

## **MHC/COC Governance Workgroup**

February 5, 2018

1-3pm

At Lentz Public Health Building, Metro Health Department  
2500 Charlotte Ave, 37209 Centennial Room C

Present: Rachel Hester, Mina Johnson, Catherine Knowles, Sean Muldoon, Liz Allen Fey, Renee Pratt, Wendell Segroves, Trina Frierson, Erik Cole

Staff: Judith Tackett, Josh Lee, Abigail Dowell, Suzie Tolmie, Treva Gilligan

1. Discussion of this month's vote of intent
  - a. There was a unanimous vote from Metro Homelessness Commission to move forward with the Planning Council model as presented in November
  - b. 1 comment provided: Consider the number of people: Should it stay as large as it is or should it be reduced to smaller group?
  - c. All information was presented at last CoC meeting, note vote for intent but a few comments – stated it all made sense and felt good about where we are
2. Timeline and Progress Report
  - a. Timeline: CoC vote of intent will take place at the February 15th mtg.
    - i. March – Commission votes on Draft Ordinance, CoC Governance and Membership vote on Charter Amendments (contingent on ordinance passing Metro Council)
    - ii. April – ordinance presented to Metro Council, ordinance filed
    - iii. May – Transition Begins
  - b. The question was posed, when should the vote of the Collaborative Applicant (CA) occur? In tandem with the Planning Council vote?
    - i. Sean explained the CA may not need to be voted upon annually. MDHA is currently researching to determine if it is required by HUD.
    - ii. It was encouraged that this needs to be explained to the CoC membership
3. Planning Council Ordinance – 2 copies – Presented by Josh Lee (Metro Legal)
  - a. Option A – Elected Membership – Discussion
    - i. More in line with the Ryan White Planning Council
    - ii. Named as Homelessness Planning Council (HPC) as a placeholder
    - iii. Took duties and responsibilities of current Metropolitan Homelessness Commission and added in the federal regulations
    - iv. Determined that the Cloudburst recommendation should be mentioned. Treva Gilligan of MDHA will provide Josh Lee with language.
    - v. The sentence “The Homelessness Planning Council shall be a division of the Metropolitan Social Services (MSS) Commission” – what does this language mean? Concern expressed that the CoC will think this means they will have to answer to MSS
      1. Josh Lee explained that the HPC must sit somewhere in Metro due to taking the place of the Metro Homelessness Commission and not creating a nonprofit. Creating an independent department is cost

prohibitive. The MSS Commission is the easiest fit in regard to current Metro bodies.

2. Josh suggested to add a provision regarding the powers of the planning council – the planning council can make decisions entrusted to the CoC Governance board. The MSS Commission would have no power over these decisions.
  3. It was clarified that the Metro Staff would still be answering to the MSS Commission
  4. It was discussed that the new language needs to define the autonomy of the HPC and the benefit of MSS Staff
  5. Also, there is a need to define “division” for the purpose of this document and clarify the benefit to be a division
  6. Ultimately, this sentence will be removed from Section B and make a new Section at the end, Section D
  7. Question posed: Does the HPC have any say in the Metro budget? – as drafted now, the Metro funding goes through MSS Commission, not the HPC
  8. Question posed: Can a mayor change this ordinance? – Ordinances must be changed by Metro Council. This is set up to require membership vote. Mayor can only control the staffing and current Metro funding.
- vi. Section C.2: Two nonvoting members – Josh Lee clarified that this refers to the Mayor’s Interdepartmental Council on Homelessness. The interdepartmental council is currently not in place by ordinance, therefore, may change and should not be directly referred to in this ordinance. Need to have due to information they can bring to the table. Nonvoting members don’t have terms
  - vii. Section C.3: Non-members (THDA and Metro Legal) can’t be required to attend – unanimously decided to remove
  - viii. Section C.4.: Classes Discussion – 25 does not divide equally by 3, one class will have 9 and two will have 8. It was decided that this can be established by the governance charter
  - ix. C.5.: “mayor may remove” – concern CoC will not want the mayor to remove their elected individuals. CoC charter needs to be changed to state something akin to the following: “you miss three meetings and you may be removed”.
- b. Option B – Separate Nonprofit
    - i. There would be mayoral appointees on the nonprofit board
    - ii. Back to original conversations, there was a reason it was decided not to go with a nonprofit right now. Why?
      1. Need to back in to the idea of a nonprofit. Do not currently have the resources to create the infrastructure for a nonprofit. It would be underfunded and unsustainable at this time
    - iii. This is a good indicator of what the Planning Council Model A can grow into over time.

#### 4. Next Steps

- a. Josh will readjust and send back out

- b. Need to meet again within 2 weeks to have for the March Commission Mtg? Potentially February 20<sup>th</sup> following the Metro Homelessness Commission Executive Meeting. Due to the time and needing to vacate the meeting room, Abigail Dowell will send a poll to the task force to determine if this date and time will work for everyone.