

Alliance to End Homelessness in Suburban Cook County

Board Meeting Minutes

March 24, 2006

Meeting Location: United Way Metro Chicago, 560 W. Lake Street, Chicago, IL 60661

Directors present: Ken Schmitt CHAIR, Eileen Higgins VICE CHAIR, Susan Shimon SECRETARY/ CBSA Co-Chair, Raul Rodriguez TREASURER, Beverly Christmon, Gerry DuPaty, Mark Enenbach, Doug Jones, Kelli Moore, Khen Nিকেle, Nancy Radner, Patrick Rodgers, Mary Ann Romeo, Cynthia Schilsky CBSA CHAIR, Lynda Schueler, Mary Schurder, Marie Vesely CBSA Co-Chair, Mike Wasserberg

Directors not present: Lenoris Perkins, Fred Shannon CBSA Chair, Richard Koenig PAST CHAIR, Sandy Williams, Edwin Walker, Yvonne Griffin-Bland

Members present: Jennifer Hill, Alliance, Tom Hinchy, Cook County Planning/Development, Amy Ernstes, Alliance, Shaun Pyron, Alliance, Suzanne Hopkins, Alliance, Rev. John Rice, Bethel Community Facility, Millicent Ntiamoah, Catholic Charities, Viru Joshi, CEDA Neighbors at Work, Sonia Ivanov, CEDA Northwest, Farrah Ferrell, Grand Prairie Services, James Lewis, Institute of Metropolitan Affairs, Roosevelt University, Courtney Suchor, Sanctuary/SS Family Shelter, Kathryn Straniero, Together We Cope, Jose Alvarez, Town of Cicero, Tom Galassini, United Way of Metro Chicago, Daphyne Head, Vital Bridges, Sharon Alberts, West Suburban United Way, Daryl S. Woods, former consumer, Nick Kuscevich

- I. **CALL TO ORDER** - The meeting was called to order by Ken Schmitt Alliance Chair. Participants introduced themselves.
- II. **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES** - Mary Schurder moved and Mike Wasserberg seconded that the minutes of the February meeting be approved. The motion passed.
- III. **TREASURER'S REPORT** – Raul Rodriguez reported that the line of credit is paid down for 30 days and we are free of related interest expense. We have received a three-month extension on the term of the line of credit, allowing time for financials to be completed. The Alliance is seeking bids from auditors. There is a small increase in the office rent.
- IV. **DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Jennifer Hill deferred her report to committee report discussions.
- V. **COMMITTEE REPORTS**
 - A. Executive Committee – Ken Schmitt led a discussion of the South Suburban Council submission of a letter of inquiry to Chicago Community Trust for funding. Their goal is to influence major donors to invest in the south suburbs and to expand the stakeholder base. Alliance participant comments and questions focused on the CBSA role in relation to the Alliance. Comments directed at the SSCH representatives relayed the expectation that it operate in concert with the Alliance as the planning body for ending homelessness in the continuum. The SSCH pursuit has unique value, as would achievement of a better understanding of the issues in the west and north/northwest regions of suburban Cook.

Nancy Radner moved and Lynda Schueler seconded that the Alliance resolve to support the SSCH Letter of Inquiry to Chicago Community Trust. The majority voted to approve the resolution. There were two abstentions.

Ken Schmitt also reported Executive Committee approval of Bonus Round RFP memo.

- B. HMIS Committee – Doug Jones reported that its ad hoc report design group has concluded its work. The committee is now addressing language. The committee is pleased to have the Chicago Community Trust \$25,000 award for HMIS expenses.
- C. Continuum of Care Committee – Sue Shimon reported the committee’s focus on completion of the 2006 SuperNOFA Exhibit I. Service and housing inventories will be distributed for all Alliance members to update. Tom Hinchy of the Cook County Department of Planning and Development will visit each CBSA to provide instructions on how to complete the housing inventory forms. The Chronic Homelessness Committee will meet in combination with the CoCD to write the 2005 goal progress and draft the 2006 goals and action steps.
- D. Project Review and Prioritization – Cynthia Schilsky announced these important events and deadlines: 1) March 30, 2006 NOFA training at the United Way Metro Chicago building; 2) 5 p.m. April 12th – Renewal applications are due at the Alliance office. 3) 5 p.m. April 13th – Samaritan Bonus applications are due at the Alliance office.
- E. Chronic Homeless – Lynda Schueler reported the committee’s focus on the 2006 Exhibit I goal chart completion.
- F. Homeless Prevention – Marie Vesely announced the IL Bureau of Homeless Services advocacy for a 10% not 12% allocation toward case management re: homeless prevention funds.
- G. Governance – Richard Koenig was absent, no report.
- H. Advocacy – Nancy Radner reported on her meeting with Mark Johnston, head of HUD programs, in D.C. to discuss 2005 project applications that were displaced/removed from the Chicago and Alliance ranking forms. He described red flags that trigger concern: 1) unexpended capital grants, 2) unexpended contract funds. These were factors in HUD’s decision to alter the ranking and remove projects from consideration last year. Nancy reported that the McKinney-Vento Act is scheduled for reauthorization. Hearings will be held to advise the process. Proposed changes include: streamlining the programs by combining SHP, Shelter +Care, etc. There is scrutiny of unexpended funds and interest in methods to return recaptured funds to Continuum of origin. Nancy urged Alliance members to continue to send their letters to legislators regarding the increased prevention and supportive housing dollars included in the 2007 proposed budget.

VI. **OTHER REPORTS** – Reports were deferred to the April meeting.

- A. Mainstream Resources –
- B. Regional Roundtable –

VII. **CBSA REPORTS** – Reports were deferred to the April meeting.

VIII. **NEW BUSINESS** – Jennifer Hill distributed the Alliance Code of Conduct for review and approval next month by the board of directors.

IX. **ADJOURNMENT** - Patrick Rodgers moved and Khen Nickle seconded that the meeting adjourn. Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Shimon, Secretary