

Meeting Minutes NC 506 Continuum of Care Bi-Monthly Board Meeting

Approved

May 27, 2021

12pm-2pm

Held virtually due to COVID-19

Recording Link: <https://capefearcog.org/continuum-of-care/>

- I. Meeting was Called to order by Meg McBride, Chair.
- II. **Introductions of Board**
In Attendance:
Kyle Abraham, Sara Rusher, Maegan Zielinski, Tufanna Bradley, Gloria Garten, Sarah Arthur, Anne Best, Brian Fyke, Leslie Smiley, Thom Moton, Rebecca McSwain, Lee Anna Stoker, Michele Bennett and Tommy Taylor. Guest, Allen Serkin was on the call for clarification.
- III. **Introduction of New CoC Director** Judy Herring by Allen Serkin, Cape Fear Council of Governments Director.
- IV. **March Meeting Minutes were Approved** with no changes. Anne Best motioned to approve the minutes with no changes. Tufanna Bradley seconded the motion and the minutes were approved.
- V. **Election of Executive Committee Officers**
 1. *Nominations:*
 - a) Chair - Michele Bennett
 - (1) 1st Motion - Meg McBride
 - (2) 2nd Motion - Thom Mohton
 - b) Vice Chair - Sarah Arthur (2nd term)
 - (1) 1st Motion - Meagan Zielinski
 - (2) 2nd Motion - Leslie Smiley
 - c) Secretary - Meg McBride
 - (1) 1st Motion - Sarah Arthur
 - (2) 2nd Motion - Tommy Taylor

The above officers were voted in to serve as the Executive Committee of Tri-Hic/CoC.
 - VI. **Presentation of FY19 NC 506 Comprehensive Data Analysis** (July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020). Meagan Zielinski presented data about the Point in Time Count 2020. Point in Time was affected this year by the weather, police involvement a few days prior to the count and Covid-19, which prevented the community from hosting events that would normally draw people. Challenge: how to figure a way to count persons living in cars. If

more information is required, contact Joe Burns. Comprehensive Data Analysis information was presented. Shifts in data include Black/African American as the most reported race, there are more females and families experiencing homelessness. Almost half the coordinated entry individuals reported a disability, including dual diagnosis. Full domestic violence information can be requested from the CoC. The report contains detailed performance information about locally funded programs. A recommendation was made for the Monitoring Committee to review data findings in light of local agency program guidelines and community priorities. The data report is a tool that can be used for monitoring, ranking and local agencies to meet community needs. Suggestions for any additional data measurements for the next reporting period can be directed to the CoC Department.

A. **Adopting FY19 NC 506 Comprehensive Data Analysis** as the Board's official data tool. Anne Best: Family Promise *Families Forward* data needs to be updated. See footnote on NC 506 Comprehensive Data Report. Kyle Abrams motioned to approve the report with changes. Thom Moton seconded the motion. The motion passed by vote. The report is posted on the Tri-Hic website.

VII. **Bi-Law Comments/Edits/Updates.** Michele Bennett amended her original motion- table the discussion, call a special meeting to vote on bi-laws changes and prior to that meeting, seek recommendations from the structure committee. Motion was seconded by Meagan Zielinski. Motion approved.

VIII. **Approval of content of RFP for the Five Year Plan to End Homelessness.** The RFP is to be sent out by June 1, 2021 with changes that reflect the new CoC Director's contact information. If there is an overwhelming response, the Executive Committee would whittle down the candidates to two (2) to three (3). Allen Serkin asked for some flexibility in the timeline due to the new hiring of Judy Herring. Thom Moton motioned to approve the RFP, with some time flexibility but keeping the timeline within a 30 day window. Meagan Zielinski seconded the motion. Motion approved.

IX. **Emergency Housing Vouchers - American Rescue Plan / Covid-19 Funding**
Allen Serkin introduced Lynne Picard to present the program in working in partnership with the CoC. 27 hourins vouchers to be used in conjunction with Coordinated Entry. Only referrals from CoC, \$3500 additional cost coverage per household. An MOU with the CoC was drafted and delivered to the COG Director, Allen Serkin. Vouchers will begin July 1st. A discussion of how to use the vouchers to achieve HUD's preferences and also address what local data is showing. Lynn suggested figuring out the deployment of using the vouchers as soon as possible. Chair, Meg McBride will call a special meeting next week, inviting housing providers to discuss deployment strategies.
To approve the MOU between Housing Authority and CoC/Cape Fear Council of Governments, Lee Anna Stoker motioned to empower Michele Bennett to sign the MOU. Kyle Abrams seconded the motion. Motion Approved.

- X. **Presentation by guests, Wilmington Downtown Incorporated (WDI)** - Holly Childs (President & CEO), James Slade (Operations Director). Primary goals are to provide clean and safe services to the Wilmington downtown area. WDI brought concerns to the Board concerning homelessness in the downtown area and offered to drive services for persons experiencing homelessness. A discussion concerning the individuals living downtown, including meals being dropped off at the library location and the cleanliness of that activity that has led to some threats of aggression against the WDI employees. Tommy Taylor suggested volunteers to assist during food drop-off times in coordination with the city. Thom Moton commented that the city is focused on limiting nuisance behavior and that homeless service providers would extend help and services to where the homeless are congregating. Thom Moton asked for creative and coordinated solutions. Tommy Taylor suggested coordinating with Cape Fear Food Council and/or having a plan for leftover food. Tufanna Bradley spoke about additional funding (ARP) to help support even religious organizations who are serving homeless individuals. WDI offered to help financially support the efforts with supplies.

Motion to Adjourn was made by Michele Bennett. Maegan Zielinski seconded the motion. Meeting was adjourned by the Chair.

Minutes respectfully submitted by:

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Meg McBride". The signature is written in a light blue or grey ink.

Meg McBride
7.17.21