

San Joaquin Continuum of Care Board of Directors Meeting 1-14-2021

Call to Order

11:02a

Roll Call

- Adam
- Jon
- Edward
- Matt
- Kate
- Peter
- Jenn
- Carrie
- Kristen
- Russ
- Randy

Minutes

- Meeting of 11-18-2020: no minutes available; tabled
- Meeting of 12-20-2020: Carrie moved to approve; unanimous

Updates from SJCoC Committees

- Data and HMIS: Bill discussed the LSA and preparation for the sheltered PIT count
- System Performance: Kate highlighted the reallocation tool review and the process to streamline and revise those tools
- Strategic Planning: Peter discussed the Chair change to Co-Chairs Carrie Wright and Tammy Shaff; discussed technical assistance regarding the strategic plan
- Education and Membership: Adam mentioned that the Chair is vacant and he is working to establish a new Chair; Russ mentioned that he would call Adam
- Resource Development: no update; Jon mentioned the need to re-structure and give new direction to that Committee in 2021
- Coordinated Entry: Matt mentioned the discussion regarding FRRRC moving forward with HHAP funding and updating the manual with that leadership role in mind; next meeting is Monday January 25
- Shelter: Kristen discussed winter shelter regarding warming centers in Manteca and Tracy, and a massive outreach campaign happening CoC-wide to encourage utilization

Public Comment

- Opened 11:10a
- Bill mentioned that the website is out of date, including the Board Directors; and requested that attachments to the agenda and minutes be included where listed; discussed the MOU between the Board and Collaborative Applicant, highlighting that the County is mentioned but not a specific department; mentioned that the Board has multiple representatives from the same agency and the Board should consider this as being inconsistently applied;

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- Greg Diederich mentioned the process to transfer Neighborhood Preservation Division under Health Care Services and clarified the County's plans regarding the implementation of funds; and reiterated the County's commitment to the success of the CoC and the reduction of homelessness in our communities;
- Closed 11:17a

Discussion, Information and Action Items

Vote on SJCoC Board Officers for 2021

- Jon introduced the item; thanked new and previous members; discussed the language in the Charter; opened the process for nominations; mentioned that he has appreciated the opportunity to act as Chair, mentioned the need to establish a new Chair, but that he would be willing to continue if asked;
- Carrie asked for clarification on the process and stated that she believed a change is healthy but also the difficulties in conducting this work and the potential for expanded administrative support from the Collaborative Applicant; the need to recruit more regional representation rather than rely on a more Stockton-centric participation; nominated Jenn Rowell as Chair;
- Jenn stated that she is committed to the work of the CoC and acknowledged that she does not work in the County, and highlighted the pros and cons of that circumstance; stated that she would serve this group but would need support;
- Randy stated that he thought perhaps a Co-Chair situation would help to lessen the workload and concurred regarding the need for support to cover more administrative functions;
- Kate reiterated previous statements but mentioned that potentially Jon could continue as Chair with the idea that the Vice-Chair would be next in line and that would in 2021 be Jenn;
- Kristen echoed the comments of previous speakers;
- Carrie suggested a "Past-Chair" position as a potential way to facilitate the transitions;
- Kristen asked about the job description of the Chair and Jon discussed the duties;
- Jon called again for a motion for a nomination;
- Carrie moved for Jenn as next Chair and add the position of "Past-Chair"; Kate seconded; unanimous
- Jenn agreed to allow Jon to continue to lead the meeting;
- Jon called for a nomination for Vice-Chair and mentioned that he would be willing in serving in this capacity if no one steps forward;
- Adam nominated Carrie Wright for Vice-Chair, she refused the nomination;
- Randy asked if Kristen was interested in serving as Vice-Chair; Kristen mentioned that she would be willing but felt that her duties with the Shelter Committee would make serving as Vice-Chair difficult;
- Peter nominated Edward, he refused the nomination and stated that he was not likely going to be continuing with the Board beyond 2021;
- Matt mentioned that it was potentially difficult for County employees as representatives of the Collaborative Applicant to serve as officers;
- No nominations were forthcoming and the item was tabled;

Consideration of Board Member to Replace Departing Member

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- Jon mentioned that Britton served as a Board member with lived experience is an important aspect of who replaces him;
- Edward mentioned that the process should be re-opened with greater diversity in mind;
- Kristen asked for an exit interview with Britton to discuss ways to engage those with lived experience in serving on the Board;
- Jon stated that the process should be opened up as stated by Edward and referred to Jenn, who agreed;

Point in Time Count Update

- Jon mentioned that Adam submitted all necessary waivers for the unsheltered count and that a sheltered point in time count is upcoming;

FY 2020 Continuum of Care Program Competition Update

- Jon stated that HUD notified the CoC that all projects would automatically be renewed; that FY 2021 was upcoming and preparation for that process should be moving forward in earnest;

Approve Memorandum of Understanding Determining Collaborative Applicant for 2021

- Jon provided the background on the County's role as the Collaborative Applicant of the CoC; mentioned the need for a robust review of the Collaborative Applicant in 2021;
- Adam described the process to establish "The County" as the Collaborative Applicant as opposed to a specific department;
- Carrie asked for clarification regarding quarterly reports from the Collaborative Applicant; Jon mentioned that no requests have been made but these items should be noted and corrected going forward through better follow-up;
- Jon moved to adopt the MOU as submitted; Jenn seconded
- Adam: abstain
- Edward: yes
- Matt: abstain
- Kate: yes
- Peter: no response
- Kristen: yes
- Russ: yes
- Jon: yes
- Randy: yes
- Carrie: yes
- Jenn: yes

