

HOUSING FIRST SOLANO COC SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2022 | 10:00 – 11:30 A.M.

MEETING MINUTES

1. Call to Order

Kari Rader called the meeting to order at 10:02 A.M.

2. Roll Call

CoC Board Members:

Akon Walker, Solano County Office of Education

Amanda Russell, Caminar

Colleen Berumen, Vacaville Solano Services Corporation

Elizabeth (Ely) Muniz-Palomera, LEC

Emery Cowan, alternate for Miranda Ramirez

John Eckstrom, SHELTER, Inc.

Joey Carrizales

Joshua Arnold, alternate for Amani Sawires, VOA

Kari Rader, Change and New Beginnings

Lori Bowley, Veterans Affairs

Natalie Peterson, City of Vallejo

Reggie Sironen, Berkeley Food and Housing Project

Scott Mulvey, City Church

Sullina Sanchez, City of Fairfield

Tamara Colden, City of Vacaville

Tara Beasley-Stansberry, Solano County Black Chamber of Commerce

3. Additions or Deletions

The YAB Presentation was removed from the agenda and instead was given as an update.

4. Approval of the Agenda

Kathy Lawton-Caesar made a motion to approve the agenda with the revision of the YAB presentation being an update. Scott Mulvey seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

5. Consent Calendar

5.1 Approve HFS Board Minutes of Meeting on May 25, 2022

Maya Spark noted a correction to be made on the date of the previous minutes, from year 2021 to year 2022, Joshua Arnold stated to correct that he was the alternate for Amani Sawires and with VOA instead of the VA, and Reggie Sironen stated that by his name should say Berkeley Food and Housing Project instead of Program. Tara Beasley-Stansberry made a motion to approve the minutes with the corrections. Reggie Sironen seconded the motion. Kathy Lawton-Caesar, and Emery Cowan abstained. There were no objections. The motion was approved.

6. Old Business/Standing Agenda Items

6.1 Virtual Meeting Continuation per AB361

Kari Rader said that AB361 allows Brown Act covered bodies to hold meetings via teleconference as long as the current Executive Order regarding COVID and social distancing requirements are in place. AB361 requires a vote to continue virtual meetings every 30 days. Colleen Berumen made a motion to approve the continuation of the meetings through AB361. John Eckstrom seconded the motion. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion was approved.

6.2 Veteran Affairs Update

Reggie Sironen gave an update on the reservists eligibility through Supportive Services for Veterans Families (SSVF) that Veterans who served in the reserves only or were participants of the National Guard, would not have been recognized as a Veteran unless there was a call to duty by the President, however there have been changes that reservists who served one day of active duty training would be eligible for services, with the understanding that there were no changes for those on the National Guard that fall under Title Ten.

Maya Spark provided a link in the chat which shared an update on the Veterans Affairs Stand Down located at the Dixon May Fairgrounds taking place Wednesday October 12, 2022.

6.3 Committee Updates

- **CES Standing Committee:** DeAndre Richard gave an update that Resource Connect Solano (RCS) has currently been training partners and service providers on getting client Document Ready that can be found online and/or scheduled with the RCS System Administrator Pamela DeHaro at PDeHaro@caminar.org. The link to the PowerPoint Presentation as added to the chat:
https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LR18A_HMxLBL3EplGrqzhjSytpKxIQUY?usp=sharing

DeAndre Richard expressed that the Vacancy Tracker was to be filled out bi-weekly on the 1st and 3rd Monday, instead of monthly and that a survey went out to finalize a time for Case Conferencing which came back showing preferences of Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. and the invite will be sent out once the determined Tuesday is designated.

- **Governance Standing Committee:** John Eckstrom stated that there were no updates since the previous month. Maya Sparks followed up with stating that the meeting summary was in the public folder and the next meeting would likely be in October but may be pushed out a little further to finish editing the Charter and Written Standards.
- **Racial Equity Action Lab:** There was not an available representative to give the update, so Kari Rader asked Kathy Lawton-Caesar to talk about the Racial Equity Training they had recently completed. Kathy Lawton-Caesar talked about the training that was done by Homebase to highlight day to day aspects that are sometimes not given consideration regarding how a standard practice could negatively impact someone inadvertently just based on race and how it would be best practice to reflect on how policies and procedures maybe in place that need to be adjusted to give those intended to be served a level playing ground.
- **Youth Advisory Board Core Planning:** Antonio Pizanno stated that the Youth Advisory Core Planning Board are in the early planning stages and anticipate a

presentation being given at the next meeting and went over a general timeline for the process of applying for Round 7 of the Youth Homelessness Demonstration Program (YHDP) Grant that is coming up in 2023. Antonio Pizanno expressed that the Youth Action Board (YAB) is in the process of being formed as it needs to be fully developed before applying to the grant, which would include having a Youth Seat on the CoC.

- **LEC Update:** Elizabeth Muniz-Palomera stated that the updates were still the same from the previous CoC Board Meeting, except that logos will be voted on at an upcoming meeting.

7. New Business

7.1 HUD CoC NOFO Priority Listing Vote – DISCUSSION and ACTION

Maya Spark gave an overview of the HUD Notice of Funding Opportunity which included the timeline, scoring tools, annual performance reports, priority listing and approval process in addition to explaining the reason for the CoC Board Meeting being moved to an earlier date due to HUD requirements to vote on priority listing before September 15, 2022.

Maya Spark gave a break down of projects in Tier 1 and Tier 2 with there being around \$1.5 million available for projects in Tier 1, \$147,545.90 for Tier 2 projects plus an additional \$110,808 for Domestic Violence Projects and \$44,264 for a CoC Planning Grant.

