

DURHAM HOMELESS SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, October 23, 2019

3:00 p.m.

Durham County Administrative Building II
201 E. Main Street – Conference Room 466

The Durham Homeless Services Advisory Committee met on the above date and time.

Committee Members Present: Chair Jonathan T. Crooms (Durham County Veteran Services Office – *Proxy for Lois Harvin-Ravin*); Vice-Chair Ellecia Thompson, (Durham VA Medical Center); Secretary Angela Vick-Lewis (Formerly Homeless Representative, City of Durham); County Commissioner Heidi Carter; Xavier Cason (Durham Public School Board); Drew Cummings, Chief of Staff (Durham County Manager’s Office); Meredith Daye, Development Director (Durham Housing Authority); Ryan Fehrman (Non-Profit Representative, Durham County/Families Moving Forward); Janeen Gordon (Durham County Social Services – *proxy for County Commissioner Heidi Carter*); Captain Stan Harris (Durham County Sheriff’s Department); Calleen Herbert (NCCU Office of Community Engagement & Service); Angela Holmes (Former Homeless Representative for Durham County); Pam Karriker (Faith Community Representative for Durham County/Christian Assembly); Regina King (Faith Community Representative for the City of Durham); Charita McCollers, MSW (Lincoln Community Health Center/Federal Health Care for the Homeless); Alex Protzman (LIFE Skills Foundation); Mayor Steve Schewel; Tracy Stone-Dino (Alliance Behavioral Healthcare); Ebony Thompson (Durham Public Schools Homeless Liaison); Chris Toenes, MSW (Non-Profit Representative, City of Durham/TROSA); Tosh (Prosperity Recovery Services/Private Sector, City of Durham); Captain Helen Tripp (Durham County Emergency Medical Services (EMS) and Amber Wade, Assistant to the Mayor (Proxy for Mayor Schewell)

Excused Committee Members: Durham City Manager Thomas J. Bonfield; Reverend Dr. B. Angelo Burch, Sr. (Corporate Private Sector Representative for Durham County/Executive Director, African American Dance Ensemble) and Alma Davis (Durham Crisis Response Center – *Proxy for Kathy Hodges*).

Committee Members Absent: Mayme Webb-Bledsoe (Duke University) and Vega Swepson, Resource Specialist (Durham Technical Community College).

Staff Present: Director Reginald Johnson, Community Development Manager Colin Davis, Project Manager II Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II Lloyd Schmeidler, Assistant Director of Strategy Karen Lado (Department of Community Development), Project Analyst Keshia Barnette (Department of Community Development), Community Development Coordinator Ruebe Holmes, and Senior Administrative Assistant Macio Carlton (County Clerk to the Board Office).

Also Present: Shiesha Bell (Life Skills Foundation), Valaria Brown (Housing for New Hope), Shana Carignan (Families Moving Forward), Rikki Gardner (Housing For New Hope), Valerie Haywood (Urban Ministries), Keishma James (Durham Housing Authority), Denita Johnson

(Durham Housing Authority), Ross Pierz (Housing for New Hope), Lillian Presley (Spaghetti Theatre Outreach Program), Carolyn Schuldt (Open Table Ministry) Ethan Rex (Homeless Systems Intern, Department of Community Development) and Malcolm White (Alliance Health).

Subject: Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Crooms called the meeting to order at 3:04 p.m. He thanked everyone for attending and read the goals of the HSAC aloud.

Subject: Minutes Review and Approval

August 28, 2019 HSAC Meeting Minutes and September 25, 2019 HSAC Meeting Minutes – **Motion** by Committee Member Cummings, seconded by Committee Member Fehrman to approve the minutes. The motion was approved unanimously at 3:08 p.m.

Subject: Public Comments Period

There were no public comments.

Subject: Findings and Recommendations Regarding Implementation of Monitoring, Evaluation and Ranking Policy for CoC Funding Request:

Karen Lado, Assistant Director of Strategy introduced Colin Davis, Community Development Manager and shared his employment background. Mr. Davis stated he was looking forward to supporting the HSAC and thanked the Community Development Department for the opportunity.

Mr. Davis, Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II and Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager II shared a presentation entitled “*Response to HSAC Questions and Funding Updates.*” The presentation discussed the following: Agenda, Feedback on CoC Scoring and Performance Improvement Plans, Feedback on Process, Feedback on Scoring, Feedback on Performance Improvement Plans, Assessment of CoC Performance Evaluation Tool, Durham CoC Performance Evaluation Tool - Validation and Reliability Testing, Performance Evaluation Tool Strengths, Tool Improvement Recommendations, Update on Performance Improvement Plans, Performance Improvement Plans (PIP) Update, Themes of the Three PIPs, Unspent 2018-2019 CoC Funds - Summary, Unspent 2018-2019 CoC Funds - Reasons, Unspent 2018-2019 CoC Funds – The Good News, CoC Program Implementation Overview and Next Steps.

