

Metropolitan Homelessness Commission
Executive Committee Meeting
800 2nd Avenue North, Suite 100
7/25/2017
Minutes

Present: Liz Allen Fey, Renee Pratt, Paula Foster, Wendell Segroves, Mina Johnson
Staff: Judith Tackett, Jessica Ivey, Deon Trotter

Approval of Minutes:

Wendell Segroves made the motion to approve the minutes of July 7. Paula Foster seconded the motion. All approved.

MHC/CoC Governance Workgroup report:

Liz Allen Fey said she would skip a detailed report since everyone on the executive committee was present at the last meeting. All agree. The MHC/CoC Governance Workgroup will be meeting after the executive committee meeting to talk about the history of the Nashville Coalition for the Homeless and the CoC. We'll be talking through peer cities.

Deon Trotter and Judith Tackett gave a quick report on a session they attended at last week's National Alliance to End Homelessness Conference, which talked about an effective structure for CoC governance board. They said that in that session, the speaker was very clear – if homelessness is a community issue, then the governance board must reflect the entire community and not just service providers. The speaker actually promoted that communities start filling their board slots with other stakeholders and if locals wish to do so, add service providers who were willing to represent different providers later on, but only 2-3 (for example providers who then don't represent just their organization, but represent all shelter providers or all transitional housing providers or all permanent housing providers, etc.).

Liz Allen Fey said the MHC/CoC Governance Workgroup would be focusing on three potential models.

Open Seats

Judith Tackett went over the open seats. Charlotte Peacock will represent MSS. John Krenson's information was sent to the Mayor's Office for consideration. He's the executive director of Operation Stand Down.

Judith Tackett then presented several nominations for the two seats open for people experiencing homelessness. She said she reached out to multiple service providers directly to offer them the opportunity to nominate people. The Contributor and Matthew 25 have submitted nominations. The Salvation Army has someone interested, but the candidate is thinking about it. Judith will follow up once more. Other nominations were made from the floor at the Commission meeting and executive committee meeting.

The executive committee prioritized the names and said it would be great to have a female representative. Judith Tackett will follow up with candidates to see if they

are willing to have their names officially submitted to the Mayor's Office. Judith Tackett and Liz Allen Fey will communicate with the Mayor's Office.

Fundraising

Judith Tackett gave a brief update on the How's Nashville fund, which is about to run out. Liz Allen Fey proposed the need for a fundraising committee for the Commission to raise awareness and create a sustainable way to keep the How's Nashville fund going.

Renee Pratt announced that during this transition until we have a fundraising plan implemented, Metro Social Services has identified an additional \$100,000 that it will make available to the Metropolitan Homelessness Commission to pay for move-in costs. She said the process for housing navigators to apply for funds would remain the same to be the least disruptive for the community.

All agreed that a fundraising committee would be beneficial. Paula Foster said that Kate Haygood from Meharry may be a great member for such a committee.

All agreed to present the formation of a fundraising to the full Commission in August.

Director's Report

Mayor's Interdepartmental Council on Homeless:

Judith Tackett reported that she is leading these quarterly sessions with department leaders now. The goal is to improve communications around issues related to homelessness within Metro departments. Over the past six months, we have already observed improved communication, especially thanks to the fact that we now have a Metro outreach team with the Commission. These meetings are high-level staff meetings that look at the different roles within Metro departments, how they intersect, where calls about homelessness come in, and how we improve internal communications and collaboration at the staff level. Judy leads discussions around solutions, and she has observed a shift from an enforcement-only conversation to an engagement focus.

Homeless Outreach Teams, projects & goals:

Judith Tackett reported that the outreach team has focus areas including specific encampments where Metro gets increased calls (CSX property is among those); Downtown area – entered a pilot to partner with the Downtown Partnership on increased outreach efforts; and MTA partnership. As part of the Public Investment Plan with MTA, MTA will be able to provide the Homelessness Commission two areas where they receive most complaints and our team will increase outreach in those areas. The MTA PIP has launched and we are meeting with MTA every two weeks to implement the program. There are three parts to it: 1. Making up to 500 annual bus passes available to individuals experiencing or at risk of chronic homelessness; 2. A train the trainer program that will provide training to bus drivers and hopefully other Metro employees on things like trauma-informed care, etc. We are in the process of looking at that; and 3. The outreach piece.

Data Improvement with CES implementation

Judith Tackett said that she is focused on her messaging on improving data moving forward and doing her piece to help the community start that process. In her mind an immediate step is to focus on By Name Lists. Then there is the CoC Data Committee that we're supporting. And the Homelessness Commission has hired Nicole Williams as the new data and performance coordinator to help create outcome measures around our work, collaborate with partners around data through committees, and report out to different groups.

Liz Allen Fey said the Commission needs a strategic action plan for the next 12 months. She said she was putting together with staff a half day retreat sometime this fall.

Judith Tackett asked whether the Commission agenda in August should reflect the main talking points of the report given today. All agreed.

Announcements

Judith Tackett said she has received about three complaints about the public comment section that people feel now that there are no time limits on public comments anymore, they do not have a chance to be heard.

After discussion, the executive committee agree to put time limits back on public comments and be more structured around those public input segments. Deon Trotter will be in charge of keeping time.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30am