



Homeless Services Consortium Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

September 20, 2019 – 11:00aM – 1:00PM

Urban League of Greater Madison

2222 S Park St , Madison

Called to order 11:10 AM

Present: Melissa Mennig, Jani Koester, Takisha Jordan, Torrie Kopp Mueller, Maggie Carden, Natalie Deibel, Kim Sutter, Liz Duffie, Wanda Smith, Conner Wild, Matt Julian

Absent: Heidi Wegleitner, Kathy Kamp, Robin Sereno

Guests: Dr. Linda Vakunta Deputy Mayor, Sarah Lim City of Madison CDD, Casey Becker Dane County, Shawn Tessmann Dane County DHS Director, Keith Sayles TRC Volunteer Mediator, Stacia Conneely Legal Action

- 1. Introductions** – Dr. Linda Vakunta of the Deputy Mayor’s office, with an interest in homeless services
- 2. Approval of Minutes from September 6, 2019**
 - a. Duffie moves to approve the minutes, Deibel 2nds the motion. All approve with exception of Jordan who abstains.
- 3. Discussion on meeting schedule for remainder of 2019**
 - a. Have been reviewing agenda items and feel comfortable with timelines therefore request made to cancel October meeting due to having our board retreat. Business can be accomplished there if needed which will be closed. Kopp-Mueller will post retreat on the calendar nothing it will be closed.
 - b. Have not yet heard on timing of the room availability for regular monthly board meetings; will further discuss at the retreat
- 4. Approval to enter partnership with Center for Community Stewardship**
 - a. Koester has a donation that would be large enough to start the initial fees
 - b. Mennig motions to approve Center for Community Stewardship as our fiscal sponsor; Wild Seconds

- i. 8% of donations
- ii. Event Insurance included
- iii. Initial start-up fee
- iv. Will assist with applying for grants.
- v. Treasurer would be the liaison – currently written in bylaws as Treasurer/Secretary. We will request Governance and Nominating Committee to review By-laws with the intent of creating 2 positions and present to general membership.
- vi. Vote called – All vote in favor, none opposed or abstain – Koester will notify Center for Community Stewardship of our intention of using their financial assistance
- c. Workgroup will review and make suggestions to the compensation policy/procedures
 - i. Duffie, Deibel, Jordan, Mennig, Kopp Mueller volunteer to be a part of the workgroup

5. Review of Applications and Approval of Reallocation for 2019-2020 EHH \$40,000 Special allocation funds

- a. Lim reviewed the reason why the funding became available again. Contract likely to start in October and will have the next full year
- b. Lim reviewed the 2 applications.
 - i. Tenant Resource Center - \$40,000 request for prevention program– mediation services prior to court date to avoid eviction, Upstream Mediation Services
 - 1. Keith Sayles, Volunteer Mediator, answers questions
 - a. Currently there is minimal availability to do additional supportive services, and feels the demand would be more than even this grant would offer
 - b. They would increasing scale – active outreach –that includes outreach to the Housing Authorities
 - c. Trying to work out situations prior to getting documented on CCAP
 - d. Tenants or Landlords would be available to request mediation.
 - ii. Legal Action of Wisconsin - \$40,000 request for prevention program – staff to with services beyond eviction cases, Legal Aid to Prevent Homelessness
 - 1. Attorney Stacia Conneely answers questions
 - a. Staff are lawyers that provide tenants feedback and representation
 - b. People get referred by case worker and if someone gets a notice (i.e. 5day, etc), they are eligible
 - c. Intent is to discuss concerns beyond just eviction (i.e. benefits, credit reports, etc)
 - d. High success rate with eviction prevention.
 - iii. Discussed participant eligibility for both programs
- c. Group discussion related to the project – both strong projects – weigh benefits of both
 - i. Motion to approval to approve the Special Allocation made by Jordan, and Mennig provided a 2nd to award the funding to TRC, All voted in support with the exception of 1 opposed (Conner Wild) and 1 abstention.

6. Discussion of County Budget – Homeless Services: Shawn Tessmann & Casey Becker

- a. Submitted budget request on August 30th and should be released Oct 1st.
- b. Housing and Homeless Services budgets are assumed at the same level
 - i. Approved additional \$25k money for case mgmt. at Off the Square Club
 - ii. Approximately 60% of the funding goes to shelter items.
- c. Becker reviewed the breakout of funding services with in our community.
- d. Julian expressed concern related to the Residency Policy.
- e. Smith calls attention to the racial disparities, and would like systemic changes made to address this
 - i. Tessmann reports racial disparities is a focus for them:
 - 1. They will engage in developing a 5-year strategic plan
 - 2. They have diversified staff
 - 3. Equity Plan – which is focused on CYF currently, but other depts can be better reflected in the equity plan.

Motion to closed 1:20