

# Homeless Policy Steering Committee Meeting

Meeting Minutes | February 10, 2021  
Online Zoom Meeting | 3:00 PM-5:00 PM

## 1. Welcome. Call to Order: 3:01 pm

## 2. Roll Call

HPSC Voting Members in Attendance:

### Elected Officials

County Board of Supervisors

Damon Connolly

Mayor – City of Belvedere

James Campbell

Mayor – City of Larkspur

Kevin Haroff

### County Health and Human Services

Mental Health and Substance Use

Services:

Jei Africa

### Community Development

Community Development Agency:

Molly Kron

### Public Housing Agency

Marin Housing Authority:

Michelle Taniguchi

### Consumer Representatives

Bill Hale

### Domestic Violence

Center for Domestic Peace:

Donna Garske

### Faith-Based Organizations

Marin Organizing Committee:

Pat Langley

### Law Enforcement

FMDT Liaison:

Lynn Murphy

### Probation

County of Marin Probation Dept.

### Homeless Service Providers

St. Vincent de Paul:

Christine Paquette

Ritter Center:

Mark Shotwell

Community Action Marin:

Chandra Alexandre

Adopt A Family of Marin:

Jacqueline Jaffee

### Homeless Housing Providers

Homeward Bound:

Mary Kay Sweeney, Paul Fordham

Bucklew Programs:

Chris Kughn

Center Point:

Marc Hering

### School Districts

Marin County Office of Education:

### Veteran's Services

HHS Veteran Services

Spence Casey (alt)

### Employment Services

Downtown Streets Team:

Karen Strolia

### Regional Representation

Women Helping All People

Royce Mclemore

Youth

Side By Side TAY

Laura Taylor

Older Adults

Aging Action Initiative

Linda Jackson (as alternate for Chris Asimos)

Others in attendance:

Carrie Sager

Ashley Hart McIntyre

Susan Wernick – Novato City Council

Amy Peele – Novato City Council

Jean Field and Julie Lemmer – Homebase

**3. Approval of the Minutes**

- a. October 13, 2020 Minutes
  - i. Mary Kay Sweeney moved to approve the minutes from the October 13, 2020 meeting; Chris Kughn seconded the motion.
  - ii. All in favor, none opposed, one abstention. Motion carried.

**4. Introductions/Announcements**

- a. Bill Hale: need to circulate resources list
- b. Chandra Alexander: thanks to partners around add'l protections to keep ppl housed in Marin County
- c. Mary Key Sweeney: mill street finally underway and in construction

**5. Public Comment**

- a. None

**6. HPSC Elections**

- a. Discussion of upcoming chair/co-chair and general elections.
  - i. Carrie Sager provided overview.
  - ii. Policies and procedures require annual elections for chair and cochair, and every other year, every two years; full elections.
  - iii. Everyone automatically nominated for current seat, if no one contests, you will be reappointed for two more years; if anyone contests, or if more applicants for available seats, then will be asked to apply for seat through writing a short summary of why interested in the position.
  - iv. This is a good time to fill any empty seat – e.g., business community seat is still empty, would be great to get that filled if anyone knows anyone.
  - v. Also be great to have an additional consumer rep as one of the members has not been to a meeting for several years. Unfortunately no stipend available at this time; acknowledge it is not fair, so if perhaps if agency employs someone and would be willing to have them attend as part of their job that would be great, or know a funder for those stipends, that would be excellent

- vi. Mark from Ritter Center; 4 meetings a year; what would a fair stipend be? \$50 stipend per meeting? Ritter Center would contribute that.
- vii. Damon Connely said Kevin Haroff couldn't make meetings but there is another councilmember – what is the process?
- viii. Carrie – a few seats don't go through the general elections, board of supes choose and the MCCMC decides for cities and towns, so talk to Kate Holland about how they do their special election. Other seats that choose their own rep are the county-specific seats (probation)
- ix. Not an action item, but letting everyone know that we will send out a notice, an official call for nominations.
- x. Chair/co-chair – had been doing during the Feb meeting, but decided this time to combine with the May meeting this year. So will call for nominations in same elections email. Connolly and Campbell will self-nominate continuing as chair and co-chair.

