



CONTRA COSTA COUNCIL ON HOMELESSNESS MEETING MINUTES

The Contra Costa Council on Homelessness provides a forum for communication and coordination about the implementation of the County's Strategic Plan to prevent and end homelessness, and for orchestrating a vision on ending homelessness in the County, educating the community on homeless issues, and advocating on federal, state, and local policy issues affecting people who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness. The Council provides advice and input on the operations of homeless services, program operations, and program development efforts in Contra Costa County. Items may be taken out of order based on the business of the day and preference of the Council.

Date, Time: Thursday, June 7th, 2018 1:00pm – 3:00pm

Location: Department of Probation, 2nd Floor, 50 Douglas Drive, Martinez, CA 94553

Council Member Attendance:

Present: Candace Collier, John Eckstrom, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal

Absent: Cecelia McCloy, Joseph Villarreal, Tracy Pullar

Staff Attendance: Jaime Jenett, Lavonna Martin, Contra Costa Health Services (H3); Erica McWhorter, Emily Firgens, Colin Sorensen, HomeBase

Public Attendance: Dawn Morrow, Peter Dragovich, Mariana Moore, Christa Mayes, Erica Hicky, Claude J. Battaglia, Amelia Wood, T. Lenderman, Kristen Lackey, Mayo Lunt, Shade' Pinkins, Tom Brooks, Wilfredo Martinez, Paula Bonnell, Diana Becton, David Neece, Stephanie Stovall, Joy Hedgepoth, Jill Ray, John Warden, Felix Jackl

1. Welcome and Introductions

- Call to order by Doug Leich

2. Approve Minutes (Action Item)

- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to adopt the minutes from the May 3, 2018 Council on Homelessness Meeting.
- *Discussion*
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: John Eckstrom*
 - *Seconded by: John Barclay*



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- *AYES: Candace Collier, John Eckstrom, Gabriel Lemus, Bradley Lindblom, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal*
- *NOES: None.*
- *ABSTAINS: None.*
- *ABSENT: Cecelia McCloy, Joseph Villarreal, Teri House, Deanne Pearn, Dan Sawislak, Tracy Pullar*

3. Approve CoC NOFA Scoring Tool (Action Item)—Erica McWhorter

- HomeBase presented changes to CoC NOFA Scoring Tool.
- Changes are as follows:
 - The tool now includes a Threshold Criteria, which simplifies scoring and allows top projects to be considered.
 - The tool also added Factor 1C, which addresses whether a project responds to local needs
- Discussion
 - John Eckstrom:
 - How does 2B get scored?
 - Why is this not redundant with 2A?
 - How does this affect exits to Permanent Housing vs. non-permanent?
 - Doug Leich:
 - Let's review why we are doing this. We are doing this is because a renewed consolidated app for funding gets submitted to HUD, so this is HUD asking the community to determine what their priorities are.
 - Teri House:
 - I applaud the Threshold Criteria. It allows us to drill down to the nuances of the app. This is the most detailed/complex but it's still simple.
- Reach out to HomeBase if you want to be on Review and Rank.
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to approve the changes to the CoC NOFA scoring Tool.
- *Discussion*
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
 - *Dan Sawislak:*
 - *What happens to you if you're on the bottom? This is a significant thing that we're approving.*
 - *Eric McWhorter:*
 - *There will be an opportunity to explain via narrative, have interview, and work with stakeholders and providers.*
- *Procedural Record:*



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- *Motion made by: Teri House*
- *Seconded by: John Eckstrom*
- *AYES: Candace Collier, John Eckstrom, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal*
- *NOES: None.*
- *ABSTAINS: None.*
- *ABSENT: Cecelia McCloy, Joseph Villarreal, Tracy Pullar*

