



**Marin HIV/AIDS Care Council Meeting
MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 10, 2012

4:30p.m. - 6:30p.m.

899 Northgate Drive – 4th Floor Conference Room

San Rafael, CA 94903

[Approved November 14, 2012]

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Council Members Present: Kevin Cronin, Trinity Dushon, Elaine J. Flores, James Frazier, Walter Kelley, Jennifer Malone.

Council Members Absent: Roy Bateman(AE), Scott Marcum(AE).

Staff Present: Cicly Emerson, Chris Santini, Michael Schieble.

Public: Julie Dowling, Deborah Kasel, Maria Reed.

I. Call to Order.

The meeting was called to order at 4:51p.m. by Co-Chair Cronin.

II. Roll Call.

Roll was called at 4:51p.m. Quorum was established with 5 of 8 Members present. Council Support reported that the quorum calculation was based on eight current Members. CM W. Flores had completed his two year term in September 2012 and was not a current Member.

CM Kelley arrived at 4:56p.m. and increased the attendance to 6 of 8 Members present.

CM Bateman (AE) was absent and excused. CM Marcum (AE) was absent and excused.

III. Review and Approval of Agenda - VOTE

CM Frazier motioned to approve the agenda. CM Malone seconded.

A voice **vote** was conducted. All were in favor. No objections were heard.

The agenda was approved.

IV. Review and Approval of September 12, 2012 Minutes – VOTE

Meeting time was used to review the minutes. Co-Chair Cronin confirmed that the draft minutes had been e-mailed on Monday prior to the meeting and requested that Council Members review the draft minutes in preparation for the Council meeting.

CM EJ Flores made motion to approve the September 12, 2012 minutes. CM Frazier seconded.

Co-Chair Cronin asked for objections. No objections were heard.

The minutes from the September 12, 2012 Marin Care Council meeting were approved.

V. General Announcements

4:56p.m. CM Kelley arrives.

CM Malone announced 1.) National Latino AIDS Awareness Day is October 15, 2012. 2.) A free training on HIV, Hepatitis C and Trauma, will be conducted on Monday, October 29, 2012. The training, co-sponsored by the San Francisco Area AETC and the Marin AIDS Project / M.A.P., is targeted at physicians, nurses, NP/PAs, social workers, case managers, and substance abuse counselors. www.sfaetc.ucsf.edu

CM EJ Flores announced 1.) The North Bay Children's Center is hosting a food pantry every Saturday from 9:30a.m. to 11:30a.m. Free groceries will be distributed to Novato area residents. 2.) *Flyer* "If You Want To Keep Getting Your Food Cards – Act Now". The flyer was sent to food card Clients in October and announced the new Ryan White Client eligibility recertification mandate. There was discussion of the new "every six month"

recertification requirement. C. Emerson offered to contact San Francisco and present more information about the mandate to the Care Council.

CM Kelley announced that he and CM Frazier plan to attend the 2nd annual “Stand Up, Speak Out Against HIV & Stigma” on Thursday, October 11, 2012, at Yoshi’s in Oakland. The East Bay AIDS Center is hosting the educational forum to educate the infected and affected African American Community.

VI. Co-Chair Report

None.

VII. Public Comment

D. Kasel announced that the Marin AIDS Project [M.A.P.] Task Force will meet on November 27, 2012, from 6:00p.m. to 8:00p.m. The Task Force is actively recruiting new members. The Task Force’s mission is to give HIV+ individuals a voice in their care and services and create a community.

VIII. Membership

Public Comment: Co-Chair Cronin reviewed the Membership agenda items and asked for public comment. There was no public comment.

Wade Flores Subsequent Term Renewal - VOTE

CM E.J. Flores made a motion to approve Wade Flores for a subsequent term. CM Kelley seconded.

Council Support distributed the Subsequent Term Application for Wade Flores, which was received on October 10, 2012.

Co-Chair Cronin suggested that the subsequent term renewal vote for Wade Flores be tabled stating, “I’m thinking in terms of fairness, since Wade is not here, if we want to table this vote till next month”. “One of my concerns here is that we have two people [CM Bateman and CM Marcum] absent and have two or three candidates here that are going to be voted on right afterwards. ... it seems like a very fluid situation, where we have several people missing, initial Members who have been here all along and we have new Members that could be coming in”. CM Malone inquired if CM Bateman, CM Marcum, and Wade Flores would be available to attend the November meeting. CM Malone then asked, “Wade is currently not a member?” “Is that right?” M. Schieble responded, “His [W. Flores] term expired in September”.

