

3/13 Backbone

Backbone: Angel, Dom, Evelyn, Theo, Rory, Ari, Ah'ana, Mayra, Chase, Nihil, Isaiah

YYA; Seraphena, Aidan, Isach

Older Adults: Alisa, Jade, Shelaswau, Marianne

Angel needs motion to start meeting

Dom motioned

Theo seconded

### **Introduction**

#### **Update:**

Dom started a job at Bon Appetit

Evelyn got tattoo

Ah'ana is quitting chipotle

### **Board Administration**

Dom motion to approve minutes

Ah'ana seconded

Voting passed unanimously

**Backbone speaking engagements:** In the past 6 weeks, Backbone members have participated in 3 different panels:

- 1- 2/1 Health Council Conference, facilitated by Tricia Frizzell
- 2- 2/16 Community Info Session at Central High School, facilitated by Marianne Bradshaw
- 3- 3/8 Listening Session at Ike Box, facilitated by Danielle Bethell

The youth shared reflections about what went well and what went poorly at each of these. Most of the feedback was about the most recent session and reflected that it was a stressful session. At an upcoming meeting, the youth would like to develop a list of requirements for any future speaking engagements. A few ideas were brainstormed for future consideration/refinement:

- Advance notice on date/time of panel so they can make arrangements with their work schedules
- Information about the purposes of the session and the audience
- Opportunity to have a conversation about the guiding questions ahead of time with the meeting sponsor/facilitator
- Opportunity to influence who the facilitator is

- Trauma-informed training for facilitator
- Must see the questions ahead of time (several days) to allow participants to prepare (what to say as well as emotionally) and make some notes (if they'd like)
- Stipends at least at the Backbone hourly rate
- Expectation that panelists can decline to answer any question and that they can take a break or walk away at any time
- Support. Panelists have people they know in attendance who can support.

**Organizational Considerations:** Backbone members raised some concerns and some suggestions to improve communication and leadership

- Communication: Most communication is done by email. Some Backbone members are not receiving the emails.
  - Next meeting, Amanda will bring a roster and all members can update their preferred emails on the list
  - The youth prefer texting. Dom volunteered to set up and maintain a youth only group text where Backbone members can ask questions and stay in touch
- Calendar: There are lots of meetings and it can be confusing to keep track of when they are happening
  - Amanda will xxx
- Online Info: There is some info about Backbone on the Homeless Alliance website. We also can refresh Basecamp and add Backbone members and use its calendar and system for storing and sharing documents. There was also discussion about creating a stand alone Backbone website.
  - At an upcoming meeting, we will look at Basecamp together and discuss if Backbone wants its own website
- Leadership: In September 2022, Backbone members were appointed in leadership roles such as Chair (Kloi), Vice Chair (Ah'ana), Secretary Over Membership (Theo) and Treasurer (Angel). In April 2022, Kloi was appointed as a voting member of the CoC Board with Rory as an alternate. More clarity is needed around responsibilities and expectations. Better communication is needed when someone isn't available so another person can be there. More training is requested. Also, it feels like a lot of work falls on one person and we need better communication to share the load.
  - Develop written descriptions of the responsibilities for each role
  - Follow-up conversation with leadership about responsibilities, burn-out and sharing the load

Meeting adjourned