MINUTES OF MARCH 12, 2020

MID-WILLAMETTE VALLEY HOMELESS ALLIANCE
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

MWVCOG Conference Room
100 High Street SE, Suite 200
Salem, Oregon

MEMBERS PRESENT
CHAIR: Mayor Cathy Clark, City of Keizer
VICE CHAIR: Council President Chris Hoy, City of Salem (by phone)
Paul Dakopolos for Christy Perry, Superintendent, Salem-Keizer School District (SKSD)
Ashley Hamilton, ARCHES Project Program Director, for Jimmy Jones, Executive Director, Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency (MWVCAA)
Tribal Councilwoman Lisa Leno, Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde (by phone)
Commissioner Colm Willis, Marion County
Commissioner Lyle Mordhorst, Polk County
Rhonda Wolf, CEO, United Way of the Mid-Willamette Valley
Josh Lair, Navigator, Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD)
Shawn Hanson, Director of Operations, for Dan Clem, Executive Director, Union Gospel Mission of Salem
Tom Pessemier, City Manager, City of Independence (by phone)
Christian Ebelblute, Executive Director, West Valley Housing Authority (by phone)
Jason Icenbice, Interim Executive Director, for Candace Jamison, Executive Director, Marion County Housing Authority

MEMBERS ABSENT
Ian Dixon-McDonald, Co-Chair, MWVHA Collaborative Committee
Leilani Slama, Vice President, Community Engagement, Salem Health
Eric Enderle, Veteran Services Officer, Polk County Veteran Services
Nicole Utz, Housing Administrator, Salem Housing Authority
Mayor Chuck Bennett, City of Salem
Chad Olsen, Interim City Manager, City of Monmouth
Kim Parker-Llerenas, Co-Chair, MWVHA Collaborative Committee

OTHERS PRESENT
Jan Calvin, MWVHA Consultant
Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant (by phone)
Carla Munns, MWVHA Consultant
Renata Wakeley, Acting Executive Director, MWVCOG
Denise VanDyke Admin. Specialist II, MWVCOG
Sarah Owens, CANDO
Michael Livingston, CANDO
Councilor Vanessa Nordyke, City of Salem
Jesse Lippold, Honey Bee Realty LLC and SKSD School Board member
Fay DeMeyer, HopeCrest
Ken Wolfert, TRIO Program Technical Specialist, Chemeketa Community College
DeDe Hazzard, Union Gospel Mission
Julie Conn-Johnson, Salem-Keizer School District

CALL TO ORDER & INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 3:05 p.m. The presence of a quorum was noted. Introductions were made around the room for the benefit of guests and those on the phone.

CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Mayor Clark initiated a discussion of the coronavirus, how it is being addressed, and how the Alliance can help. Ms. Hamilton stated that ARCHES is developing a four-phase plan. Phase 1 was prevention and involved education on handwashing, making facilities and supplies available as possible, and education on social distancing. Phase 2, where the program is now, is social distancing. Mostly this involves staff and modifications to service delivery. The main question from staff is how to know if someone is infected. The main way is if the person has a fever. The recommendation is to keep a six (6) foot distance indoors or out. Phase 4 is closure of the agency, and Ms. Hamilton hopes that does not become necessary. The definition of quarantine/isolation and what that looks like for a homeless population is needed. ARCHES is providing tents as the program can and establishing hand washing stations. Protection supplies are desperately needed (hand sanitizer, masks, etc.).

Ms. Wolf reported that the United Way will be offering micro-grants (up to $300) for small organizations. Additional funding may be negotiated.

Mr. Dakopolos mentioned that most school extracurricular activities and field trips have been cancelled statewide for 30 days. At this time, outdoor sports are still on, but with no spectators.

Mr. Hanson reported that UGM is spacing out mats in the shelter, but need hand sanitizer, as well. From April through November, UGM is restricted to 150 beds, so spacing shouldn't be an issue.

It was mentioned that there could be new changes within 24-48 hours from the Oregon Health Authority (OHA).

Commissioner Willis provided updated information that there are two new presumptive cases in Marion County, and families and some first responders are now in self quarantine. The Emergency Operations Center is up and running, and the county is working closely with OHA.

Commissioner Mordhorst stated that there is currently one case in Polk County, and the county is getting ready.

Those who work most directly with the homeless community reported that reactions are mostly fear, as there has been a limited amount of communication to them (as opposed to talking at them). Not all have the ability to follow the recommendations all the time. People need something to do to feel that they are helping themselves.