CM Frazier motioned to table the Wade Flores’ subsequent term renewal vote until November. CM Malone seconded.

A voice vote was conducted. Ayes were heard. No one was opposed.

The subsequent term renewal vote for Wade Flores was tabled and carried forward to the November Care Council meeting agenda.

Workgroup Report – Membership Interviews - September 25, 2012

Council Members Present: CM EJ Flores and CM Kelley.

Staff Present: Michael Schieble.

Interviewees: Saulo Marcelino-Bonagrazia, Deborah Kasel, Maria Reed.

Closed Session. Audio recording available to the Public for review.

CM E.J. Flores and CM Kelley reported that they met as an ad hoc Work Group on September 25, 2012, for the purpose of conducting the Care Council Membership interviews of Saulo Marcelino-Bonagrazia, Deborah Kasel, and Maria Reed. The Work Group meeting start time of 1:00p.m. was publicly noticed. The Work Group started at 1:53p.m., when CM Kelley arrived. The meeting adjourned at 3:03p.m. Applicants drew numbers to determine the order of their interviews. The standard interview questions were used. When the interviews were completed, the Applicants were dismissed. CM E.J. Flores and CM Kelley reviewed and discussed the responses of each Applicant. The Work Group determined which Council Member would make each motion for the approval of each Applicant for membership to the full Council.

Saulo Marcelino-Bonagrazia Membership – VOTE

CM Kelley made a motion to approve Saulo Bonagrazia for Care Council Membership.

CM E.J. Flores seconded. A *closed* discussion followed.

A randomized roll call **vote** was conducted.

AYES: CM Cronin, CM Dushon, CM E.J. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Kelley, CM Malone.

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: None

6-0-0-0

Saulo Bonagrazia was unanimously approved for Council Membership.

Deborah Kasel Membership – VOTE

CM Kelley made a motion to approve Deborah Kasel for Care Council Membership.

CM E.J. Flores seconded. A *closed* discussion followed.

A randomized roll call **vote** was conducted.

AYES: CM Cronin, CM Dushon, CM E.J. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Kelley, CM Malone.

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: None

6-0-0-0

Deborah Kasel was unanimously approved for Council Membership.

Maria Reed Membership – VOTE

CM Kelley made a motion to approve Maria Reed for Care Council Membership.

CM E.J. Flores seconded. A *closed* discussion followed.

A randomized roll call **vote** was conducted.

AYES: CM Cronin, CM Dushon, CM E.J. Flores, CM Frazier, CM Kelley, CM Malone.

Noes: None

Abstain: None

Recuse: None

6-0-0-0

Maria Reed was unanimously approved for Council Membership.

Following the vote, Deborah Kasel and Maria Reed returned to the meeting room and were seated as new Council Members. Quorum was recalculated. Saulo Bonagrazia had contacted Council Support and was absent due to illness.

Trinity Dushon reported that he attended the September 24, 2012 meeting of the San Francisco HIV Health Services Planning Council.

IX. Community Outreach and Advocacy

World AIDS Day – December 1, 2012

The September Care Council meeting minutes were reviewed. The outreach goal of the Care Council for World AIDS Day is to promote the role and identity of the Council in the community. The Co-Chairs, as official spokespeople for the Council would contact the Marin Independent Journal [I.J.] and in addition to the usual human interest story that is published would suggest a topic related to the mission of the Care Council.

Additional topics included, given decreased funding, the challenges the Care Council faces with funding and allocation. CM Kasel commented that the National Women's and Girl's AIDS Awareness Day is in March and suggested a story about Women in Marin County with HIV. A story about Homeless people in Marin County with HIV was suggested. CM Dushon suggested, "People that look ordinary versus the perception of what AIDS looks like".

Discussion followed. Other topics suggested included; HIV testing focused on high risk populations, people living longer with HIV and the challenges they encounter, HIV in the 55+ year old Marin population, what is unique about the Marin demographic data, and the role of the Marin HIV Care Council.

CM Kelley made motion that Co-Chairs contact the I.J., on behalf of the Care Council and suggest topics as outreach for a World AIDS Day article. CM Kasel seconded.

Public Comment: None.

A voice **vote** was conducted. All were in favor. No one was opposed.

It was approved that the Co-Chairs would initiate contact with the Marin Independent Journal and propose possible topics for a World AIDS Day article using the topics suggested by the Care Council.

X. Division of Public Health Report

C. Emerson reported:

1.) The San Francisco HIV Health Services Planning Council approved the Marin 2013-'14 budget allocation during their monthly meeting on September 24, 2012. C. Emerson presented the Marin allocation and Co-Chair Marcum, CM Dushon, and CM Kelley attended the meeting. Wade Flores, who is a Member of the San Francisco Council, was also present.

