a.m.

Virtual meeting



Notice: This special meeting of the SJCoC Board of Directors is called in accordance with Section VIII, Part E of the SJCoC Charter by Chair Jon Mendelson to facilitate needed coordination and action regarding the COVID-19 public health crisis and other relevant business of the Board.

Location Notice: Because of guidance from public health officials, this meeting is being conducted virtually. Log-in information was distributed to the SJCoC General Membership.

Call to Order

8 a.m.

Roll Call

Adam Cheshire, Edward Figueroa, Matt Garber, Kate Hutchinson, Mike Kelly, Britton Kimball, John Ledbetter, Bill Mendelson, Randy Pinnelli, Peter Ragsdale, Carrie Wright, Jon Mendelson all present.

Jenn Rowell excused absent.

Minutes

1. Minutes from 04-17-2020 meeting
 - a. Minutes were adopted as submitted. Motion by Mike Kelly. Second from Adam Cheshire. Passed unanimously.
2. Minutes from 04-24-2020 meeting
 - a. [Minutes were not available](#)

Public Comment

1. Public Comment on issues that appear on the 05-08-20 agenda

No comment received.

Discussion, Information, and Action Items

1. Critical updates on efforts to obtain shelter/housing/services in response to COVID-19

Consider and adopt any action needed by the Board or individual CoC members to support response efforts.

 - a. Project Roomkey update

Adam Cheshire: On Tuesday, May 5, people started to be put into the Motel 6 off Charter Way and Navy Drive. The list of priority placements is primarily through HMIS, also from city managers of other communities. Most referrals are coming from SSH and GCRM. HAS and CMC have been involved. HMIS Lead will follow up to see if people are being enrolled, etc.

Randy: Part of the problem is the packets supposed to be coming with people, only received three or four of the registration sheets. JoLyn, got picked up yesterday.

b. CARES Act update

Ray Hoo and Chris Becerra said the County is looking to see if the community can either utilize funds for some of the current projects we have, or making the decision whether we should open up a NOFA or not.

Carrie Wright said Stockton is still in the paperwork stage and discussing how to support service providers as well as small businesses.

Bill Mendelson stated that the City should coordinate with the HMIS Lead Agency to ensure tracking of data regarding those staying in the City of Stockton COVID-19 trailers. Carrie and Jon Mendelson agreed to follow up after the meeting.

2. Update on Strategic Plan

Update from most recent meeting of Strategic Planning Committee and timeline for approval by the SJCoC.

Peter Ragsdale provided a brief update about the most recent actions regarding the Strategic Plan on homelessness. The current plan is to have approval of the Strategic Planning Committee and SJCoC Board prior to the end of May.

3. Review, Consider, and Approve report from Emergency Shelter Committee on Wintertime Shelter Expansion

Kristen Birtwhistle gave a presentation on a report from the Emergency Shelter Committee that was prepared in partnership with San Joaquin Data Co-Op about the Wintertime Shelter Expansion that was funded by San Joaquin County and the City of Stockton to expand winter capacity of Stockton Shelter for the Homeless and Gospel Center Rescue Mission (Stockton). Britton Kimball of GCRM, Jo Lyn McMillan of SSH, and Tori Verber Salazar of the District Attorney's Office also provided input to the report presentation. The report was provided the day before the meeting but was accepted by the Board for review.

Bill Mendelson commented that while the effort shows a number of people came together and have worked to strengthen the ability to cooperate and provide services, he wondered whether the numbers showed a significant impact. While the new shelter space may have served people

who had never been served before, the overall numbers of people who were sheltered does not seem to have significantly increased.

Edward Figueroa stated that COVID-19 had a large impact and that a different type of emergency response became a priority during the period covered by the report, as service providers were scrambling to keep people and teams safe, a shift in focus.

Randy Pinnelli agreed with Bill, and stated he wanted the report to show the existing capacity, the expanded capacity, and then the nightly bed count.

