Capital Region Housing Collaborative

Board Meeting

February 26, 2019

9 am, City Rescue Mission, Women’s Shelter

**Meeting Called to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 9:10am

**Introductions**

Jennifer McMahon (C&F), Jenny Leaf (Loaves & Fishes), Cynthia Borgman (CEI-CMH), Rose Taphouse (LSD), Rich Howard (BBBS), Jessica Lamson (MMRS), Mark Criss (City Rescue Mission), Susan Cancro (Advent House), Doris Witherspoon (City of Lansing), Sharon Dade (Holy Cross), Gabriel Biber (Haven House), Dr. Joan Johnson-Jackson (City of Lansing), Julie Shaltry (Holy Cross), Meaghan Redd (CRHC)

Katrina Urista (City of Lansing), Excused due to City Auditors

**Approval of January Minutes**

Mark made a motion to approve minutes. Jenny Seconds.

Delete the sentence about Cindi willing to chair the membership committee. Jessica requested that motions and decisions be placed in bold. All in favor. Motion carried.

**Additions to the agenda**

None.

**Chair report**

Susan would like to clarify the proposed recommendations for the change of the bylaws.

Decreasing the elected board members from 11 to 10. Would still be a 15 members board. Ten elected and five appointed: Ingham County Commissioners, Education representative, Consumer Representative, Ingham County DHHS and the Fiduciary. Suggestion to make quorum 50% plus one.

Suggestion to speak to the network regarding who they may feel should be an additional appointed position.

Reminder to keep the consumer appointed position in front of us. This is a required position and should be filled.

Discussion regarding attendance of board members, and recommendation to make the rules on attendance rest in the Governance Policies, not the bylaws.

According to the Bylaws, the executive committee is recommending the above changes to the bylaws to be presented to the network at the March meeting.

Discussion regarding being more intentional and asking for specific leaders at DHHS and the County to sit on the Board.

Jennifer will email the Board regarding the changes to the bylaws prior to the Network meeting.

Susan shared with the board information regarding the Ingham County grant monies that were given to the CRHC. There was discussion as to the options for spending the $7500. Will most likely piggyback with another agency and what they are already doing.

**Governance**

Jennifer is working on the governance policies and will get that back to the group.

**Committee Reports**

*Finance & Fund Distribution*

Susan shared that the fiduciary will head up the Fund Distribution committee. The NOFA is anticipated to be released earlier than usual.

The Finance Committee still needs a chair. This committee requires the Treasurer to chair. Still seeking a Treasurer for the Executive Committee.

*Membership*

Still seeking a Committee chair. In the meantime, Susan will get the Membership meeting going again.

*Strategic Planning*

Doris reported in Toni’s place that they are still working on the plan. There is some discussion as to how some of the goals show up under multiple sections.

*CQI*

Gabriel reported that we will be working to get a representative from each agency that is listed on the reports to the meeting. He will be putting out a calendar for the full year, allowing the membership to see what will be shared when at each meeting. We talked about MSHDA ESG and HUD data at the last meeting. Another goal is to start looking at other data sets that might be of interest to the Continuum.

Susan reported that The National Homeless Information Project posted a ranking of how CoC’s are succeeding in serving the homeless. We ranked relatively low on the list. Eaton county was in the same grouping. Matt, with the City is looking into the report to see where this data is coming from and hoping to clear up the data.

Discussion around serving families in the past few weeks and how we are able to serve families. The shelters have been functioning at capacity and yet there is still room, and agencies are able to serve. Sharon shared about some gaps that they are seeing at Holy Cross with families. This included, needing childcare, or being underemployed or some other variable that goes along with homelessness.

*Issues the Collaborative is seeing*

There was discussion regarding many of the issues that are showing up lately in the Network.

Increased number of families showing up needing shelter. It’s often their first time being homeless and they have no idea what is available.

Autism is showing up more often within the families that are homeless.

Autism shows up in HMIS as mental health issues. This is misleading. Talk about adding sub categories to the mental health tab in HMIS.

The ALICE group is just above the poverty level and how are we helping and serving these families.

Talk regarding a narrative explaining the problems that are being seen as of late, using much of the data that is currently being collected. This would fall under CQI and then be placed into the Strategic plan.

Comments regarding the Domestic Violence representatives getting back at the CRHC table for discussions.

Discussion to go back to Matt to talk about what other extra data the team wants to go after and collect.

Please take time to think about this process and what data you have to offer or include in this discussion and get it to Strategic planning or CQI committee.

*Network Meeting*

There will be a Veterans panel presentation at the March Network meeting. In April there will be a presentation from CMH.

Suggestion to have Kevin Brown come in to do a training on becoming a CARE provider. Rose is wanting to find the gaps and create panel presentations on topics that are necessary. There is a need for how to help sex offenders.

Please submit ideas for panel speakers or training you see a need for.

Rose asked for ideas as to where we could host the network meetings so that everyone could hear. CMH would be an option. Foster Community Center would be an option.

*Veterans*

Sharon provided an update regarding the Veterans stand down. The date is May 22, 2019. If you are interested in helping please contact Julie. First meeting is on March 6 at 9:30. The Stand Down will be indoors this year.

Discussion about Functional level zero and how long the CoC has been waiting to hear the report back from the Veteran portion of the United Council on Homelessness.

Susan suggested that the Board make a statement regarding our hard work and success in the area of homeless veterans.

“We acknowledge that our community has moved forward in collective solutions to end veteran homelessness and that we have shown great success in creating a system that quickly identifies and resolves homelessness for veterans.”

Rose will use the statement to lead off into the panel on Veterans.

Susan proposes that we take that statement and the Board acknowledges the work of the veterans committees.

Veterans committee meets every Wednesday at 11 to discuss veterans issues.

**City of Lansing**

The three clerical supports are out of the office at HRCS. Please be patient.

Thank you for attending the forum. There appears to be a bit more money available. They would like to spend a bit more money on youth programming. There is also a need for the things that DHHS is not taking care of, such as rent, utility bills. They will be giving extra money to Holy Cross, City Rescue Mission for the extra expenses that went out during this extreme weather.

If you have families that need food, Lansing has some resources. Sears made a generous donation of sheets, pillowcases and towels. They are available to help with families who are in need of these services.

The City of Lansing is helping with cars that have suffered a pothole.

Sharon talked with VOA recently. They have ten queen size sofa sleepers if you have families in need that are moving into housing. They also have a pallet full of army blankets.

**Old Business**

None.

**New Business**

Mark Criss is wondering about families with older children and large family size, or having service or emotional support animals. Large families, mental health, and older children.

February 27, at 2pm the Rapid Rehousing meeting is happening at Holy Cross. MSHDA and BECKA will be there.

February 28, at 3pm the Emergency Shelters will be meeting at Holy Cross.

Jennifer left meeting early due to her father in law passing.

**Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned at 11:04am

Motion to adjourn Doris. Second Sharon. All in favor.