

Housing Opportunities Action Council

Governing Board

Minutes 08-23-17

Board Members in Attendance: Biff Traber (co-chair), Brad Smith, Ben Danley (alt-Whitacre), Pernel H. (alt-Nicole Hindes), Kenny Lowe, Julie Manning, Jim Moorefield, Chris Quaka, Lauren Schaffner (alt-Latimer), Bettina Schempf, Denise Derrick, Aleita Hass-Holcombe, Jennifer Morris (alt-Wilson), Mary Newman, Karyle Butcher, Martha Lyon, Ann Craig, Shawn Collins (Program Manager)

Time	Type	Presenter	Topic / Notes
1:30pm	Report	Co-Chairs and Program Manager	Introductions Approve July Minutes Co-Chair Comments Program Manager report
<p>Approval of July Minutes: Motion: Julie Manning, Second: Kenny Lowe. Approved</p> <p>Co-Chair Comments: Biff Traber: Recognition of the progress on the Men's Shelter, and thanks to all who have been involved. Many groups and individuals have had a part in making this possible. Very positive response in the community.</p> <p>Program Manager Report: Written comments were distributed, and are available online. Comments included an update on the state of efforts to locate the men's cold weather shelter. A shelter location has been identified. Big thanks to DEVCO Engineering, and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis for stepping up with the location and the role of fiscal agent. This forms the core around which we will build the Steering Committee, and move forward. Additionally, workgroups are forming, with very strong response from HOAC members and other community members. Reminder that while we celebrate getting the shelter location worked out for this year, we have to look ahead to the future, and explore new models to provide shelter services.</p>			
1:40pm	SMART Team update	Andrea Myhre, chair of SMART team	
No report			
1:45pm	Funding Coordination Team update	Jim Moorefield, chair of Funding Coordination team	
No report			

1:50pm	Benton Community Foundation: Homeless to Housing Community Initiative	Chris Quaka	Update on launch of BCF initiative
<p>Benton Community Foundation has been a part of HOAC for many years. When Chris began at BCF, he looked at the funding that BCF has provided in the area of homelessness and housing: ~\$82K in funding for community efforts this year. Hope to be able to increase that to \$100K by the end of this year. Funding recipients have included Room at the Inn, Community Outreach, Mary’s River Gleaners, and the Alsea Food Bank. Goal is to provide support for basic needs, and get to a point where BCF is providing \$150K+, annually. Looking at partnership with other funders to draw more resources to our community.</p> <p>Comments: Julie Manning: This is a great effort by BCF. Really appreciate the flexibility to direct support to areas it is needed in the community. Jim Moorefield: Thank you to Chris and the BCF Board. One thing that’s notable here is the opportunity to be the “first money” – having this kind of local support builds credibility with other potential funders. Karyle Butcher: How is BCF connecting with other funders, like OCF? (Chris and Julie replied – OCF looking specifically for larger needs in this part of the state. OCF very interested in having greater visibility in this part of the state.) Other comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need information on what all the funding options / channels may be. Development of clear info/flyer/website that outlines all the available channels. BCF is currently re-working their website to highlight options. - Need Leadership and the Funding Committee to explore ways to limit competition between organizations for funding. <p>Ben Danley:</p>			
2:00pm	Corvallis Men’s Cold Weather Shelter	Shawn Collins	Update
<p>Slides from this presentation are available on the HOAC website: www.bentonhoac.com/monthly-meetings</p> <p>Questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will COI be involved in the steering committee? (Yes – they have agreed to serve on the committee) - Will there be showers? (Yes – one inside, and currently exploring options to provide additional showers through a portable shower truck or trailer.) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Additional discussion suggested there may be support available through CSC for weatherization of the shelter facility, and possibly mobile shower/laundry facilities. 			
2:15pm	HOAC Workgroups	Shawn Collins	Update
<p>Workgroups are forming, meetings with co-chairs are scheduled to outline agendas for first meeting of each group, and set meeting dates.</p>			

<p>2:30pm</p>	<p>Public Comment / Q&A / General Updates</p>
<p>Martha Lyon: PIT Count update (handouts shared) There was a substantial increase shown in PIT results. CSC believes a portion of the increase was due to changes in efforts to coordinate. CSC Intern was dedicated to PIT, and able to do more outreach.</p> <p>View this as a "Corvallis" centric PIT -- but it highlights something that's county-wide and spans counties.</p> <p>Statistics this year more reliable -- not sure it represents we've doubled in homeless population, but there is some increase in #'s and increase in accuracy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Some of those counted may not have been counted in the past. - Need to remember: Those counted as "sheltered" in January become unsheltered when shelter closes. <p>Karyle: We need to be careful in the way we talk about this kind of data -- there needs to be some review of this PIT release, and the LWV report.</p> <p>Martha: We may be able to view this data more deeply at CSC to see how this splits out, city/rural.</p> <p>Biff: See a need for LWV group and CSC to sit down and review data in more detail. Martha: Could messaging group be charged with reviewing this to develop a clear picture? Can Peter Banwarth be drafted into service here?</p> <p>Jim M: Want to clarify intent of the messaging committee -- it's designed to foster change -- so crunching the numbers needs to be done first and outside that group.</p> <p>Julie: Thanks for making this available -- media are starting to pick up this data and report. Follow up question about the level of rigor applied to the 2017 Benton County count -- do you believe, based on your perception of the work this year, is it replicable, so we'll see similar levels of certainty in future PIT counts? Martha: It's a long questionnaire, invasive, which makes it challenging -- but dedicating some funding to the process this year was able to help.</p> <p>Julie: Can you share the funding required? Would like to have HOAC review funding/process in more detail to see what we can do as a group to make sure we have quality counts in the future. Martha: Part of what helped was having a person interested and capable of doing the work -- more important than simply funding. Karyle: LWV had significant challenge simply getting access to data, and consistency in the way counts are done -- we have lead time, we should be able to make some difference to support.</p> <p>ACTION: Shawn connect with CSC in September on PIT process, and link to Leadership Committee</p>	

Public Comments:

Jan Napack: The PIT data doesn't have enough detail to clarify what may be making homeless choose to come to Corvallis. Want to understand what this group is using as a matrix/criteria to judge success?

How you ask the question and what you ask is very important. If you're just measuring numbers of people served, you will tend to skew behavior to drive that metric.

Karyle: You have background in data mining -- would you be interested in helping at the League to understand data?