

**LEE COUNTY
CONTINUUM OF CARE
GOVERNANCE BOARD
Meeting Minutes for November 4, 2015**

Members Present:

Janet Bartos, Lee County Homeless Coalition
Sherri Campanale, Housing Authority of the City of Fort Myers
Connie Myers for Erika Cooks, Lee County Housing Development Corp.
Kaitlin Major, Community Cooperative
Chris Nesheim, Lee Memorial Health System
Beverly Reed, City of Ft. Myers Community Development Dept.
Amy Yearsley, City of Cape Coral Department of Community Development

Staff Present: Julie Boudreaux Sally Flint, Administrative Assistant

ITEM

Welcome and Introductions

Chairperson Ms. Kaitlin Major, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. Introductions were made.

ITEM

Approval of August 5, 2015 Minutes

Ms. Chris Nesheim moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Ms. Sherri Campanale. The motion was approved unanimously.

Ms. Julie Boudreaux told the committee going forward, the minutes from the meetings will be sent out by e-mail for their perusal. Also, the 2016 meetings will be sent out as Outlook calendar invites by Ms. Sally Flint. E-mail reminders, with the agendas, will be sent out a week in advance of each meeting.

Please respond to the reminder e-mail if you know you will not be able to attend the meeting.

ITEM (correction to the agenda, Mr. Gentile was absent, item led by Ms. Boudreaux)

Election of Chair

A motion was made by Ms. Janet Bartos to elect Ms. Major as Chairperson for another term. Ms. Campanale seconded the motion. No other nominations were given.

Ms. Boudreaux asked Ms. Major if she would accept the nomination. She accepted and the motion was approved unanimously.

ITEM

Board Membership

Ms. Major led a discussion on the need for more attendance of the Board Members at the CoC meetings. She reiterated the rules of the committee's charter: "absence without notice or explanation for 3 meetings within a calendar year are grounds for removal".

A letter was sent to Chief Baker asking for law enforcement participation on the CoC Board. Besides Kelsey Anderson who is on the Board, two other members of law enforcement, Robert Vega and Jerry Molton are interested in joining. The approval needs to come from the chain of command.

Representation from the school district was discussed as well. Ms. Bartos is going to reach out to a possible prospect.

Ms. Major has reached out to local church organizations:

-Ken from the City Gate Ministries has agreed to attend the meetings, if he cannot make the meeting he will send someone else in his place.

-Tony from Christ Center Home Ministries had been approached, however has not attended.

Please let Ms. Major know of any other potential members.

ITEM

2015 Challenge Grant, Continuum of Care, and Zero: 2016 Update

Ms. Boudreaux updated the Board on the 2015 Challenge Grant. An award of \$79,928.00 was received for Community Assisted and Support Living, Inc. (CASL). The entire amount of the \$200,000 funding from the Department of Children and Families was requested for the purchase of property. Since the amount was less than anticipated, the award will probably be used for case management.

Ms. Boudreaux updated the Board on the Continuum of Care; the full grant has not been opened. Once the grant is opened, the current 11 agencies would request continued funding. There is a possibility of bonus money available for permanent housing, if so, another round would be issued to accept proposals for those types of projects. The grant is due November 20, 2015. The Board of the Homeless Coalition ranks the projects and Ms. Bartos reported on the how the projects were ranked. Ms. Boudreaux showed the ranking of the projects with \$1.7 million in tier one and the rest in tier two.

Ms. Boudreaux updated the Board on the Zero 2016; a nationwide initiative that Lee County is participating in with 67 to 70 other communities. The Zero 2016 has a goal of having a functional zero count for homeless veterans by the end of 2015. Ms. Bartos reported we had 176 veterans, of which there were 56 left to place. The Homeless Coalition's numbers are different than Veteran's Administration (VA) as according to the VA, there are 2. The functional zero is defined as having the capability of taking care of a homeless veteran, a person who wants to get off of the streets. She has also recently given interviews with a local radio station and there were PSAs on local stations.

Ms. Boudreaux reported that Ms. Kim Hustad, program manager of FSS, is working on two initiatives. The first is to improve communication with weekly conference calls with partner agencies to ensure everyone is on the same page. The second is to improve relationships with landlords. She sent out thank yous to landlords working with Human Services for the homeless. She has gotten responses from some of the landlords stating that it has been a rewarding experience.

Ms. Boudreaux also spoke about the need to encourage more providers to participate in conference calls. Sometimes discussions on the calls are regarding clients (at homeless camps) and the provider is not on the call and therefore no one is aware of the client's needs or what has already been done for them. Ms. Bartos will encourage providers at the Homeless Coalition meetings to participate in the conference calls.

ITEM

10 Year-Plan to End Homelessness

Ms. Major led the discussion on the 10 Year-Plan, and highlighted some of the issues and needs. Ms. Major also shared numbers from the 10 year plan when FGCU surveyed 16 individuals including the cost of providing services through the emergency room, etc. compared to supportive housing costs.

This led to discussion on the EMS calls and Ms. Neshiem shared Lee Memorial received funding from the State to add one FTE (full time employee) for each hospital to work with the physician on the programming and coordinate the care.

Ms. Boudreaux showed the Lee County Website on the screen; info on the 10 Year-Plan and goals can be found here: <http://www.leegov.com/dhs/continuum> A synopsis of the goals was provided. Agencies provide quarterly updates to the plan. The Governing Board is tasked with reviewing the 10 year plan and analyzing where the County is on the plan.

Ms. Major led the discussion on the goal list and some suggestions as to how goals can be accomplished. A couple of suggestions were more frequent meetings – possibly monthly. Also, to possibly invite the providers (one group at a time) to gather more input from them.

- Emergency shelter for young youths
- Increasing emergency number of shelters for homeless
- Money to fix places
- Utilize more interns
- Sub committees to discuss the goals in separate meetings and then bring - recommendations back to the main committee

The suggestion of the monthly meetings would be a good place to start. The first extra meeting to be scheduled would be the second week of January.

Ms. Nesheim suggested each of the committee members take a goal and work with a sub-committee to address needs. She would take Health Services.

Ms. Bartos offered to take Public Awareness. Further discussion will occur at the next meeting on how to proceed.

ITEM

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 11:10 a.m.

The next Board meeting will be held the week of February 1st.
The definite day will be determined and an Outlook invite sent out.