



October 15, 2014 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:00 PM by Chair, Julie Graves

Attendance: Julie Graves – Chair, Sarah VanCleve – Vice Chair, Chris Brunell – Secretary, Kirsten Jewell, Diana Gilman, Linda Kerkes, Theresa Hinds, Dave Frederick, Trudy Stacy, Carol Branscum, Monica Bernhard, Raelenea Rodriguez, Brad Forbes, H. Scott Shurtleff, Jim Baker, Deanne Montgomery, Walt LeCouteur, Becky Boughton, Bernadette Luke, Cheri Olsen, Penny Lamping, Clara Ann Ness, Manny Cruz, Heather Garner, Terry Schroeder

Introductions were made around the table.

Agenda Review: No changes made.

Minutes: Clara Ann Ness moved and Monica Bernhard seconded to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed with one abstention.

Coordinator Position – Julie Graves: Julie reported KCR requested a little over \$52,000 to fund the Coordinator position, WLIHA dues and incentives for Project Connect through the Coordinated Grant Application. The funding recommendation is \$37,960, which does not even fully cover the position. The Executive Committee made a recommendation to use the \$37,960 to fund the position, leaving a gap of \$14,975 to fund the position at 30 hours per week and the cost of the WLIHA and incentives. Effective January 1, 2015, the HSC will absorb 3 hours per week of the Kitsap CoCC Coordinator's time, which reduces the shortfall to approximately \$10,000. Five agencies have agreed to step forward and help fund the shortfall. The Executive Committee also plans to have a meeting in early 2015 to have a plan for what to do in future years. Part of that planning will be to look at whether the Coordinator should reside at KCR or if there is another agency that would be interested and/or more appropriate. Julie stated that with her history of being involved with the CoCC since its inception, she believes that people are being served better with the Coordinator position in place. The Executive Committee did not want to start charging dues that some agencies just may not be able to pay. However, any other agency that would like to contribute is welcome to do so. After discussion, it was decided to send a letter out to member agencies explaining the plan and letting them know that contributions will be accepted.

Julie asked if there was anyone interested in assisting the Executive Committee in discussion of the Kitsap CoCC Coordinator position in future years. Penny Lamping expressed interest.

Since Darlene Cook is no longer with KCR, there is a position open on the Executive Committee for a Member at Large. Julie is no longer with Housing Kitsap, but plans to join the Kitsap CoCC as an individual and continuing as Chair for as long as she can.

Agency Updates

Derek Kilmer's Office – Brad Forbes: Brad stated he is happy to be here. He provides community outreach and assistance in getting services from a federal agency. There was a lot of discussion regarding assistance with social security issues; Brad is often able to help people get the information they need and find resources to help them with their social security application. For social security, there is a non-profit group that is helping people apply for social security.

Project Access Northwest – Scott Shurtleff: They are currently looking for a Kitsap Coordinator and will send job announcement to Terry. The organization assists persons gain access to medical care for individuals who have limited access. They are available in several counties and have just recently began serving Kitsap County for medical service only and in other counties for medical and dental access. Referrals come from primary care providers.

Crime Victim Assistance – Deanne Montgomery: Deanne stated she has been seeing an increase in violent crimes, with some resulting in housing instability. A large number of the people they serve are very vulnerable persons.

Kitsap Recovery Center – Linda Kerkes: As always, their guest program is full and they have lots of requests for housing assistance. There are lots of changes in the chemical dependency field right now and they are working to keep up with them. They have several jobs available.

The Salvation Army – Major James Baker: They have a hole in the ground; construction has begun on their new building. They will continue to operate during construction and remodel. Major Baker describes their new building as housing services for programs that help with a “hand out” and the old building will provide those services that help with a “hand up”. They are currently taking holiday sign-ups for both Thanksgiving and Christmas for food baskets and toys for Christmas. They are also hiring for bell ringers for a paid position. They have two volunteers who are recovering addicts and have started an AA and NA group. NA meets on Mondays and AA on Tuesdays from 12:30 to 1:30 pm.

CCS/ HEN/Benedict House – Chris Brunell: Chris reported the HEN program will be combined with Benedict House. On November 1, HEN will be locating to the Benedict House. They currently have 11 men working and 7 men attending OC out of the 25 residents. Chris attributes that to their case management program. CCS will be consolidating the HEN program with Benedict House effective November 1.

Kitsap Legal Services – Becky Boughton: They are currently offering a free training for persons who may be considering a divorce, providing them some basic information. They offer clinics in various parts of the county and partner with many agencies. Ann Cook provides some information and assistance to clients applying for disability, twice per month. Becky has a social work intern, from University of WA Tacoma who will be assisting with Kitsap Legal Service until March 2015. They passed out fliers describing the services they offer.

North Kitsap Fishline – Rae Rodriguez: They have showers available for homeless people in the north end. They have established a Team Care approach to working with clients, using trained, professional case managers. They work with the clients in a team approach.

Bremerton Housing Authority – Sarah VanCleve: They anticipate opening their Section 8 list, likely in about February 2015. They want to keep it small, so it will probably not be open for a long time. They are still working on figuring out all the logistics.

Georgia's House – Carol Branscum: Carol announced they will have their Dinner Auction on November 15th.

