

Steering Council - April 7, 2022

1. Welcome and Intros (attendance sheet is attached)

Kathrine Violet called meeting to order at 2:12 p.m.

2. Review and Approval of March 17 Steering Council minutes

Kathrine Violet asked for the roll call sheet be included. Liz Heneks made a motion to approve with the addition with the correction of Bianca Gonzalez's name. Gina Zinck seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. Public comments

Gina Zinck spoke about the Taylor Place apartments being built in McHenry. It's all affordable housing, but still needs financing. Liz Heneks spoke about new housing Home of the Sparrow is in the process of purchasing.

Gina Zinck asked about the home needs survey the county has been completing and if there was data available yet.

4. Old business

4.1 HMIS/Coordinated Entry/BFZ update

Gina Zinck said 73 people are on the by-name list. We need 22 PHS beds to accommodate everybody. Bianca Hernandez and Gina Zinck discovered where a glitch in data came from to get us to functional zero. Bianca said there will be HMIS training the first week in May. Hours and location will be given in the coming days.

Kathrine asked what capacity is. There are 26 people there, but there is a 40-person limit during the COVID pandemic.

Staffing is becoming a huge issue for providing appropriate housing. Some funded programs are not providing services because staffing is not available.

4.2 ESG Post Funding

Brandon Kyker said a packet will be available shortly with info on what agencies received funding. The funded agencies will be asked to complete the full applications.

4.3 Winter Overnight Homeless Shelter

Gina Zinck said had the hotel program through Pioneer helped people through the cold-snap and during COVID infections. She said the total numbers of clients probably doesn't require a full, permanent winter shelter, as there were not more than five clients at a given time. Some have questioned a longer cold period and whether we'd be able to sustain the program for a longer period of time.

Kathrine Violet said housing a services should have a longer discussion about the program so all are on the same page.

4.4 PIT Count

Full statistics will be available at the next full board meeting.

5.0 New Business

5.1 DHS Grant

Funding will be available and the process for distributing funds will be needed. In the past, Prairie State Legal Services receive much of the funding.

5.2 CoC Strategic Plan

We're going to need to build another strategic plan and we should probably look at the previous plan to look to see if we've hit marks and what we might want to do going forward. Liz Heneks said goal planning that lines up with funding would make sense.

5.3 Chair of Community Awareness Committee

Julie Davis needed to step down from the position. Brandon Kyker has stepped in to assist. The idea is for Brandon to finish the term. It will be on the next full CoC agenda for official vote.

6 Review and approval of CoC full board agenda April 21, 2022

Moved a number of items from new business to old business. A couple of new housing-related agenda items were added. Coordinated entry/HMIS/BFZ was added to old business as well. Brandon motioned to approve with changes. Jane Dorfner seconded. The motion carried.

7 Member announcements

Gina Zinck said a team from BFZ were invited to a BFZ conference.

Kathrine said a CoC goodie bag, coffee and food will be provided at the next full CoC meeting. She also indicated agriculture loans are available at the bank. Several agencies agreed to take them, and gave ideas about communities where people may be most interested.

Brandon Kyker said May meetings will be hybrid again.

8 Adjournment

Gina Zinck made a motion to adjourn. Brandon Kyker seconded. The meeting adjourned at 2:58.