

Erie County Home Team Homeless and Housing Coalition Board Meeting Minutes

April 14, 2022

Old Business:

The meeting minutes of the last board meeting of February 10, 2022 were reviewed. An amendment to the minutes was made: the ERA monies totaled over 5,000 households served. Motion to approve the edited minutes was initiated by Chris Tombaugh and seconded by Liz McCormick.

New Business:

The consent agenda acceptance was motioned by Liz McCormick and seconded by Kurt Crays.

Colleen Hammon, chair, reported that several board members, along with full team members, had asked about the return to in-person meetings versus the zoom platform format. She will send out an email to each person on the board to secure input on this protocol. Several board members suggested that the in-person meetings, should the entire board be in favor of such a move, be initiated for the June board meeting.

DHS Updates:

Peter Burke advised that the emergency rental assistance program was suspended as all the money allocated was spent. Peter advised that more funds might be accessed, if other Pennsylvania counties don't spend their allotment down.

Peter also reported that the county was awarded a \$2.573 million grant for PSH and RRH. This includes a PSH expansion of \$161,300. Liz McCormick requested a written summary of the awards, which Peter will share with the full team membership.

Peter also advised that he and John DiMattio, MH/ID Administrator, had met with Boo Hagerty of the Hamot Health Foundation, to discuss the potential for community partnership. The focus of the partnership would be support for potential housing and wrap around services for certain prioritized individuals experiencing homelessness. UPMC in Allegheny County is currently offering a similarly supportive program. It is expected that future conversation will help to identify how Hamot, and the COC, can collaboratively partner.

Liz McCormick also reported that she had been contacted by Boo Hagerty personally regarding her input on such collaboration. She had shared this information at the last Full Team Meeting. It was determined by the board that Liz would reach out to Boo Hagerty concurrently with the MH/ID discussions. Liz and Peter will share more information with the board and full team membership, as the potential collaboration unfolds.

Peter also updated the board regarding the county ARP monies. Initially, there had been money set aside to support individuals experiencing homelessness, but the county executive, Brenton Davis is reviewing the previously developed plan.

Erie City Updates:

Veronica Fields, reporting on behalf of Dave Deter, shared that the cities ARP planning process would commence on May 22nd. Additionally, it was advised that the ESG City money must be spent by 2022.

Erie County Department of Health:

There were no new updates from the Erie County department of Health today. The Department of Health liaison continues to actively participate in the ad hoc vaccination plan committee through the Home Team.

ECHTHHC Committees:**Coordinated entry:**

Sean O'Neill advised that the Coordinated Entry Committee continues to meet and share information on housing and program eligibility. Additionally, the master list meeting continues to be held monthly to identify the priority referrals for permanent housing.

Project ranking/application review:

Liz McCormick reported that no new information on the NOFA release date had been received.

Pit count:

Lisa Karle and George Fickenworth have finished the compilation of the sheltered and unsheltered data count for submission to HUD.

Data collection and use:

Chairmanship still open. Board members were asked by the chair to help identify interested potential candidates for the position.

Client services:

Kurt Crays advised that he has reinstated the Client Services Committee and they are focusing on crafting a "smart goal" outcome product through their committee process.

Community engagement and marketing:

Chris Tombaugh shared that the committee selected individuals who had experienced homelessness, shelter provider representatives, and other community members to participate in the Home Sweet Homelessness board game. It was a success and supported the committee's mission of increasing awareness in our community regarding the challenges of homelessness. Information can be found on the HSH website or the Home Sweet Homelessness You Tube video site.

Ad hoc vaccination plan:

Lisa Karle shared that the committee continues to meet regularly to share information between shelter providers and community support providers.

Erie Downtown Partnership presentation:

It was agreed by the board membership that Emily Fetcko be contacted to provide an update to the general membership for the May Full Team meeting on 5-12-22.

Colleen Hammon will contact Emily directly regarding the details about the presentation. Emily has already expressed an interest in representing to the home team.

Presentation to the Board Regarding Home Team Applicants:

Two applications have been received for approval to the home team, Chris Tombaugh (updated to reflect new job position) and Cindy Yahn Grode. However, due to the length of the meeting, there was an insufficient number of voting board members to approve the submitted applications. The applications will be reviewed at the next meeting.

Full Team Meeting: May 12, 2022.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was initiated by Liz McCormick and seconded by Kurt Crays. The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:

Colleen

Colleen Hammon
Chair