C. Emerson stated, "There was a lot of discussion again about the food program". The Marin Care Council 2013-'14 Part A funding allocation for Food is \$10,000.00. The Food Program is mostly funded by Part B dollars. C. Emerson added, "...it is really the purview of the County how the Food Program [Part B] is administered". "...in order for that to increase, it would take a considerable amount of funding from some other part of the Part A allocation". New and existing Council Members were encouraged to review the "Model for Resolving Conflict Policy". [Handbook Section 9, page 38-39]. C. Emerson stated, "There is a way, if someone disagrees with them [funding decisions] after they are done, as a member of the Public or Care Council Member. There is a protocol for that and there is a process".

A detailed discussion followed. Respecting an individual Council Member's dissenting opinions, who represents the Marin Care Council decision (once the process of a 2/3 majority agreement is reached), sending "mixed signals", abiding by the majority decision, and projecting Care Council unity was discussed.

2.) Food Program Eligibility. C. Emerson reported that eligibility for the Marin Food Program is based on an individual's income. San Francisco eligibility is based on "severe need", which considers income, disabling HIV, and active substance abuse or mental health issues. Marin's "income only" approach was adopted because it eliminated the subjective criteria.

Currently, Marin HIV+ individuals with income at 150% of the Federal poverty level or below are eligible for the Marin Food Program. A two-tiered benefit program is possible. Currently, eligible Consumers receive a \$40 food card each month.

Currently there are:

62 Consumers with income of 150% - 101% of Federal poverty level / income between \$1,396 - \$932 per month

68 Consumers with income at or below 100% of Federal poverty level / income below \$931 per month

Given the approved 2013-'14 Food Allocation (Part A + Part B) funding, a two-tiered Food program could be recommended with \$20 in food cards/monthly to 150% - 101% of Federal poverty level and \$60 in food cards/monthly below 100% of the Federal poverty level. Other eligibility scenarios could be developed by the Care Council. A discussion of possible changes to the Food Program eligibility level was added to the November Care Council meeting agenda.

C. Emerson report continued:

3.) A Marin rapid HIV test program has been developed. Individuals can call 415-457-2002 to arrange free rapid HIV testing. 4.) Rene Mendez-Penate, from the Marin County - Community Mental Health died suddenly. C. Emerson commented that she was saddened to report the news. Rene Mendez-Penate had presented information about adult mental health services at the September 2012 Care Council meeting. 5.) The contractor site visits have been completed by the County. 6.) The winter shelter for Women at the Connection Center will be starting. The November Care Council meeting will be at 899 Northgate, 4th Floor Conference Room. CM Kelley asked about shelter resources for Transgender individuals in Marin.

Public Comment: None

XI. 2012 Meeting Calendar Review

CM Malone stated, "I just want to go on the record as saying that, I personally continue to hope that we'll allocate more meetings to discussing needs, before we have to make decisions about allocations. I feel like we don't allow ourselves enough time and then it's very pushed and there's too much information to try to go through. I feel like we are here, for no other reason really, than to understand the needs in this community and try to respond to them." "...look ahead six months before the next time we have to do this [Prioritization and Allocation] and allocate time in three meetings or something, so we can actually do a more thorough review".

November – Continued discussion of Food Program eligibility levels.

CM Malone suggested a review of the Emergency Funds eligibility levels.

CM Kasel requested a report on current benefits levels for all Service Categories.

At the November 14, 2012 Council meeting, the Care Council will determine if they will meet in December 2012.

XII. Next Steps - New Business

Next Meeting: November 14, 2012 – 899 Northgate 4th Floor Conference Room, 4:30p.m. – 6:30p.m.

Next Step / To Do's

- Agenda Item – Review and discuss Food Card income eligibility levels. Council will develop scenarios and recommendation to the County.
- Agenda Item – [CE] Report on Client eligibility recertification mandate (ADAP) and compliance monitoring.
- Agenda Item – Report on Marin County Substance Use programs and resources.
- CE – Winter shelter resources for Transgender individuals.
- CE – Year-to-date spending 2012-'13 on Food and Emergency Financial Service Category.
- CS – New Members name cards, business cards, and update e-mail distribution list.
- MJS – Coordinate and conduct new Member orientation.
- MJS – Handbooks for SB, DK, MR, and EJF.
- KC – Co-Chair report on I.J. World AIDS Day outreach.
- WF – Develop Membership Recruitment poster.

XIII. Meeting Adjourned at 6:39 p.m.