4. County ESG Recommendations for FY 2018/19 (Action Item)—Gabriel Lemus

- County receives ESG funds directly from HUD.
- This is the 2nd year of a 3^{-year} funding cycle (meaning this is a renewal process)
- The agencies recommended are pretty familiar.
- Breakdown:
 - 60% cap that can be used for Emergency Shelter services and Street Outreach.
 - 7.5% cap for administration to ensure all agencies are in compliance.
 - The total is \$368,211 (compared to last year, it's ~\$3K more).
- All of the agencies receiving the same amount except for Shelter Inc. They're getting a slight bump. They get a bump because of where they can use the money.
 - \$2,600 will go to Shelter Inc for Rapid Re-Housing.
- Doug Leich:
 - The ESG portion of the budget is small. Where does the rest of the money come from?
 - Gabriel Lemus: Generally, it comes from private donations/fundraising, federal funds, or local funds.
 - ESG & Community Development Block Grants are never a large part of an agency's budget; they are considered gap funding.
- Next year, these recommendations will hopefully remain same (assuming no cuts).
- This will get sent to board for final approval.
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to approve the accept the recommendations.
- *Discussion*
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
 - John Barclay:
 - This is considered a gap funding?
 - Gabriel Lemus: Yes, supplemental; it is a very small percentage.



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- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: Teri House*
 - *Seconded by: John Barclay*
 - *AYES: Candace Collier, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS: John Eckstrom*
 - *ABSENT: Cecelia McCloy, Joseph Villarreal, Tracy Pullar*

5. Veteran Committee (Action Item)

- Action would make Veteran Committee a priority.
- It would be a part of Vet Leadership Team and include partners from VA, SSVF Community Planning Survey (VA/HUD/USICH):
- Lavonna Martin:
 - Does this need to be formal?
 - VA put out the survey.
 - Is this necessary to formalize? Or are there opportunities to create pathways to merge via Coordinated Entry Oversight?
- John Eckstrom:
 - Do we need another committee or is there structure already in place that we just need to better communicate out the data? Maybe we can make a standard report out?
- Teri House:
 - Yes, we do need the committee. When we had this as a committee, we got a lot of valuable information. The report out should come from the people who are part of that group, and it shouldn't be a staff burden. Formalizing the process is a good thing.
- Lavonna Martin:
 - This brings up whether the same need should be organized around families, youth. We need to think about how information is provided to the Council and restructure how that information gets put before the Council.
- Doug Leich:
 - I know of Veteran Case Conference Meetings. Is this what Vet Leadership Team would be? One is on the ground and the other is systems-level.
 - Jaime Jennett:
 - We have a Veteran Leadership team but it's not documented anywhere and there's little awareness of it.
- John Eckstrom:
 - Are there other ways to fulfill this?
- Teri House:



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- It's important to have these meetings, but it's not necessary for staff to be there.
- Jaime Jenett:
 - I'm not sure that it's an issue of staff time, but I'm afraid of building a monster with needing more and more committees.
- Teri House:
 - It would be good to have all the subpopulation information.
- Deanne Pearn:
 - Does this need to be a committee/subcommittee if someone from Vet Leadership Team is on the Council on Homelessness?
- Lavonna Martin:
 - We should just treat it as one of the committee updates and do a regular report out.
 - Or we can create a dedicated VA seat.
- Erica McWhorter:
 - The bylaws do allow for ad hoc workgroups. Oversight could take this on. There are other ways to structure this.
- John Eckstrom:
 - We did have two different types of report outs — one was with BFZ and there was also a presentation done from BFHP. The missing piece is the report out.
- John Barclay:
 - We get a lot of report out from third parties, and it's a bit limiting. I would like to have someone from the committee if we do formal committee. Don't do report outs through proxy.
- Deanne Pearn:
 - That would imply to me that someone needs to be on that committee and chair it.
 - Jaime Jenett/Lavonna Martin:
 - Could have Tracy's deputy Reid or SHELTER Inc. and Laura Sharples.
- Lavonna Martin:
 - Can we schedule a meeting for Council to sit down and think through how to do special subpopulation report outs.
- Doug Leich:
 - That is my inclination too. I would like to hear from Tracy and others.
- Teri House:
 - There's not just veterans, but seniors too. Let's think ahead and dig deeper.
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to table for further discussion.



