

Housing Opportunities Action Council

Governing Board

Minutes 06-28-17

Board Members in Attendance: Anne Schuster (co-chair), Chris Quaka, Bettina Schempf, Julie Manning, Jim Moorefield, Nicole Hindes, Kenny Lowe, Karen Rockwell, Paul Adent (alt-Derrick), Karyle Butcher, Kari Whitacre, Pegge McGuire (alt-Lyon), Aleita Hass-Holcombe, Mary Newman, Jennifer Morris

Community Members: Sara Hartstein, Tatiana Dierwechter, Bill Glassmire, Ben Danley, Brigetta Olson, Cynthia (Intern WNHS), Judy Ball, Pernell Harris, Ailiah Schaeffer, Kent Weiss, Peter Martin (God Gear), Jeff Blackford (C.H.A.N.C.E.), Sara Power, Roberta Smith, Greg Olson, Ann Craig

Time	Type	Presenter	Topic / Notes
1:30pm	Report	Co-Chairs and Program Manager	Introductions Approve May Minutes Co-Chair Comments Program Manager report
<p>Announcements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WNHS - Received MMT grant award for housing advocacy project. Benton Habitat for Humanity was also awarded in the same cycle. • Julie Manning recognized LWV report presentation on 6/27/17 -- great job presenting, very large audience, and very well received. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◦ Karyle Butcher- comment: People want "3 things" they can do: We need to give them some advice and direction. Want to support the energy and momentum built at the presentation. <p>Approval of May Minutes: Julie Manning moves approval of minutes / Karen Rockwell, 2nd - Minutes approved.</p> <p>Vacancies on HOAC: 2 likely vacancies in at large positions. Please see the list of sectors below, and consider nominations for new members. We will accept nominations and vote at a future meeting. NOTE: HOAC Governing Board membership includes “up to ten (10) at-large members, nominated and elected by Cooperating Agencies, consisting of individuals representing any of the identified sectors (Basic Needs Services, Business Association(s), Education, Faith Community, Health [physical, behavioral, oral] Services, Homeless Advocacy, Housing / Housing Development Services, Law Enforcement, Senior Services, Social Justice, Veterans’ Services, Workforce Development, and Youth Services “ (HOAC Charter, Article VII, Section 1)</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. Efforts to secure an existing structure have failed, and the workgroup is shifting into pursuit of contingency plans, including use of tents or modular buildings. Q; Karyle Butcher: can the city invoke emergency powers?</p>			

- Discussion of options -- declaration of emergency may not provide the powers needed to make any needed changes. The best path may be asking Council to direct City staff to create a temporary use provision.

Q: Karen Rockwell: Will shelter workgroup be taking up emergency family shelter?

- Immediate focus of workgroup is men's shelter, but there is clearly a need to address family shelter as well.
 - Julie Manning: Situation clarification -- the emergency shelter gap is not a space issue, but a funding issue.
 - Jim: For the men's shelter, the issues are different. We need both a location and an organization to run it. In the case of emergency family shelter, there is an organization and location, but there is a funding gap.
 - Karyle: There's funding going to Visioning, and other things, that are not addressing the immediate needs. Funding decisions like supporting Davinci days doesn't help the more immediate and pressing housing issues. There's a gap in HOAC's advocacy, in that we're not helping place some of those kind of funding decisions in the context of other needs.

Kari Whitacre: COI would need \$45K to reopen the emergency shelter.

Community Member Comment: Olive Davis (St Vincent de Paul food pantry): We don't need advocacy, we need people and money and food -- there are people facing homelessness without enough resources to even afford to apply for an apartment

Karen Rockwell: Acknowledge the need for direct action -- and we need that plus advocacy.

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	
<p>Jim Moorefield: Committee met by email to consider a request from Jackson Street Youth Shelter. Recommendation for letters of support for three Jackson Street Youth Shelter federal grant applications to support 1) Emergency shelter, 2) Outreach workers, 3) Supportive services including case management. (Handout online)</p> <p>Julie Manning - motion, Bettina Schempf - 2nd -- approved (NOTE: Letters were provided 7/10/2017)</p>			
1:50pm	The Benton County Ten Year Plan to Address Housing and Homelessness, Mid-Point Update	Tatiana Dierwechter and Sara Hartstein	Mid-Point Update – Final Work Session
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review of process and timeline • Metrics team has created draft metrics plan, and draft workplan has been created 			