## **7. Approval of Revised CoC Written Standards**

### a. Discussion

- i. Julie Lemmer provided overview and recommendations for revising the Marin CoC Written Standards to include standards for Street Outreach.
- ii. Draft circulated last week
- iii. ESG regs require any project type have written standards and street outreach starting imminently so need to have written standards for that project type (had not had them previously)
- iv. Linda Jackson: did a word search on older people dementia; Marin now has state of the art program for housing people with mental illness, longtime homeless;
- v. What about older renters or homeowners and can't afford rents, don't have a safe and healthy place to stay, more a point to pay attention to most frail and those who have preexisting conditions. Need to have the cultural competency to address people in community.
- vi. James: So unique in Marin – does this include outreach to anchor outs in Richardson bay? Carrie – yes, includes downtown streets at least 2 days a week in Southern Marin, and boat rental to engage anchor out community.
- vii. Mark Hering – Reference that we once again recognize legislation in CA that permits us with state funds to exempt certain conditions of housing first, represent an agency that has concerns about not having exemptions from housing first, being discriminated against because not taking advantage of housing first exemptions.
- viii. Carrie trying to get clarification from state on that – I will keep pushing state until we get an answer and integrate that back into written standards and bring back for inclusion.

- ix. Mark Hering: prefer that the document could have a comment in intro or somewhere that it is a pending question and may need revision – CA legislation 83 in June 2019; originally geared toward parolees and institutions specifically calls for exemption for 3 HF for anyone participating in a recognized a recovery residence/mental health settings – requirement for program requirements, lease, use of alcohol and drugs not reason for eviction; amended June 2020 – very few counties in CA respecting it. It is why Centerpoint no longer part of continuum – shuts out part of disabled community and can't treat it. It is within rights of bd of supes and committee.
  - x. Carrie – in written standards talks about prioritization; adopting HF - page 6; putting in non coc programs, like substance treatment programs, not HF.
  - xi. Mark Hering: Want to state unequivocally that it is a law in CA
  - xii. Carrie – we will propose some language, and revisit. But can we approve the Street Outreach provisions today?
- b. James Campbell moved to approve the revised CoC Written Standard; Chandre Alexander seconded the motion.
  - c. All in favor, none opposed, no abstentions. Motion carried.

## 8. Updates

- a. Coordinated Entry Committee update
  - i. 319 total; 11 last month, 2 this month. 28 homeless possible vets.
- b. PIT Count Update
  - i. Not doing unsheltered PIT in 2021 because of safety concerns during a pandemic.
  - ii. Hoping to do a vehicle count to compare with 2019; should have results by next HPSC meeting.
  - iii. Every other bay area county has canceled too.
- c. State and Federal Funding Updates
  - i. Federal
    - 1. 2020 NOFA got cancelled, don't know about 2021, all CoC-funded programs got grant renewed with adjustments based on FMR. Rents have gone up so everyone's grants went up. CoC funding this year is \$5.1 million.
  - ii. State
    - 1. ESG-CV – round one and two – priorities chosen by subcommittee of this group
    - 2. Also a subcommittee on HHAP round 2 – recommended the CoC portion go to family case mgmt., a lot of vouchers now, more than case mgmt., so trying to get more case mgmt., so HHAP funding will provide 8-10 families with housing based case mgmt. to pair with vouchers. Also

recommended that county allocate its portion to perm supportive housing construction/acquisition – no specific project, but CoC allocated first round and it was used for Homekey motels and it made that project feasible, so if there is add'l Homekey funding – county did accept the recommendation, available in April, need to get under contract with the state to get that funding.

3. Future funding – governor's budget included recommendation for more PHK funding. Just proposed at this point, but hoping that since there's more notice this time, we'll be able to have a more open and collaborative process. If we can get add'l sites that are mutually agreeable.
4. Molly Kron – Treasury funding – county has rec'd funding from treasury dept and from the state for rental asst. Over \$7 million – time restraints on CDBG funding – only 6 mo – this is more flexible and will provide for 12 month period. In add., state has issued rental asst funding and process to determine how it will be allocated, but looking like around \$10 million through the state. MCF/county/county funds - \$6 million – so this is an add'l \$17 million. A large undertaking for everyone involved. Promotional hire to manage the program – state extended legislation that provides eviction protection if able to pay 25% of total rent between Sept and June, cannot be evicted. In addition, the 75% is converted to a diff debt that the LL has to go through small claims to get recover. State going to provide 80% recoup if they agree to waive 20%.
5. Connolly – we've also done rental freeze in a targeted way, eviction moratorium, so all good.
6. Mark Shotwell – wants to see \$\$ focused on staffing in the planning if these pots will allow for that.
7. Chris Kughn – also encourages looking at how to support staffing.
8. Molly – one person oversees the program, not to administer. The housing and federal grants staff is taking on in partnership with Carrie, but more of a full time job.
9. Amy Peele – when more money in Homekey, Novato would like heads up as early as possible to partner.

**9. Adjourn 4:00 pm**