Department of Corrections – Theresa Hinds: They have some housing available for the DOC program where they can rent if they have money available. Teresa has found some private property owners who are willing to rent to former felons. She would like to get a meeting together with housing providers to talk about providing housing for former DOC clients and those exiting prisons. There was a question about the possibility of extending the amount of time in their Housing Voucher Program, as it can be difficult to get back on their feet in three months. It would be a legislative issue to extend the time period. DOC Probation Officers can make a recommendation as to continuing a specific person.

Coffee Oasis – Dave Frederick: Every afternoon they have showers and laundry available for homeless persons under the age of 26.

Kitsap Community Resources – Monica Bernhard: There have been some shifts at KCR. As most of you know, Darlene Cook is no longer with KCR. Monica is the Interim Community Support Services and Housing Director. Jackie Fojtik, HSC Navigator, is taking on the Interim Supervisory responsibilities for the HSC, with Monica being responsible for contact with outside agencies. They will be back-filling Jackie's position temporarily. The HSC does currently have some rental assistance and there is homeless child care available. Energy Assistance has PSE assistance available and are still taking application appointments online.

Kitsap Regional Coordinating Council – Kirsten Jewell: New, revised recommendations by the Grant Recommendation Committee, for the Coordinated Grant Applications were sent out. Tuesday October 21 is the deadline for written comment. Oral public comment can be made on October 28 at the Public Hearing. New HMIS data standards took effect October 1. The next HMIS training is November 5, basic and advanced.

Agape – Diana Gilman: Their housing is full; they had 0-12 application in the last week. There has been an influx of people who have been living in the woods and are wanting housing for the winter.

Kitsap Rescue Mission – Walt Le Couteur: Their day room is now open, but they are having some difficulty finding volunteers to assist with managing it during the day. It is open Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm, closed during lunch, from 11:30 am to 1:30 pm. In their recovery program, they currently have three men working fulltime and one student out of a total of six men. They will be making a couple of changes to their meal sites and will be doing a rescue meal where they will be taking sandwiches out to the homeless where they are. They hope to meet their fund raising goal and to have their shelter open in late 2016. See their website for current list of meals: <http://www.kitsaprescue.org/Events.html>

House of Hope – Heather Garner: They work in the jail offering bible study and evening services. They also have a Bible Study group that meets on Frontage Road. They are working with Columbia Legal Services to stop debt from incurring while a person is in jail.

H.A.D. Ministries – Heather Garner: H.A.D, Hope for Addictions/Dependencies is a Christian-based ministry of support groups to help people with addictions. They also work closely with House of Hope in the jails.

Housing Resources Board – Penny Lamping: They are grateful to the Grant Recommendation Committee for reconvening and relooking at their grant proposal and then making a recommendation for funding. Thinking they would have no funding for rental assistance did give them an opportunity to revamp their program and to look at other ways to provide rental assistance.

Kitsap Transit - Trudy Stacy: After two years, Kitsap Transit has a bus route to the Bay Vista area. They also offer a Travel Training Program to help people understand how to ride the bus.

Parent Child Assistance Program – Clara Ann Ness: They continue to be full and have about 20 women interested in getting into their program. They work with pregnant or new moms who used drugs/alcohol during their pregnancy. They work with the women for three years to help them improve their lives and be good parents. There is not currently a component for men, but there is a possibility of training for men who are raising their children who were born addicted.

Kitsap Mental Health Services – Manny Cruz: They are looking at a 30-unit project in Bremerton with Bremerton Housing Authority. They continue to grow and have opened an office in South Kitsap off Mitchell Road.

Coordinator Report – Terry Schroeder: Project Connect planning is coming along with the next meeting being held November 4th at Goodwill in Bremerton. The applications for HUD Continuum of Care funding are due soon. We continue to work on getting leverage letters from various agencies that have clients in common with the agencies that receive the funding, but most everything else has been completed. The agencies have a couple more days to complete their application. Westsound Treatment applied for Bonus Funding. Only one application will be selected to be the Balance of State (BOS) Bonus Funding application; there are two other organizations within BOS counties that have also applied. The agencies should be notified today or tomorrow.

Committee Reports

Outside Homeless – Walt LeCouteur: There was a Blitz done last week for those living in the woods in the East Bremerton area. Seven homeless persons were connected with various agencies for assistance. There is some momentum to do one again so that is planned for October 30 at The Salvation Army lunch. At the Blitz, several agencies send a representative who can talk with anyone who is interested in assistance and try to connect them with the most appropriate service. There is also some interest in working on getting a tent city in the county. A No Trespassing Ordinance has been passed by the City of Bremerton and Kitsap County is considering a similar ordinance.

Tiny Houses Forum – Kirsten Jewell: KRCC held a Tiny House forum that was well attended. They had visitors from Camp Quixote/Quixote Village who talked about the process they went through to get the Village approved. It was a good forum and may be something that we can move forward in Kitsap.

Case Management – Kirsten Jewell: They would still like to have more Case Management surveys completed. There were very few people attending the last meeting so they are working on rescheduling and trying to come up with a time that works for most.

Project Connect – Terry Schroeder: Terry submitted a request to Port Madison Enterprises and developed a budget to send with it, based on expenses and income and including in-kind donations from last year. They are looking at providing transportation from West Bremerton downtown, West Bremerton Bay Vista and East Bremerton.

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Brunell, Secretary