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- Motion to amend:
 - We move to create ad hoc committee to report out on information around subpopulations.
- Motion to amend amendment:
 - We move to amend amendment for the ad hoc committee to identify the specific subpopulations to report out on.
 - Erica McWhorter:
 - Table or postpone? Table it comes back at next meeting. If we postpone then the date needs to be specified.
 - John Barclay:
 - We amend the original motion and postpone to re-evaluate after the ad hoc committee forms and meets.
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: John Barclay*
 - *Seconded by: John Eckstrom*
 - *AYES: Candace Collier, John Eckstrom, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS: None.*
 - *ABSENT: Cecelia McCloy, Joseph Villarreal, Tracy Pullar*
- The Council will appoint ad hoc committee meeting to explore specific subpopulations at the next meeting.

6. Council Governance Reminder—Jaime Jenett

- The Council is starting to ask for attendance.
 - Council members should only have 2 absences (excused or unexcused) in 12 a month period.
 - Jaime Jenett is keeping track of excused/unexcused
 - 3 unexcused absences within 12-month period from appointment will warrant a Board recommendation for removal.
- Lavonna Martin:
 - Is this documented in our governance charter/by-laws about what happens as part of inquiry?
 - Erica McWhorter:
 - The government charter should include information about this
 - Jaime Jenett will double check
- Five people have completed Ethics Training
 - This includes:
 - John Barclay, John Eckstrom, Bradley Lindblom, Deanne Pearn, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes
 - Doug Leich turned his in.



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- One COI is outstanding.

7. 2018 Point-in-Time Data Release—Dana Ewing, H3

- Contra Costa does full count each year because it is helpful to get data annually as opposed to biannually (like other CoCs)
 - This year it also did some pilots to collect information at different sites.
- 2,234 homeless were identified the night of the count, and almost 70% were unsheltered.
- Number sheltered stayed virtually the same from last year (697 in 2018).
- Race/ethnicity break down was similar to previous years. There was a disproportionate representation of African Americans experiencing homelessness compared to large community.
 - African Americans made up 38% of the count.
 - There was an 88% increase in Seniors.
 - There was no change in the veteran count.
 - Ethnicity and race are asked separately.
- Trends
 - The increase is a reflection of what we see happening across the CoC.
 - It is also because we are reaching more people through services like CORE.
- CoC asked more qualitative questions asked during PIT in 2018 than previous years
 - We asked whether people would accept housing if offered; 95% would accept housing.
 - Lavonna Martin:
 - This is important to highlight to dispel myth that people don't want housing. Challenge is for us as providers, there is certain types of housing people want. How do we build the housing that people actually want to live in and dispel the myth that people want to live on the streets.
- John Eckstrom:
 - Was this collected by on a year by year basis?
 - Dana:
 - We can break this down by the exact number of years.
- Patrice Guillory:
 - Can you break down type of housing people will want by region?
 - Dane Ewing:
 - Yes, we can do that.
 - Are you also jump because the CoC is doing a better job of counting and identifying (like seniors)?
 - Lavonna Martin:



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- Yes, we are identifying them better. Also, the senior homeless population is actually increasing, as seniors live on fixed incomes but rents are increasing.
- We also pushed out a lot more services this year, so it will be interesting to see what the 2019 PIT shows. We put \$2 million in service expansion as direct result of what's in our PIT count. It's good when trends are similar, but we don't know if people are accessing more services because we created more.
- Dana Ewing:
 - After PIT Count, we had CORE do more intense screenings.
 - We wanted to do more report out of data and with overlapping of different sources.
- Teri House:
 - Do you know what that number of seniors is?
 - Lavonna Martin:
 - We have raw numbers.
 - Dana Ewing:
 - This year, we didn't do a full report, but we have all the methodology and raw data.
- Doug Leich:
 - The flier is posted on homeless programs website: cchealth.org/H3
- Lavonna Martin:
 - We will also make heat map available on website to see the intensity of higher concentrations of encampments.
- Bradley Lindblom:
 - How are incarcerated individuals counted in PIT? We don't count them because they are not considered homeless?
 - Lavonna Martin:
 - When they started PIT in 2005, HUD asked us to count number of people in jails and institutions. A few years after that, they said never mind because they changed the definition of homeless. That does not mean that as a system of care, we can't look at this data. We need data we want to see. When we did this in 2005, it was painful. It was asking a lot of the Sheriff's office. But it might be a good opportunity to collect this info. It's also easier to get now, because we have now shared data warehouses.
 - John Barclay:
 - 5% said they were happy where they were. Do we track the percent of people who reject the housing they are offered?
 - Dana Ewing:
 - We don't have that now but we are looking to track this.
 - Patrice Guillory:
 - Data about the types of housing wanted would be fascinating.



