

GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES



Date: 7/11/24

Started: 11:07 AM

Facilitator: Stephen Gruver

Location: Oak City Cares

In Attendance

Richard Averitte, Eric Braun, Danielle Butler, Wendy Clark, Stephen Gruver, David Harris, Chandra Hyacinth, Kathy Johnson, Kelsey Mosley, John Niffenegger, Ann Oshel, Barkley Sample, Johnnie Thomas, Derwin Willoughby, Nicole Wilson, Emilia Sutton, Thurston Alexander-Smith

Absent

Priscilla Batts, Sheryl Cromedy, Nicole Stewart

Approval of June Minutes

Stephen Gruver called for any comments or questions about the June meeting minutes. Kathy Johnson pointed out that on page second in the last paragraph, third line has a typo in the sentence. She also pointed out that Eric Braun's motion on the Funding Appeals process needs to be revised to say, "including David Harris' language."

Eric Braun motioned to approve the June Minutes, with the revisions requested by Kathy Johnson.

Johnnie Thomas seconded the motion.

The motion was unanimously approved.

Membership Vote Update

Stephen Gruver discussed the official document vote that took place with the Membership in June. He announced that the new charter, Anti-Discrimination Policy, VAWA Policy and Conflict of Interest Policy were approved with a simple majority. He also explained that the Reallocation Policy will be coming to the board once it is completed. There are also updates coming to the Written Standards.

Johnnie Thomas requested that the information be sent out to the sub-committees directly.

Eric Braun suggested having people sign an acknowledgement of having read the charter, like how the Conflict of Interest is signed off on.

Wake County MOU

Stephen Gruver went over the timeline of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that has taken place. He explained that the hope is for the MOU to be completed in August, but the timeline is being worked on. Stephen called for any feedback on the MOU.

Eric Braun said to add a signature page.

Ann Oshel gave positive feedback that it explains everything that has been worked on for so long. Her only suggestion was to add a statement that the end goal is a strategic plan that works toward ending and preventing homelessness; that we should take this time to set forth our goals.

Richard Averitte and Eric Braun both voiced the opinion to bring in businesses from outside of the homelessness community.

Johnnie Thomas agreed; suggested that there should be a community event that these businesses are invited to, so they can learn more about the CoC. He also stated that the CoC documents need to have copies that include other languages (i.e. Spanish) as many of our community members could be missing information due to a language barrier.

Stephen Gruver highlighted statement two on page five, which provides a statement similar to the suggestion Ann Oshel made about a strategic plan.

Thurston Alexander-Smith also reminded everyone that HUD TA aids in creating a strategic plan.

Kathy Johnson voiced that there needs to be a more specific goal, as they are not clearly articulated. She said that we need to develop benchmarks, as well as provide performance reports to help reach these goals.

David Harris suggested putting a statement about communal efforts between Wake County and the CoC to end homelessness in the Purpose of the MOU.

Eric Braun suggested adding wording that this is a collaborative effort. Stephen Gruver pointed out on page 8, in statements 9, 12, 15 and 18, describe joint benchmarks. Kathy Johnson said that there needs to be more specific benchmarks already in place on top of these.

Johnnie Thomas asked if this is an idea to be addressed through the MOU or through the charter? Kathy Johnson and Eric Braun both explained that the MOU would need a statement that requires a strategic planning process, not what is in the strategic plan. Ann Oshel stated that we already have so much of this language discussed in the MOU.

Stephen Gruver pointed out that on page four, statement twelve, there is reference to Annual Action Plan. David Harris suggested changing the wording to “support the collaboration amongst the CoC Governing Board and Wake County in developing the strategic plan.”

Ann Oshel said she would send out the Charlotte-Mecklenburg strategic plan for reference for everyone to look over. Kathy Johnson added that another CoC has the United Way lead the CoC communications piece so that the community, as well as donors and others who a CoC may not be able to reach, can stay informed.

Peter Morris suggested changing the language of staffing for HMIS to be broader and not be so specific to Wake County hiring internally but can also contract out.

Stephen Gruver stated that if there are any other suggestions or questions, email them to him by Tuesday, July 16th. The Governance Board will vote on the MOU via email by Friday, July 19th.

Data Advisory Committee (DAC) Updates

Thurston Alexander-Smith started discussing the Short-term Data Quality Plan (see attached documents). He stated the three major issues the quality of Wake County's data is affecting: funding (NOFO), HMIS data reporting (LSA), Coordinated Entry cannot function with the number of duplicates in the system. Thurston is coming to the Governance Board to ask for help in implementing this plan.

Thurston Alexander-Smith moved on to the Client Release of Information and Sharing Plan and the importance of being able to share certain HMIS information across agencies (see attached documents).

Thurston Alexander-Smith called for questions. Ann Oshel asked if this is just homelessness history and does not include medical history? Thurston Alexander-Smith explained that, yes, this is just housing history and nothing else, similar to what other CoCs are doing. Ann Oshel asked when releasing homelessness history, there is no information release about a person's disability? Kathy Johnson suggested that there are statements made during signing the release forms that explain that this information is not being shared. Thurston Alexander-Smith said that this statement can be integrated and explained that the client would only be listed as one of the four homelessness categories but can sign off for that information to be shared if they wish. Kathy Johnson suggested that there is a statement that says, "Yes, I agree with the expectation of going to PSH, RRH, shelter, etc."

Stephen Gruver asked for people to provide electronic feedback to keep up with time. Thurston Alexander-Smith will be sending out these documents. David Harris asked for Thurston to come back and for more time to be devoted to this conversation. Stephen Gruver suggested restarting the agency administration meeting where information like this can be shared.

Committee Updates

Stephen Gruver announced that John Niffenegger will be cycling off the Governing Board and Emilia Sutton will be taking over the City of Raleigh's seat on the board.

Stephen Gruver directed everyone to read the committee updates that were provided in print (see attached).

Ann Oshel asked Wendy Clark and John Niffenegger if there is any update on how ACORNs and the City will be responding to the Johnson v. Grants Pass decision. John Niffenegger said that they have not heard anything locally.

Wendy Clark announces that she has been promoted and will no longer be with ACORNs.

Adjourned: 12:36 PM

Next Meeting

Thursday, August 8th @ 11 AM

Location: Salvation Army