

ADVISORY BOARD AGENDA – January 21, 2021

Attendance: Board Members – Maria Sosa for Michiel Wackers, Councilman Kerry McCormack, Karen Anderson, Councilwoman Yvonne Conwell, Dorivette Nolan, Marcia Zashin, Barb Karam, Chris Knestrick, Allison Schaeffer for Maggie Tolbert, Natasha Wynn, Jeannie Citerman-Kraeger, Linda Uveges, Andrew Katusin, Abby Staudt, Fred Berry, Rochena Crosby for Teresa Sanders, John Litten, Angela Glassco, Patricia Pearce, Elaine Gimmel, Mike Sering, Ed Gemerchak, Loh, (23/28 Members in attendance to meet the Quorum requirement).

Community Members: Jen Griffin, Angela D’Orazio, Councilman Dale Miller, Julie Wisneski, Dana Santo, Kate Lodge, Cynthia Rios, Jennifer Harrison, Karen McHenry, Eric Milkie, Peter Schindler, Allison Schaefer, Jenny Eppich, Latonya Murray, Brian Mallory, Rosie Palfy, Heidi Goblirsch, Sherri Brandon, Christie Sozio, Sharon Parries, Matt White

Office of Homeless Services Staff: Melissa Sirak, Allison Gill, Erin Rearden

1. Welcome & Open Remarks

a) Zoom Protocol

A) DECISION ISSUES

a) Approval of Extension to OHS Advisory Board Member Terms

Recommendations were made to extend the expired board seats until the Governance Committee has reviewed and prepared recommendations for board vote. Once recommendations are approved, the new members will be officially on the term.

Motion – Andrew Katusin 2nd – Chris Knestrick

Unanimous approval – No opposed, No abstentions

b) Approval of Advisory Board Minutes 11.19.20

Duplications of OHS Advisory Board member and community names were identified. OHS Board voted to approve the minutes with edits.

Motion – Barb Karam 2nd – Councilwoman Conwell

Unanimous approval – No opposed, No abstentions

c) 2021 PIT Methodology and Exception to Unsheltered Count

The annual PIT methodology reviewed (handout provided). The sheltered annual PIT Count will take place on 1/26/21 and includes counts for each of the hotel sites. HUD has offered and granted a full “exception” to the CoC for this year’s Unsheltered Count.

Motion – Chris Knestrick 2nd – Fred Berry

Unanimous approval – No opposed, No abstentions

d) Recommendations from CI Work Group for Coordinated Entry Policy & Procedures

CI Work Group and Housing innovations worked to establish Coordinated Entry Policies & Procedures as required by HUD. Due to COVID, FrontLine has later redefined the intake process to occur remotely via phone. An addendum to the document will be created to

reflect this change. The Steering Committee recommended moving forward with request to approve the current version of the manual.

Motion – Elaine Gimmel 2nd – Andrew Katusin

Unanimous approval – No opposed, abstentions – Angela Glassco, FLS

B) Board Term Updates

a) Special meeting for Board Recommendations

OHS Advisory Board membership applications were due January 13th. The Governance Committee will meet and review applications on January 25th. The Governance Committee will prepare recommendations for OHS Advisory Board approval. A special OHS Advisory Board Meeting will be held on February 18th @ 9:00am to vote on membership recommendations.

C) NOFA

a) 2020 NOFA Update

Legislation passed indicating that the HUD 2020 NOFA will consist of renewals only. No other update from HUD provided. CoC providers received their performance outcomes from Housing Innovations. The NOFA Review Committee will convene to review performance outcomes and discuss 2021 performance standards.

b) 2021 NOFA Planning

The 2021 NOFA Planning will begin in 1st quarter to review and discuss recommendations for 2021 NOFA competition.

D) COVID Response Update

a) COVID Hotel

The initiative recently transitioned hotel locations from Travelodge to Aloft. The new location allows for smoother operations and additional capacity to serve more individuals. Explained the challenges relative to operational needs. Same partners involved to continue serving the community, adjust when needed, and address capacity issues as they arise.

b) Seasonal/COVID Overnight Shelter

Seasonal shelter remains in operation at The Cleveland Hostel. The location has capacity for 60 individuals and at times, has been full. Thus far the location has provided seasonal shelter for approximately 82 unique persons served.

It was noted that Metanoia remains in operation this season at two locations with 15 individuals per site.

c) Vaccinations

The Cleveland Department of Public Health (CDPH) has confirmed that they will work with Cuyahoga County Board of Health (CCBH) and local hospitals to distribute the COVID vaccination to the homeless services system. Logistics will need to be discussed including implementation and jurisdictional issues. It has been recommended that the vaccine be distributed in a tiered approach, first distributing to homeless service provider, frontline staff followed by residents. The CoC provider list has been provided to CDPH and congregate settings will be prioritized.

d) PPE – Cuyahoga County is working to provide an additional PPE distribution. OHS will send communication to assess CoC needs.

e) COVID Funding

o Emergency Rental Assistance Funding

The community will be receiving an additional \$25M in Treasury funds to assist with Emergency Rental Assistance, Utility Assistance, and undefined “other” costs.

Cuyahoga County is working with the City of Cleveland to determine funding requirements and with CoC providers to determine service gaps.

- o Greater Cleveland COVID Response Funds (GCCRF)

Cuyahoga County has partnered with the Greater Cleveland COVID Relief Fund and donated \$4.25M to address homeless service system needs. OHS convened a group of CoC providers to discuss system gaps, short term, intermediate, and long-term needs. (handout provided to outline funding guidelines)

- f) CDC Eviction Moratorium

Moratorium has been extended to March 31st with potential to extend beyond that date. Forms will remain the same.

- g) Right to Counsel

Those individuals that are 100% below poverty and have a child in the household are eligible. It has been successful at keeping individuals housed thus far. Presentation materials are available per your request, reach out to Legal Aid.

- E) Race Equity – A Place 4 Me Presentation

In partnership with Sisters of Charity, work began last year with the Race Equity Design Lab with consultant from C4 Innovations. Continuation of efforts this year with Youth Homelessness Strategy Group which included a data review to make determinations. Work will continue with convening small workgroups to focus on policy and leadership and identifying root causes in an effort to test ideas for new strategies within our community.

- F) Initiative Reports (See handouts)

- a) Ending Youth Homelessness (EYH)

[RFQ released for Youth Drop in Center – Deadline is February 19, 2021, please contact Kate Lodge with inquiries/questions \[klodge@ywcaofcleveland.org\]\(mailto:klodge@ywcaofcleveland.org\)](#)

- b) Ending Veteran Homelessness (EVH)

- c) Rapid Re-Housing (RRH)

PLEASE NOTE THE OHS ADVISORY BOARD 2021 MEETING DATES:

Calendar for 2021

OHS Advisory Board Meetings: January 21st; Special Meeting February 18, 2021; 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., March 18th; May 20th; July 15th; September 16th; November 18th

Executive Committee Meetings: January 19th; Special February Board Meeting TBD, March 9th; May 11th; July 13th; September 14th; November 9th