It is possible to help by sponsoring or implementing a handwashing station. The cost is $150 per week. Ms. Wolf pledged a one month sponsorship from United Way. Please send recommendations for washing station placement to Jan Calvin. Ms. Hamilton will initiate communication with the homeless community about what locations would be the most helpful to them. It may be possible for the mobile hygiene unit to be open more hours, but it may need to be at one location.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: By Commissioner Mordhorst, **SECONDED by** Mr. Hanson, to **APPROVED THE CONSENT AGENDA, AS PRESENTED.**

- **AGENDA APPROVAL**
- **FEBRUARY 13, 2020 MINUTES**
- **FINANCIAL REPORT**
- **COMMITTEE ROSTER UPDATES**
- **APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE WOODBURN FAMILY RESOURCE CENTER**
- **RATIFICATION OF LETTER OF SUPPORT AUTHORIZED FOR COMMUNITY ACTION BY THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON MARCH 2, 2020**
- **2020 SCHEDULE OF BOARD MEETINGS (INCLUDED FOR INFORMATION)**

Motion carried.

IN FAVOR: Lair, Clark, Wolf, Leno, Mordhorst, Willis, Hoy, Dakopolos, Hamilton, Hanson, Pessemier.
OPPOSED: None. **ABSTAINED:** None.

ORS 190 INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT

Ms. Carlson provided background information and listed what was included in the agenda packet. This should be the final draft, and it is out to the attorneys for comment. It will, then, need to be processed by all members as quickly as possible. Mr. Dakopolos stated that the language is acceptable, but the agreement is subject to his board's approval.

Ms. Carlson clarified that the board voted at the February meeting to support the agreement in concept and delegated to the attorneys drafting the final language. Mayor Clark confirmed that a board vote is not needed today. Ms. Wakeley stated that working on this document has moved us closer to seeing what the long-term document needs to be. Mayor Clark said that an update on the long-term agreement will be made at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE CHARTERS

Ms. Calvin stated that this board has four working committees. Staff has been working on charters for the committees to review. The basics of each charter are in the CoC Governance Charter where each committee is defined. She explained what the committee charters include. Ms. Munns directed the board's attention to the CoC organizational chart to illustrate how the committees relate to the board. All committees are scheduled to meet and some have already met. The Performance and Evaluation charter is more technical than the others, partly due to HUD requirements.

Commissioner Willis requested that items to be approved or adopted need to be provided prior to the meetings, and suggested postponing a vote on the committee charters until the next meeting. Consensus was in agreement. Mayor Clark asked everyone to take a good look at the charters. They make it clear who is doing what. Ms. Calvin mentioned that the wording is from the governance charter, so there shouldn't be surprises. The HMIS Workgroup did have one change that will need to be incorporated into the governance charter at the October review. They wanted to include a charge to recruit agencies to participate in the HMIS system.

STRATEGIC PLANNING

Ms. Calvin gave some history on the creation of the strategic plan by the Mid-Willamette Homeless Initiative. The document, which is a living document, needs to be updated and have new priorities added. Hopefully, it can be adopted at the April or May meeting. Please send feedback to Ms. Calvin after the meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding the goals. For long-term, innovative housing options, Seattle and Eugene have tiny home options. Similar things could work here, but locations of property that is properly zoned are needed.

How to connect measures or benchmarks to the strategic plan was discussed. A suggestion was made to create a Goal 8: System Capacity. Some performance measures are listed at the top of each goal page, and the number of measures should not be excessive.

For Goal 2, main topics were removing barriers, rapid rehousing, diversion (out of homelessness), looking at sheltered versus unsheltered priorities, and legal barriers specifically to housing for minors. Definitions should be included for the various types of housing (affordable, low income, etc.). Ms. Hamilton will create wording regarding rapid rehousing and diversion.

Goal 3, support for housing readiness, was tagged as very important. Some clients may need direct counseling or therapy. In general, more case managers are needed, as is assistance for existing case managers. Some clients want to go into housing, but are fearful of the change, and to leave their community or "found family." Ms. Hazzard promoted the need to train more counselors and accept counselors who do not have advanced degrees. There are many complex traumas that require help to overcome. Another suggestion was to continue working with PacificSource and Salem Health.

For Goal 4, a discussion is needed as to what public safety issues are being considered. There are the risks to the homeless population from some of the general public, risks to the general public from some homeless individuals, and the risks to the homeless population from within their community. A possible addition is to address safety with a response unit. Ms. Calvin and Ms. Wolf will work on the wording. The focus is to solve problems, not criminalize where people are in their lives.

In the interest of time, board members were asked to review Goals 5-7, with special attention to Goal 6.

ADJOURNMENT

Hearing no further business, Vice Chair Hoy adjourned the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

Janet Carlson, MWVHA Consultant