



Minutes

GKCCEH Board of Directors Meeting

📅 Fri March 5th, 2021

🕒 8:30am - 10:00am CST

📍 <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83948913646>

👤 **In Attendance**

1. Call to Order

8:33 am

Marqueia Watson, Matt Watkins, Michael Barrett, Christy McMurphy, Greg Porter, Heather Bradley-Geary, Precious Stargell Cushman, Simon Messmer, Susila Jones, Tiffany Buckley, Victoria Hardy, Cara Hoover, Jameson Auten

2. Approval of Minutes

February Minutes- no comments or revisions.

Motion for Approval- Motion by Michael Barrett, Second by Simon Messmer.

3. Public Comment

Amy Copeland- DMH is now funded for supportive service dollars for this contract year. Currently in discussion on whether that can continue on an ongoing basis.

4. Org and Staff Update

a. HMIS Governance Update

Greg Porter- HMIS

A call for once every two years, to have the HMIS governance lead agency review on a regular basis. Having 11 members, certain number of members (9-11), allowing for a removal process. Every 5 years doing a vendor review. These two proposals went out for public comment. If board is ready to approve, will be sent to members for ratification.

Matt Watkins: Any major changes?

Greg Porter- outlining the structure, size of group. Adds in automatic 2 years for agency review, 5 years for vendor review.

Marqueia- we are coming up on 5 years of Caseworthy, and it will be time to start discussing if Caseworthy is the product we will be using moving forward.

Heather Bradley-Geary- Will this allow us to look at other vendors at this time?

Marqueia- We won't be able to switch easily. The idea is to renew Caseworthy for a year while we search for other viable options.

Precious- Appreciative of the comprehension of this document. Thank you to the committee members who worked on this.

Matt- Motion by Michael, Second by Precious.

i. HMIS Timeline

Greg Porter-

Timeline for applications to fill the permanent seats on the committee. Will open on Monday March 8th, it is the board application with slight modifications. 10 business days to approve slate to move forward.

ii. Proposed Fee Structures

Greg Porter-

Ongoing conversation since we first moved from Mac to Marc. Never been consistency for user fees. There have been conversations on how to replace user fees. Three fee structure options.

1. No HMIS user fee, shortfall through private funding

2. NO HMIS User Fee, Shortfall covered through NOFA

3. GKCCEH Membership Fee to include HMIS, Shortfall through private funding/grants

In an effort to improve data quality, limits on how many users can have access to HMIS. March 17th- feedback from members.

Marqueia- options are listed as most to least desirable. Thinking about minimal barriers to organizations.

iii. Governance Charter

b. Current GKCCEH Projects

Marqueia-

In process of drafting a new staff position. Applied for funds to support HMIS efforts. Bringing Haley in part-time to help with HMIS, Coordinated Entry and Community Engagement. Her official start date is next Monday, March 8th, 2021.

We spoke last month about the website and general flow to make sure that the images convey a message around homelessness but are not derogatory. Restructured the site so that all CoC information is under one page.

We would like to have photos of Board Members for the website.

The firm designing the website is providing a monthly plan for marketing and content creation- a blog and social media.

We are currently building our Learning Management System. Two learning pathways we have developed. CoC 101 & HMIS 101.

Health Forward Foundation- really fantastic meeting. Matt- was interesting to hear their side of the story. Rethinking how they fund not only segments of the community, but big pieces of what we think about going forward. They are all about outcomes. They encouraged us to apply for funds. Hopeful it will be the beginning of the a good collaboration.

Marqueia- They are very interested in collective Impact strategies. They want to see collaborative work. They would like to see unified messaging around homelessness and the community's housing infrastructure needs. They would like us to be the lead convener in those conversations. We discussed a funding collaborative to gain more leverage and resources and to streamline funding priorities. Need to have a comprehensive plan on how those dollars will be used and they want us to have a plan for how to get funders together.

Marqueia attended KCMO budget hearing. A lot of energy and advocacy around homelessness. Elected to not increase our budget. Went to plead with them to change course of action and followed up via email to Mayor, Chief of Staff, and assistants. There is more going on in the City on homelessness and we would like to hear their opinion on the work we are doing and how we can best collaborate.

Amber and Kaylee have started offering office hours offered for direct service providers on CE/HMIS training.

Partnered with Hope Faith for vaccinations for service providers starting today 3/5. 200 single dose Johnson and Johnson vaccinations have been secured for Bartle Hall guests starting 3/6.

Approximately 12 organizations are working with city and county on federal rental relief. Working on prioritizing who gets the funds. Working out specifics around technology and how to get funds out the door.

Team is working with MO State Rep Ingrid Burnett on the housing summit to address homelessness on Independence Avenue.