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- I imagine there is a potential gap between what they say what they want vs. what they might be ready for.
 - Lavonna Martin:
 - We weren't striving to answer this question with PIT but we are striving to answer this question as a system.
 - It's not question of readiness but question of what services you need wrapped around you to be successful.
 - People want stability and housing.
 - Teri House:
 - Could we add a question about if you have support animal and if so, is this preventing you from type of housing you might take?
 - John Barclay:
 - Also interested in seeing how many people reject spot based on location.
 - Dana Ewing:
 - There are other ways we can capture this data.
 - Lavonna Martin:
 - Coordinated Entry and specifically housing navigation services can look to answer this.
- Lavonna Martin:
 - East County CARE is looking at allowing animals. County Council is also looking at how to offer animals in County shelter.
- County Member:
 - We're also seeing challenges with how money is managed and helping people develop money management skills. Looking into money management skills for some families would be awesome.
 - Teri House:
 - Individual jurisdictions have money that could go to pay money management skills. If you would like to go forward with this, then let's talk.

8. Ensuring Opportunity Housing Summit Recap—Marianna Moore, Richmond Community Foundation.

- Ensuring Opportunity Housing Summit is a countywide initiative to end poverty in Contra Costa by addressing root causes.
 - It focuses on changing systems and policies.
- Housing Actions to Date:
 - Spring 2017 — Housing Policy Brief — endpovertycc.org
 - June 2017 — Countywide Housing Summit #1
 - Fall 2017 — CC Housing Snapshot
 - Fall 2017 — Housing Town Halls — hosted by each BOS district.
 - March 2018 — Countywide Summit #2
- Town Halls Last Fall



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- The Town Halls asked about top priorities around housing. There were common answers across districts:
 - More units of affordable housing, PSH, more protections for renters.
- The top barriers were NIMBY Attitudes & stereotypes, lack of funding, lack of vision & commitment by elected officials.
- The top proposed solutions were new funding sources, increase engagement and advocacy, and support for innovative solutions (tiny homes, ADUs, shared housing, etc.)
- Housing Summit
 - Elizabeth Kneebone from the Turner Center was the Keynote Speaker.
 - She gave an overview of suburbanization of poverty and economic & social trends.
 - The Resident Panel discussed what it's like to live with housing insecurity.
 - Amie Fischman gave a policy update from the state and federal level.
 - The Health, Housing & Equity chat allowed everyone to connect across silos.
- Takeaways
 - People are struggling and things are getting worse. Many rely on local action and local leadership but many cities have severe constraints and challenges.
 - It's important to unlock local solutions, and collaborate across jurisdictions, regions, and sectors. We need to encourage innovation, scale best practices, pursue all funding avenues and overcome NIMBYism.
 - People are hungry for opportunities and want to connect, share ideas, and work on solutions.
- What's Next
 - Tenant protections in Richmond, Concord
 - Concord Community Reuse Project
 - ADUs (in-law units)
 - Shared housing
 - Rehab/sell abandoned homes
 - Tiny homes
 - Homeless outreach CORE teams
 - City-level study sessions
 - Walnut Creek and Richmond are two examples.
- On the Horizon?
 - The Contra Costa Housing Advisory Council is co-chaired by Supervisor Andersen and Jon Gioia.
 - There will be updates in a few weeks.
 - The countywide engagement campaign is soon



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- We may come back to discuss and brainstorm more.
- There's a statewide housing bond measure in November.
- State housing legislation seeks to expand city-level solutions.
- Ask for support to:
 - Repeal Costa-Hawkins and allow local choice.
 - Endorse statewide housing bond.