COVID-19 Vaccine Priority Guidance for Homeless Population in San Joaquin County

- Jon discussed the possibility of engaging the homeless in outreach to disseminate information about how they can access the vaccine;
- Randy stated that as the vaccine becomes available there are multiple opportunities to ensure folks are vaccinated but highlighted the challenges involved;

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- Edward asked Randy why there appears to be a disconnect in getting the vaccine to folks and highlighted that many do not want the vaccine;
- Greg Diederich asked to answer and was permitted: mentioned the overly-complex rollout from the State, and stated that vaccines should not be wasted and should be administered regardless of guidance, but cited early guidance from the State that public health jurisdictions would be “publicly shamed” for going around the guidance; mentioned that those 65 and over are as of yesterday on the list for vaccination; highlighted the extreme micromanaging from the State, and that we are on the cusp to greatly expand agencies approved to vaccinate; Jon asked Greg for clarification on what the CoC can do to help: Greg stated that leveraging agencies that serve the homeless is the key, including Community Medical Centers and Dignity Health, and that vaccinations to encampments and shelters is forthcoming in the coming weeks;
- Randy reiterated the need for the CoC to be prepared to serve in a supportive role to the extent possible;

HHAP Round 2 Priority Discussion

- Jon recapped the HHAP 2 NOFA and the State’s priorities; mentioned that the priorities for HHAP-2 from the Strategic Planning committee was PSH and filling regional gaps; and that Stockton focus on permanent housing, while the County and CoC focus on filling funding gaps;
- Adam highlighted the State expectations around HHAP 2 implementation regarding permanent housing, Project Roomkey/Homekey, and his need for direction from the CoC;
- Jon reiterated the discussions of the Strategic Planning committee around filling gaps;
- Carrie added that in HHAP 1 little went to PSH locally, and highlighted the focus on PSH for the Governor’s budget;
- Jon asked for additional input regarding permanent housing focus;
- Carrie moved to approve the recommendations as written in the agenda; Kate second; unanimous;

Countywide Shelter Support and Expansion Plan

- Jon mentioned the conversations around implementation of funds;
- Kristen described the meeting of the Shelter committee earlier in the day; mentioned that the group inventoried shelter capacity and availability of funds; referenced a regional shelter discussed at the most recent Board of Supervisors meeting and suggested further options with a focus on existing plans; highlighted the need for capital plans; mentioned that more work needs to be done by the committee and is planned;
- Jon mentioned that he wants to make sure that shovel-ready projects remain the focus in order to stay “action-oriented”
- Edward stated that Lodi, Manteca, and Tracy have committed to shelters in their communities and those activities outside of Stockton should be supported so that we are taking care of people where they call home;
- Russ stated that he appreciated Kristen’s support and leadership in this capacity;
- Kristen thanked Russ and mentioned the plans of Stockton Shelter and St. Mary’s as examples of projects for the CoC and local government to support;

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- Randy emphasized the need for prevention funds in 2021, and anticipated an additional 1,000 folks on the streets due to economic issues;
- Carrie commented that the CoC officially stated that the regional shelter was not a priority and questioned that the Shelter committee should not be spending time developing a plan to create one; Kristen clarified that her Committee is not developing a plan but would support the development of that plan through data and consensus building;

Strategic Planning Dollars

- Jon introduced the topic for future discussion and highlighted the need for additional administrative support and technical assistance;
- Edward asked for Carrie or Peter to discuss hiring technical assistance, and Carrie suggested that she could come back with a proposal from the Strategic Planning committee and it was agreed that the Committee should come back with a proposal at a future meeting;

Education for New Elected Officials – Substantial Effort from Education Committee

- Adam requested that this be tabled to a future meeting since the Committee did not meet;
- Kristen asked if anyone has met with new elected officials: Jon mentioned that he had met on behalf of CVLIHC with Mayor Lincoln but reiterated the need to connect the work of the CoC to those officials;
- Peter stated that the Board should be individually tasked with making those connections to ensure that the information provided to officials is complete and comprehensive
- Kristen responded that the Shelter committee has conducted some work in this space to explain what the CoC is and what it is doing;
- Peter responded that the message around a complete continuum of solutions to homelessness must be emphasized for policy makers and the individual community responsibilities around housing the homeless;
- Randy suggested a written work that distills down data to highlight gaps in service within individual communities in a more presentable format;

Agenda Building for 2021

- Jon discussed the items listed on the agenda and called for further discussion at future meetings with a mind towards continuing to build progress in 2021;

Presentations

- none

Additional Items and Updates

- Carrie stated that the NOFA for ESG/CDBG/HOME is open; mentioned that the City has spent over \$5M in prevention and \$3M in additional activities to support the homeless; mentioned the Treasury rental assistance program; and mentioned appreciate for Jon's leadership and support for Jenn, and the need for the Board to be expanded;
- Adam mentioned the rental assistance program and the County's role;

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- Peter mentioned that HACSJ through CARES Act will have rental assistance available and will be rolling that out as soon as possible and suggested a joint press release around all three programs;
- Jon asked that as soon as possible the CoC should make recommendations to the jurisdictions for implementation of those funds;
- Jenn thanked Jon for his leadership, the heavy lifting, and her gratefulness for his participation;

Adjournment

- Next meeting scheduled for 11a on February 11, 2021
- Jon moved to adjourn; Adam seconded; unanimous; 1:02p