

**HOMELESS SERVICES OVERSIGHT COUNCIL (HSOC)
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

Date

August 17, 2022

Time

1pm-3pm

Location

Zoom

Members Present

Mark Lamore

Susan Funk

Scott Smith

Members Absent

Devin Drake

Kristen Barneich

Staff and Guests

Dawn Ortiz-Legg

Eileen

George Solis

Jack Lahey

Janna Nichols

Jeff Al-Mashat

Jessica Lorance

Joe Dzvonic

Laurel Weir

Lauryn Searles

Leon Shordon

Merlie Livermore

Russ Francis

1. Call to Order and Introductions

Mark called the meeting to order at 1pm.

2. Public Comment

Jeff recommended that the HSOC adopt a civility code for its meetings, including case confidentiality and disallowing personal attacks. Several others present supported this. Laurel noted that the Board of Supervisors adopted a code some years ago, and the HSOC itself had considered a code. Staff will look back at the action the HSOC took and if the HSOC now needs to be made aware of it, or if the item should be revisited.

Janna raised concerns over the Strategic Plan and Lines of Effort, particularly in regard to discussions that took place late in the process concerning philanthropy, how this is quantified, and ensuring agencies are not in competition with the County for philanthropic donations. Janna also raised that there is a need to quantify and report on the good work that is being done, especially when there is public scrutiny. Mark agreed to include this on the agenda for the next Finance and Data Committee meeting.

Jack thanked Susan and Joe for talking to CAPSLO's (Community Action Partnership of San Luis Obispo's) Board and the Friends of 40 Prado Board about the Strategic Plan.

3. Consent: Approval of Minutes

The minutes were approved with no objections and no abstentions.

4. Action/Information/Discussion

4.1 Discussion Item: HSOC Membership

Laurel reported on the process for appointing and reappointing HSOC members. Membership terms are staggered so that not all terms expire in the same year. In September, current members whose terms are expiring will be contacted to ask if they will stand again, and a public announcement will be made about vacant seats. A membership review committee will be convened to make recommendations to be reviewed by the next Executive Committee meeting in October, then by the full HSOC in November, then the Board of Supervisors in December, for terms beginning in January 2023.

The Committee discussed additions that would bring value to the HSOC, such as representatives from smaller and more specialist agencies in addition to the main

homeless service agencies. The Committee also discussed adding a dedicated seat for an LGBTQ+ advocate, especially as this is a priority for HUD (US Department of Housing and Urban Development), so will impact the CoC (Continuum of Care) grant program competition score, and a liaison seat for the Homeless Action Committee.

4.1.1 Discussion Item: Revising Bylaws Section Regarding Alternates

Russ presented the current and proposed amended text for the section regarding member alternates in the HSOC bylaws. Currently, the text only allows for the appointment of alternates within the first 30 days of a member's term. The revised text would allow for the appointment of alternates at any time. The process of changing the bylaws involves the full HSOC voting twice, which would take place at their next regular meetings in September and November, then would go to the Board of Supervisors in December. The Executive Committee discussed and were in favor of the revised text.

4.1.2 Discussion Item: Vacant and Expiring Seats

Russ presented the list of vacant seats and expiring membership terms (included in the agenda packet).

4.2 Discussion Item: State and Federal Homeless Assistance Grants

4.2.1 Discussion Item: Continuum of Care Annual Grant Program

George reported that HUD has released two NOFOs (Notices of Funding Opportunity). The first is the regular annual CoC grant program competition. SLO County CoC is eligible to apply for around \$1 million for renewal projects, \$72k for new projects, and \$145k for new projects supporting victims of Domestic Violence. HUD has given a very short timeline for the local process to be complete – local applications will be due on August 31.

4.2.2 Discussion Item: Continuum of Care Special Unsheltered Homelessness Grant Program

The second NOFO released by HUD is for a special unsheltered homelessness grant program. SLO County CoC is eligible to apply for \$1.7 million over three years. The local RFP (Request for Proposals) has been released. Local applications are due September 8. An informational session for both programs will be held on August 19.

4.2.3 Discussion Item: Grants Status and Timeline

Russ presented an updated version of the grants timeline (included in the agenda packet). Changes include extending the ESG-CV (Emergency Solutions Grant – Coronavirus) expenditure deadline to September 2023, and moving the release of secured HHAP funding back to Quarter 4 of 2022.

4.3 Discussion Item: Committee Reports

Mark and Scott summarized the committee reports for the Finance and Data Committee and Housing Committee, included in the agenda packet.

4.3.1 Discussion Item: Action Items for Executive Committee and Full HSOC

The Committee agreed the civility code (see item 2) be drafted by County staff, reviewed by County Counsel and brought to the next Executive Committee meeting for review. The Committee discussed other changes to encourage civility such as limiting the public comment window to 2 minutes per person, limiting the total public comment window to 20 minutes, asking for comments to be submitted in advance and read out at the start of the meeting.

4.3.2 Discussion Item: Learnings

4.3.3 Discussion Item: Trends and Concerns

4.3.4 Discussion Item: Future Issues and Next Steps

The Committee discussed Coordinated Entry, Collaborative Outreach and the HHAP 3 (Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention Program Round 3) grant program reports, which will be brought to the Finance and Data Committee.

4.4 Discussion Item: Report from County Staff

4.4.1 Discussion Item: Parking Villages and Blue Bag Program Update

Jeff reported that the Blue Bag program will not be returning. Additional parking villages will be set up. For the Oklahoma Avenue site, the County and CAPSLO are still working on issues from a time there was no site management.

4.4.2 Discussion Item: Administrative Office Update

The Board of Supervisors approved setting up the Homeless Services Division within DSS (Department of Social Services). Work on this is ongoing.

4.4.3 Discussion Item: Tiny House Villages

Information to follow at a future meeting.

4.5 Discussion Item: Strategic Plan Update

4.5.1 Discussion Item: Committee Roles

4.5.2 Discussion Item: Lines of Effort 5 and 6

The Committee discussed who would take the lead role for the actions in Lines of Effort 5 and 6 of the Strategic Plan, and assigned the following people:

- Data-driven management – Susan
- Homeless Action Committee – Joe
- Citizen’s Oversight Body – Sam Blakeslee and Greg Gillett
- Engage People with Lived Experience – Laurel
- Ensure Representation of People with Lived Experience – Laurel

This discussion will be returned to at the next Executive Committee meeting.

5. Future Discussion/Report Items

- Civility Code – next Executive Committee meeting
- Reporting on the work being done – next Finance and Data Committee meeting
- Lead roles for Lines of Effort, reviewing public comments on Lines of Effort, and additional items to be considered during implementation of plan – next Executive Committee meeting

5.1 Discussion Item: Review Public Comment on Lines of Effort

This is a future discussion item.

5.2 Discussion Item: Additional Items to Be Considered During Implementation of Plan

This is a future discussion item.

6. Next Regular Meeting: October 19 at 1pm

7. Adjournment

Mark adjourned the meeting at 3:15pm.