Committee Member Cummings asked about the status of the three organizations on probation. Mr. Schmeidler responded the three organizations Performance Improvement plan started in June 2019 and it would be six months before an updated status was available. He added one organization had significant improvement on data quality and another organization had increased in ranking for tier scoring.

Committee Member Fehrman stated Housing and Urban Development (HUD) and the CoC had a similar Performance Evaluation Tool. He asked if the CoC’s Performance Evaluation Tool was better. Mr. Schmeidler replied he reviewed HUD’s Operational and Performance Evaluation Tool

which was an Excel spreadsheet and used macros. Ms. Hoberman stated the CoC's Performance Evaluation Tool was based from HUD's Performance Evaluation Tool. She added the CoC's Performance Evaluation Tool was modified to encourage and help improve; not penalize organizations that were having difficulty.

Subject: City ESG and CDBG Funding Recommendations

Lloyd Schmeidler, Project Manager II shared a brief overview of the City Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) and Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) Funding Recommendations. He stated the document was the letter in the agenda packet dated October 16, 2019 and explained there was not a lot of competition for the funds. He stated Project Access of Durham County applied for Rapid Rehousing funding for the first time and discussed Families Moving Forward and Urban Ministries of Durham applied and both scored equally for the CDBG funding. Mr. Schmeidler added the Scoring Committee agreed to divide the available funds evenly between the two projects for Emergency Shelter services.

Committee Member King asked how many other agencies applied for funding and did not get approved. Mr. Schmeidler responded none and all the agencies that applied were listed. Committee Member Fehrman asked if the City ESG funds for Street Outreach was only for one year and was the funding collaborative. Mr. Schmeidler replied the \$77,000 was a one-time, stop-gap measure recaptured from another activity that did not move forward and was funded only by the City. Ms. Hoberman added the funds would be used as bridge funds until a mid-fiscal year budget request for joint funding from the City and County could be agreed upon. Mayor Steve Schewel stated Ms. Hoberman had already requested funds from the City and the County. Ms. Hoberman added the request included full funding for the next year.

Subject: Appointment of HSAC Members to Standing Committees

Chair Crooms read the slate of nominees for the HSAC Standing Committees. HSAC Policy and Planning Standing Committee Nominees: Janeen Gordon, Calleen Herbert, Angel Holmes Capt. Helen Tripp and Angela Vick-Lewis. HSAC Performance Management Standing Committee Nominees: Angeloe Burch, Alma Davis, Angela Holmes and Angel Vick-Lewis. He asked if any other members would like to be appointed to the Standing Committees.

Committee Member Karriker asked to be added as a nominee for the HSAC Policy and Planning Standing Committee. Mayor Steve Schewel asked was it required to be a HSAC member to join the Standing Committees. Chair Croom responded no, several CoC Liaisons would be appointed. Ms. Hoberman added the CoC Liaisons did not have to be HSAC members but would be appointed by the Executive Committee; adding Institutional members could appoint a proxy. Mayor Steve Schewel inquired if he would have to appoint a proxy immediately or could the proxy appointment occur later. Ms. Hoberman replied it would be easier to appoint immediately but a later appointment could occur. Mayor Schewel asked to be appointed to the HSAC Policy and Planning Standing Committee. Committee Member Cason stated the more HSAC members appointed to the Standing Committees, the more CoC Liaisons would be appointed. Committee Member McCollers expressed the need for HSAC members to join subcommittees. County Commissioner Carter and

Committee Member Thomas asked to be added as a nominee to the HSAC Policy and Planning Standing Committee.

Motion by County Commissioner Carter, seconded by Committee Member Proxman to appoint County Commissioner Carter, Janeen Gordon, Calleen Herbert, Angela Holmes, Pam Karriker, Mayor Steve Schewel, Ebony Thomas, Capt. Helen Trill and Angela Vick Lewis to the HSAC Policy and Planning Standing Committee; appoint Angeloe Burch, Alma Davis, Angela Holmes and Angel Vick-Lewis to the HSAC Performance Management Standing Committee. The motion was approved unanimously.

Subject: Appoint Policy and Planning Committee to Oversee Coordinated Entry Policy

Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II explained that the Policy and Planning Committee was approved with the Coordinated Entry Policy but did not exist and would need to be created and finalized.

Motion by Committee Member Cason, seconded by Committee Member Holmes to appoint the Policy and Planning Committee to Oversee Coordinated Entry Policy. The motion was approved unanimously.

Subject: Appointment of CoC Ombudsman Panel

Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II read the slate of nominees for the CoC Ombudsman Panel. HSAC Members: Angela Holmes and Angela Vick-Lewis. CoC Organizational Members: Donna Carrington, Harvey Hinton III and Valeria Brown. Ms. Hoberman stated five nominees were signed up and only five members could be appointed.