Maya Spark thanked the Review and Rank Panel for their work on scoring the projects and asked for comments or questions before the priority listing was approved.

Kathy Lawton-Caesar expressed the importance of the NOFO requirements for all applicants to use the Coordinated Entry System to allocate funding out to the public. Kathy Lawton-Caesar stated that the Review and Rank Panel had some questions and concerns regarding Change and New Beginnings (CAN-B) Rapid Rehousing Program and recommended technical assistance and monitoring their renewed project to ensure HUD compliance, which would involve the JPA, CAN-B, and Resource Connect Solano.

Maya Spark asked for non-conflicted Board members to approve the priority list with the Rank and Review panel's recommendation.

Collen Berumen made a motion to approve; Lori Bowley seconded the motion. Amanda Russell, Emery Cowan, John Eckstrom, Kathy Lawton-Caesar, Kari Rader, and Natalie Peterson, Sullina Sanchez & Tamara Colden abstained. Roll call vote was taken of the non-conflicted members and there were no objections. The motion was approved.

7.2 Affordable Housing Developer Board Seat Elections - ACTION

Kari Rader announced that the Governance Board reviewed two applications at the June 6, 2022 meeting and nominated Samantha Meyer for the Affordable Housing Developer Seat and that this would be one of the opportunities for approval at a Board meeting, vs at a General Membership meeting. Her application was displayed. Samantha was unavailable to introduce herself.

Kathy Lawton-Caesar made a motion to approve Samantha Meyer's application for the Affordable Housing Developer Seat; Collen Berumen seconded. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

7.3 Grievance Committee Elections - ACTION

Kari Rader announced that as of February 16, 2022 there were 6 applicants for the Grievance Policy Advisory Committee and per the policy there is a required amount of 10 – 15 members. Kari Rader expressed that there had been two additional applications submitted, one by Shayne Kaleo and one by DeAndre Richard. Shayne Kaleo and DeAndre Richard introduced themselves as their application was pulled up.

Collen Berumen made a motion to approve Shayne Kaleo's application; Natalie Peterson seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. A roll call vote was taken, and the motion was approved.

Collen Berumen made a motion to approve DeAndre Richard application for the Grievance Advisory Committee; Kathy Lawton-Caesar seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

7.4 Stability Voucher Letter of Commitment – DISCUSSION and ACTION

Maya Spark stated that HUD released a special Notice Of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) earlier this year that ran concurrently with the CoC NOFO. Maya Spark stated that HUD was giving out Stability Vouchers for people experiencing homelessness, and for the local housing authorities to get them they must send a Registration of Interest by October 20, 2022, stating their interest in the vouchers and collaboration with the CoC. Maya Spark explained that because the next Board Meeting would fall after this timeline it is being recommended that the Board give authority to the Chair to sign the letters of commitment on behalf of the CoC to see if they are eligible and based on HUD's communication with the Housing Authorities, they would come back to the CoC to negotiate an MOU within ninety days of their approval.

Kathy Lawton-Caesar made a motion to give Kari Rader authority to sign the letters as they come in so the local housing authorities can apply if they choose; Lori Bowley seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

7.5 Letter of Support for Partnership HealthPlan of California – DISCUSSION and ACTION

Kari Rader stated that at the Special JPA Meeting on June 16, 2022, Partnership HealthPlan presented the Homeless and Housing Investment Plan Grant (HHIP) with a potential of \$13.8 million available to Solano County if the community was able to meet the State's requirements which included collaboration with the JPA and CoC. Kari Rader explained that this partnership would help to address the top three barriers of managed care program members who may be homeless and not receiving medically appropriate and cost-effective housing-related community support, with those barriers being availability of affordable long-term housing, accessible services and supports for individuals with Serious Mental Illness (SMI) and or Severe Emotional Disturbance (SED), and adequate network of providers to meet demand.

Kari Rader stated that the JPA approved the partnership and now Partnership HealthPlan is requesting a letter of support from the CoC.

Margaret Kisliuk explained that this was not actually a grant but an incentive plan from the state that could be drawn upon by Partnership HealthPlan if there was collaboration with the JPA and CoC which showed that certain targets were being met. Margaret Kisliuk

explained that the state was requesting a non-binding incentive plan to outline how the funds would be spent and a letter of support from the CoC that is required by September 30, 2022.

John Eckstrom made a motion to approve the signing of the Letter of Support; Kathy Lawton-Caesar seconded the motion. Roll call vote was taken. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved.

8. Staff Updates

8.1 Staff Communications

Reneé Parham reminded everyone to reach out to Coordinated Entry for document training and to schedule before September 30, 2022.

8.2 Funding Opportunities

There were no new funding opportunities currently.

9. Presentation

9.1 Clarity Bit Focus Presentation

Due to time this presentation was postponed

9.2 MidPen Presentation

Daniel Fagan gave a general overview of the site plan for the Fairhaven Commons project located on East Travis and Sunset Avenue in Fairfield, which was included in his slide presentation. Daniel Fagan explained there would be 72 new units with a total of 6 studios, thirty 1-bedrooms and twenty-nine 2-bedrooms, 6 3-bedrooms and one manager unit. Daniel Fagan explained the different agencies involved in the application process and brief overview of their timeline with the open application period starting in October 2022.

9.3 YAB Presentation

Removed from the Agenda during the Agenda Approval

10. Comments from Board Members

10.1 Public Comments

Jemila Johnson Phillips from Harmony Homes for Healing introduced herself and stated that they just opened a new home in Vacaville, and they were excited to get to know and start working with the community.

10.2 Adjourn

Kathy Lawton-Caesar made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Collen Berumen seconded the motion. There were no abstentions or objections. The motion was approved, and Kari Rader adjourned the meeting at 11:42 a.m.