- Recommend 5 strategies which fall into 3 main areas
 - Increase capacity for Mental Health/detox services
 - Improve partnership with law enforcement and mental health professionals
 - Increase affordable housing supply
 - Improve advocacy and messaging around affordable housing
 - Improve coordinated case management
- Review of intent -- HOAC as coordinating group around keystone priorities, rather than HOAC directing the specific plan and agendas of member organization. This approach is based on the charter.
- Review of workgroup model -- Workgroup model is not defined within the charter, except that they will form around specific charges, for set periods of time. Additional detail on the model proposed:
 - Workgroups will focus on keystone priorities
 - Workgroup will have a strong lead (from HOAC membership)
 - Workgroup membership can come from HOAC or broader community, and should include clients
 - Draft workplans will be developed by Health Department team, reviewed and revised by workgroup, and reviewed/approved by SMART team lead (Andrea Myhre)
 - Recommend early milestone include review of existing efforts in the area, gaps, and make recommendation of whether ongoing workgroup is needed, or if there is a liaison role to existing effort that needs to be established, and the workgroup sunset.
 - Administrative support will be provided to each workgroup
 - Recommendations of workgroups will be reviewed by Leadership, and acted upon by Governing Board

Julie Manning: Motion to adopt recommendations as presented, Jim Moorefield, 2nd the motion

Julie speaks to the motion:

- Appreciate time and thought the team has put into this process
- Process of developing the keystone priorities has allowed broad engagement and discussion
 - keystones don't mean other goals go away, and we may need to revisit some of those as opportunities arise
 - Keystone priorities go across a spectrum of need, and the workgroups provide a flexible structure that allows broader community engagement
- In years serving as Mayor, the Council developed a goal setting process, and was careful to identify no more than 5-6 goals to focus on -- that worked very well in that context, and this parallels that approach.
 - In order to make a difference, and measure impact, this is a good approach
- Karyle Butcher: Talking through the "increase housing supply", and the messaging component
 - How does HOAC vs member messaging and strategies align?
 - Would HOAC have a messaging strategy?
 - Tatiana Dierwechter: Workgroup would look at these questions -- look at existing strategies and efforts, and design a messaging strategy
 - Jim Moorefield: Has been doing this work for 37 years - if we had been doing messaging effectively all that time, we might not have the problems we see today (closing shelters, low housing supply, etc)

- There are messages that work: we need to, as a collective, figure out how to talk about this more effectively and do advocacy to create change
- The messaging strategy is to create positive change
- Motion called to vote: Passed

Comments:

- Julie Manning: Request that clarity be provided on process of forming the workgroups, and how people should indicate their interest in joining, etc.
 - Process will be developed and shared through Governing Board and contact@bentonhoac.com list.
- Karyle Butcher: Need to be able to tweak the process and approach over time, have a sense of urgency, and clarity on timelines and workplans

Discussion: Overall Goal: Suggestions of overall goal for the TYP

- Discussion on the importance of having goals that are aspirational, elicit broad engagement from the community, and which can make sense to those who are needing services related to homelessness and affordable housing.
- Discussion of the importance of having goals that link directly to key data points.
- Encouragement to set goals that are bold – end homelessness vs address, for example

Note: In the midst of discussion on goals, there was an additional topic raised regarding the need for strong facilitation of the meetings, management of public comments, and the need to clarify the role of audience members who are not HOAC Governing Board members. This topic was reviewed in the July Leadership committee as well.

2:25pm	C.H.A.N.C.E./God Gear: Transitional Housing in Albany	Jeff Blackford, Executive Director, C.H.A.N.C.E. Peter Martin, God Gear Inc.	Presentation on program in Albany, and interest in expanding to Corvallis
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- God Gear - 24 month transitional housing (see handouts online)
 - Some clients have long term needs, others are short term
 - 7 years -- 10 homes in Albany
 - Incarceration, addiction, mental illness -- growing, need is growing for housing that can support
 - Not in Benton County because of cost of housing
 - Sobriety requirement
 - Faith-based, but not required
- CHANCE: Community Helping Addicts Negotiate Change Effectively
 - Jeff - addict in recovery for 23 years
 - Peer-based services
 - Provide tools to help people be successful
 - But they need to "earn" help -- successfully meeting small goals continues support
 - Want to have CHANCE in Corvallis -- want a CHANCE wherever there is a Samaritan hospital
 - GG has tried to get lease here -- turned away
 - Here to seek support and partnership
 - Aleita Hass-Holcombe: How is this different from Teen Challenge?

<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ If you get out of jail or Teen Challenge, there's no housing support<ul style="list-style-type: none">• GG provides support and accountability• If they stay 90 days, they have a higher success rate• Need life skills	
2:50pm	Public Comment
Meeting Adjourned: 3:00 pm	