Committee Member Cummings asked where did appointing only five nominees originate. Ms. Hoberman responded from the approved Grievance Policy; adding the Grievance Policy would have to be amended to change the number of appointees to the CoC Ombudsman Panel. Committee Member Gordon asked what happened if someone was out sick or had a conflict with no backup appointments. Ms. Hoberman replied three appointments were sufficient but agreed to five appointments. She added the committee could decide if the number of appointed members should be changed. Committee Member McCollers stated the committee should consider an alternate member appointment and if the Grievance Policy could be modified to accommodate that change. Ms. Hoberman responded the Grievance Policy could be modified to add an alternate member appointment.

First Motion by County Commissioner Carter, seconded by Committee Member McCollers to appoint Drew Cummings as the Alternate Member Appointment to the CoC Ombudsman Panel. The motion was approved unanimously. Committee Member Cummings abstained from voting.

Second Motion by Mayor Steve Schewel, seconded by Committee Member Karriker to appoint Valeria Brown, Donna Carrington, Harvey Hinton III, Angela Holmes and Angela Vick-Lewis to the CoC Ombudsman Panel. The motion was approved unanimously.

Subject: Creation of CoC Work Groups

Chair Crooms stated the Youth Committee Group and the Housing Results Group would be considered for approval as CoC Work Groups. He added the Youth Committee group was led by Committee Member Proxman and the Housing Results Group was led by Committee Member Fehrman. Chair Crooms asked Committee Member Proxman and Committee Member Fehrman to provide an overview of their groups.

Committee Member Proxman explained his role and the work of the Youth Committee. He added anyone could sign up at the HUB Pop-Up Young Adult Resource Event on December 11, 2019 from 2:30 p.m. until 5:30 p.m. at The Fruit, 305 S. Dillard Street, Durham NC, 27701 or online at www.hubdurham.org.

Committee Member Fehrman stated Janet Xiao, Co-Director, Community Empowerment Fund would be the Chair of the Housing Results Group. He added Housing Results would focus on developing strategies to help keep residents off the street, out of shelters and in housing. Committee Member Fehrman expressed the group would be open to new ideas and energy.

Motion by Committee Member Holmes, seconded by Committee Member Fehrman to adopt the Youth Committee and Housing Results as CoC Work Groups. The motion was approved unanimously.

Committee Member Proxman stated he did not join a subcommittee due to his involvement with the Youth Committee.

Subject: Endorsement of Proposal for Joint-Funded City and County Street Outreach Project

Hanaleah Hoberman, Project Manager II shared a presentation entitled “*Responding to Unsheltered Homelessness – Proposed Joint-Funded Project.*” The presentation discussed the following: Background, Unsheltered Homelessness, 2019 Homeless Count by Living Situation, Street Outreach in Durham, Street Outreach as Critical Homeless Service Infrastructure, Best Practices in Serving Unsheltered, Street Outreach Impact, Alleviating Pressure For Both City and County-Funded Programs and Services, Proposal, Overall Project Proposal, Role of Project in Homeless System, Proposal Funding, Funding Overview, Funding Breakdown and Results.

Committee Member Fehrman asked if the Request for Proposal (RFP) was only with the City and County or if the RFP would go to other agencies. Ms. Hoberman responded the RFP would be issued to allow agencies to bid on the competitive contact process and there was no guarantee for the RFP to go to one agency. Committee Member Stone-Dino asked if the focus was to shift individuals to rapid rehousing or permanent supportive housing. Ms. Hoberman replied that

depended on the options and what would work best for the client. Chair Crooms asked if the joint funding by the City and County was ongoing or would there be a search for a contract agency like Alliance. Ms. Hoberman responded it was on ongoing project and the proposal was budgeted for the full level of need. Chair Crooms asked how long before the Board would know if enough funding and resources were devoted to the Street Outreach Project. Ms. Hoberman replied more details and reports on the funding and resources would be known after the first year. Chair Crooms asked if there would be any effort to reach out to people who were previously Street Outreach workers. Ms. Hoberman responded some of the workers had taken other jobs outside of Durham and hoped they would still provide input and information.

Motion by Committee Member Proxman, seconded by Committee Member Holmes for the HSAC to endorse the Proposal for Joint-Funded City and County Street Outreach Project. The motion was approved unanimously.

Subject: Announcements

Chair Crooms announced Committee Member Captain Stan Harris who was a valued member since 2012 was stepping down from the HSAC. Committee Member Harris stated it was a blessing to be able to serve and help with homelessness. Chair Crooms thanked Committee Member Harris on behalf of the HSAC.

Committee Member Tripp announced Durham County Community Paramedics and the Public Health Department administered 172 flu shots to the homeless community in Durham. She thanked agencies for their support; adding the County had 28 flu shots remaining for the homeless community.

Committee Member Cason thanked those members who signed up to help with the Bull City Stand Down Event and asked for more help as the event got closer.

Committee Member Holmes announced Hillside High School would be hosting the Night Out with Hillside Drama 2019: The Bodyguard. She added the tickets would be \$10 each.

Subject: Adjourn

Motion by Committee Member Holmes, seconded by Committee Member King to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

With no further business to come before the body, Chair Crooms adjourned the meeting at 4:43 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Macio Carlton, Deputy Clerk
County Clerk to the Board Office