



Continuum of Care Board Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2017
2pm-5pm
Beans & Bread
402 S. Bond Street

Board Members Present: Corliss Alston, Christopher Buser, Amy Collier, Yvette Dixon, Ciera Dunlap, Michael Fried, Damien Haussling, Tomi Hiers, Carolyn Johnson, Amy Kleine, Gabby Knighton, Traci Kodeck, Kevin Lindamood, Daniel McCarthy, Janice Miller, Luciene Parsley, Winston Philip, Sonce Reese, John Schiavone, Robert Stokes, Sr., Anthony Williams, Joseph Wood

Staff Present: Amir Assadi, Elizabeth Botkin, Terry Hickey, Danielle Meister, Chris Rafferty, Hannah Roberts

AGENDA

I. Welcome & Review Agenda

Bill McLennan welcomed Board members and reviewed the agenda. No objections were made to the 2016 Co-Chairs facilitating the meeting until a new Chair is elected.

II. Approve Minutes from December Board Meeting

Tina Hike-Hubbard introduced the December board meeting minutes. Board meeting minutes were approved unanimously by the four Board members present who also attended the December meeting. All others abstained.

III. Board Member and Staff Introductions

Hannah Roberts facilitated an introductory activity for new and returning Board members to meet one another and share their experiences and expertise.

Terry Hickey introduced MOHS staff present at the meeting.

IV. Basic Orientation

Bill McLennan provided an overview of the Continuum of Care and Continuum Board roles and responsibilities. Danielle Meister and Elizabeth Botkin provided brief summaries of the Collaborative Applicant and HMIS Lead roles, respectively. Joe Wood explained the Continuum Committees and Workgroups and reviewed the requirements for Board member participation.

V. Elect Board Member and Leadership

Bill McLennan and Tina Hike-Hubbard asked the Governance Committee to report on Board leadership nominations. Janice Miller reported that the Governance Committee met on January 9th to review nominations for leadership positions. The Committee recommended Joe Wood be elected as Board Chair and all other positions continue to be explored with nominations made at the February retreat.



Joe Wood was recused while the Board discussed his nomination for Board Chair and the Board voted unanimously to elect him to the position.

Terry Hickey provided information on the Mayor's nomination of Peter Hammen for the vacant City Representative position and read the Mayor's letter to the Board. The Board voted unanimously to elect Peter Hammen to the Board.

VI. Guest Speaker

Norm Suchar, Director of Special Needs Assistance Programs, joined the meeting to provide comments and participate in discussion about the performance of Baltimore City's Continuum of Care. Mr. Suchar identified three priority areas: 1) diminishing provider capacity, 2) system performance, and 3) stronger governance. Within system performance, he emphasized the importance of identifying and monitoring data related to average days spent homeless, returns to homelessness, and placements in permanent housing. Related to governance, he highlighted the importance of collective decision-making and strong collaborations across the CoC, Board, and Collaborative Applicant, as well as the expectation that the CoC functions as a system and leverages resources effectively. Specific suggestions included the consistent incorporation of performance measures in meeting agendas, the development of a system performance subcommittee, and a year-round focus on rating and ranking processes.

Mr. Suchar engaged with Board members in a discussion session. Topics included the need for dramatic improvements, flexibility in hiring, decreased dependence on HUD funding, and alignment of incentives and resources.

VII. MOHS Report

Terry Hickey provided comments on the Mayoral transition and the City's commitment to homelessness, including long-term solutions to address structural challenges. He emphasized the Mayor's commitment to developing an informed position with input from a variety of consultants and community leaders, as well as the Continuum Board. He also provided updates on MOHS' efforts to fill staff positions and continued implementation of the winter shelter plan to ensure individuals are not turned away.

VIII. Committee & Workgroup Reports

The Board was informed of and provided with written reports from each committee and workgroup. Danielle Meister provided updates on PIT Count Planning and provided information on volunteer opportunities for Board members and the general public. Amy Kleine, Resource Allocation Committee Chair, referenced the financial report documents and articulated plans to provide further information during the February Board meeting.

VIII. Public Comments

No one signed up or requested to make a public comment.

IX. Adjournment

Next Board Meeting and Retreat: February 8th, 2017