Marqueia is also on the KCMO Homeless Task Force. Working on community asset mapping and general framework moving forward.

Kimberly Henderson- when you were speaking about rental assistance, what were you referring to?

MW- Money that has been distribute by US Treasury for COVID 19 rental relief. Large sum of money for evictions.

c. Committee Updates

Amber- CE

Work in progress. We are getting migrated over to HMIS. Really good feedback during office hours and getting people up to speed. CE workgroup looking at restructuring access points and how to make it client centered. New built for zero cohort. Convened a group of 9 from different sectors. Intensive 3 month program meeting with other communities on how to make the process more impactful.

Marqueia- Admin/Finance Committee:

RFP for upcoming NOFA. Seen the signs that a NOFA is eminent. The committee is working on RFP based on where the gaps are, and structuring the process on the unmet need. More data driven in funding decisions and addressing subpopulations who are not being served like youth with higher behavioral health need. Significant unsheltered single people without children. Only avenue is permanent supportive housing. Many opportunities to fill gaps. Working in collaboration with progress and evaluation committee.

Met with leaders of RRH workgroup on 3/4, will meet with leaders of Equity and Advocacy workgroup on 3/5. Will get rolling in the month of April.

Sarah Owsley and Heather Bradley-Geary came up with high level topics. The goal is to focus on income discrimination and make it illegal to refuse a housing subsidy as payment. We are shy of 1 bedrooms, but across the board we are lacking housing in general. Decriminalization the experience of homelessness. Homeless Bill of Rights going in front of Council. Speaks to the intersectionality of people experiencing homelessness. Focuses on housing as a human right.

Christy McMurphy- Income protection in WyCO as well?

Marqueia- Same issue on source of income in WyCo. A companion policy for KS.

Matt- hold off on voting until Heather is present to talk through advocacy agenda topics in length.

d. VOTE: MO-604 Legislative Advocacy Update

5. Finances

a. January 2021 Financials

Pretty significant expenditures this month, primarily last lump sum paid out to Caseworthy. Line of credit is at 0 balance, we would like to see it stay that way. Monthly management reports in packet, as well as updated Chart of Accounts. We have been cleaning up in Quickbooks how our expenditures are captured and how they will be reflected in your board reports moving forward. Wanted it to be less messy/slimmed down and to tie directly to the operating budget.

b. FY22 Budget Planning Process & Priorities

Changes that would appear significant, asking for more resources in certain areas, specifically around personnel. Proposed allocation from KCMO- it appears it will not be increased. Through our HUD award, we were given 15% increase.

Possible Amendments to review next month-

Wyandotte County navigator position. Underspending on that grant due to vacant position for several months. Staff person in that role is highly qualified and is only working part-time. Wanting to see position expanded to full time. KCMO allocation is still in question and HMIS User fees is still being discussed.

FTE allocation to each of our programs. When we allocate properly, we come up upside on both HMIS and CE. CE is woefully underfunded. Funding strategies going forward will be focused on increasing capacity in these critical program areas.

i. VOTE: FY22 Budget

Matt Watkins- Motion from Simon, Second from Cara

Simon- We need additional unreserved and match funding.

ii. FY22- Updated Chart of Accounts

Marqueia- Want everyone to see what the new categories look like. The city has an online budget tool that allows us to see what their proposed allocation is for us for the 22 FY. John Wood advocated for us to bump us to 125k. That request has not been approved by Council to date. Hopeful they will reconsider.

6. Governance Structure Planning Update

Matt Watkins-

Exec. Committee has met to talk through clarity on strategic planning. Gather a collective voice for the work that is going on. A lot of different voices at the table with high tension around this topic. Trying to find an opportunity to allow people to speak on the work that is being done across the community. Multilevel conversation. Ideas formulating within the group to find a convener that has a voice to advocate on our behalf and bring together a strategic voice.

a. Executive Committee Strategic Plan Meeting Debrief

7. VOTE: New Board Member Nomination

a. Michael D. Simmons, Wyandotte County Sheriff Office

Matt Watkins- Michael Simmons. Will bring unique perspective to the board. Committee was supportive of application. Nominations committee to move forward with Michael Simmons. Christy McMurphy second motion.

8. Public Comment

Amy Copeland- A lot of grants are not spent 100%. It might be easier to put those HMIS fees in grants that are coming to an end, thus not giving back money to HUD. Should be considered. I don't want to take away from housing dollars, but if those dollars are going away at the start of a new grant, we should consider it.

9. Next Meeting Date & Action Items

Encourage members to join membership meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. 9-10:30.

Motion to go into executive session. Motion by Michael, second by Simon.

10. Executive Session (if applicable)

9:47 AM- Meeting adjourned and entered executive session.