Peter Ragsdale agreed with Edward that there were COVID-19 challenges and that there is certainly no question that the organizations were not over-resourced and that there is dignity to providing individuals a bed instead of a mat, and that any service provider working in good faith could use more resources. But said there should be an honest deep dive into the data, as there are hard choices to make around funding recommendations.

Britt Kimball commented about the difficulty serving the unsheltered population, especially that there is a much higher percentage of people who have substance abuse issues than the numbers and data show. It is very difficult, almost to the point of impossibility, to link people to services. Getting this population hooked up to services that they do not want is a very difficult challenge. Getting them exposed to shelter services is the beginning in breaking the cycle.

Jon Mendelson provided his opinion that any funding recommendations in the report regarding ongoing funding for winter shelter expansion could not currently be supported by the SJCoC Board, and that the report also should discuss the process by which the recipients of expansion funds were selected, and information regarding the amount of money spent on the effort and the sources of that funding. He also echoed the concerns of Randy Pinnelli about seeing the raw numbers of people served from the previous winter compared to the current winter.

Carrie Wright proposed that funding recommendations be split from the report and dealt with by the SJCoC Board on a strategic level, and the report sent to the SJC Board of Supervisors be focused on data.

Jon Mendelson proposed adopting the feedback from the Board and Carrie Wright's approach. The Board of Directors gave unanimous consent to the following feedback regarding a report prepared by the SJCoC Emergency Shelter Committee in the hopes that the following items can be amended in the report prior to the report's release:

- Include a background summary detailing the process of how Gospel Center Rescue Mission (Stockton) and the Stockton Shelter for the Homeless were selected by the Committee as recipients of support of Wintertime Shelter Expansion funds
- Include a tally of the amount of money that was awarded to the Wintertime Shelter Expansion effort, and an explanation regarding the sources of that money
- Include a table comparing the "nightly census" at both GCRM and SSH between the 2018-19 winter and the 2019-20 winter time periods, in the interest of a year-by-year comparison

- Eliminate the “Recommendations” section of the report, and submit the recommendations of the Committee to the SJCoC Board as policy recommendations to be considered as part of the Strategic Plan process and to be considered during strategic allocations and requests for funding

4. Updates on fund disbursement of SB 89 allocations

Receive updates from the Chair and San Joaquin County about the disbursement of award money authorized by the SJCoC Board of Directors

Ray Hoo provided an update to the Board from San Joaquin County Community Development. Agreements have been sent out, and one is returned but all should be back over the next week. 50% of the allocated dollars can be received up front. After those are expended, and SJCCDD have reviewed spending tracking, then the remaining 50% will be released.

5. Consider fiscal capacity of SJCoC

Establish an ad hoc committee to investigate the pros and cons of establishing the SJCoC as its own fiscal entity to potentially take on fiscal duties and responsibilities for certain funding sources. Action recommended after experience with SB 89 process of disbursement to subrecipients.

Bill Mendelson, Peter Ragsdale, Matt Garber, Kate Hutchinson, Carrie Wright, David Kwong and Ray Hoo agreed to participate in a committee to investigate the possibilities of establishing the SJCoC as its own fiscal entity.

Updates from SJCoC Committees

System performance and evaluation committee will meet again in June.

Additional Items and Updates

The Board discussed committee meetings being conducted on a committee-by-committee basis, and pushing people to the SJCoC website for information.

Board Comments

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Bill Mendelson. Second by Mike Kelly. Passed unanimously.

Next meeting

8 a.m. Friday, May 22

Board Membership: Adam Cheshire, Edward Figueroa, Matt Garber, Kate Hutchinson, Sgt. Mike Kelly, Britton Kimball, John Ledbetter (vice chair), Bill Mendelson, Jon Mendelson (chair), Randy Pinnelli P.A. (secretary), Peter Ragsdale, Jennifer Rowell

Minutes: Randy Pinnelli and Adam Cheshire