9. Committee Updates—Jaime Jenett

- Christa reported updates about Youth Action Council.
 - Council did some research on youth PIT count and other counties in California.
 - San Diego conduct youth PIT count over the span of 10 days with 1,600 volunteers.
 - Saw 39% increase in unaccompanied youth.
 - 38% increase in Transitional Age Youth
 - Marin contracted with Applied Community Survey.
 - Almost all counties use volunteer surveyors.
 - YAC is looking to partner with services and agencies (HS, Contra Costa).
 - SPARK initiative will be contracting to help with Contra Costa's PIT count.
 - YAC met with Sara Goldrick at Basic Needs Summit in April.
 - She allowed us to use her survey to help improve the count and the accuracy of our numbers.
 - YAC is also reaching out to local high schools to inform and educate high schools students about services available.
 - De Anza, Kennedy, Antioch, and Pittsburg High
 - Bill SB918 passed the senate, with establishes funds for: Rental Assistance, non-limited supported housing (PH, RRH, Teri House, Host homes), drug and abuse prevention, and Transitional Living services,
 - Doug Leich:
 - It just passed the state senate or both?
 - Lavonna Martin:
 - i. It still needs to pass the assembly and have the governor sign.
 - ii. Council on Homelessness did make recommendations that went to Board of Supervisors. Our next council meetings is a good opportunity to discuss policies that are coming down and where various pieces of legislation are.
- Teri House:
 - Can we make Meetings 30 minutes longer?
 - Lavonna Martin:



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- It would be good to give some direction to Chair and Vice Chair so they can prioritize and have a more manageable agenda.
 - The next meeting is heavily focused on policy.
- Doug Leich:
 - We can work to make agenda fit into 2-hour timeslot.
- Coordinated Entry Oversight
 - The committee is getting ready to implement Diversion and Housing Location; there will be more updates as that goes out.
- Executive Directors Meeting
 - Environmental Health had an update about charitable food donations:
 - There is a difference between public and private events.
 - Private events are shelters with stable consumer base.
 - Lavonna Martin:
 - This is important because this is a reaction to what happened in Antioch where people died after receiving Thanksgiving meal. So we just need to be mindful of this. Environment Health wants to help because they know it's beneficial to have these things available.
 - We asked all the agencies to please provide a list of all the faith services you're working with and Environmental Health will help.
- HACCC
 - The HACC Committee is currently applying for Mainstream Vouchers and FUP Vouchers.
- Policy & Advocacy
 - Policy and Advocacy Committee is meeting; let us know if you would like to know something more specific.

10. Ad Hoc Nomination Committee Recommendation, EHSD Seat Recommendation (Action Item)

- The EHSD seat is meant to be a direct conduit between EHSD and the Council.
- The Ad Hoc Committee decided to recommend Carolyn Foudry.
- Motion
- State of Motion:
 - We move to approve recommendation for EHSD Seat Recommendation from Bradley, Candace, and Teri.
- *Discussion*
 - *The Council moved to approve.*
 - Dan Question:
 - What does EHSD stand for?
 - Employment Human Services Department
 - We should add EHSD to back of committee list.



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- John Eckstrom:
 - Can we hear about the process that the committee went through?
- Jaime Jenett:
 - We forwarded information about the candidates and EHSD Director's recommendation to the ad hoc committee.
 - People provided feedback via email.
- Teri House:
 - It was mostly based on experience and resumes.
- Deanne Pearn:
 - I'm not on the committee but I worked with Carolyn on the pilot and she'll be a great ally to better connect systems and support clients.
- *Procedural Record:*
 - *Motion made by: Bradley Lindblom*
 - *Seconded by: Deanne Pearn*
 - *AYES: Candace Collier, John Eckstrom, Gabriel Lemus, Dan Sawislak, Deanne Pearn, Bradley Lindblom, Miguel Hidalgo-Barnes, Teri House, Doug Leich, Patrice Guillory, Alejandra Chamberlain, John Barclay, Manjit Sappal*
 - *NOES: None.*
 - *ABSTAINS: None*
 - *ABSENT: Cecelia McCloy, Joseph Villarreal, Tracy Pullar*

11. Community announcements

- Tabora Gardens opened June 6th.
 - It has 85 units for senior Veterans in Antioch.
- MFAC & others are organizing a Poor People's Campaign in East County on 6/23 at Antioch Church Family.

12. Meeting Adjourned by Doug Leich

- *Motion made by: John Barclay*
- *Seconded by: Bradley Lindblom*