

Steering Committee for Concord's Plan to End Homelessness
Meeting Notes January 15, 2019
Greater Concord Chamber of Commerce 2 pm- 3:30

Steering Committee Members Present: Byron Champlin, Claudia Walker, Ruth Perencevich, Pamela Puleo, Karen Emis-Williams, Kara Wyman, Tim Sink (arrived at 3pm)

Absent: Rosemary Heard, Ron White, Nicole Shultz-Price, Peter Evers, Lew Feldstein

Additional: Ellen Groh, CCEH; Ellen Fries, CCEH

Minutes of the November Meeting approved.

Updates on Concord Emergency Winter Shelter usage - Ellen

Going smoothly. Not too many to handle. First 3 weeks averaged 22 guests a night. Run by Thrive Outdoors' Jake King, who has run it the past 3 years.

Byron would like the Steering Committee to receive a report and at season's end send a report to the City Council. It would need some tweaking from the report we currently have, which includes names.

Karen – Families going to City Human Services in need of shelter: Dec.26-Jan.4, 4 families to motels. Compared to- December 2017: 3 families. Jan.2018: no families. Motel costs \$413 more than in the past. Having issues with state-funded shelters across the state. Shelters receiving state funding *must* accept people no matter where they are from, but shelters are saying people are not from their catchment area and refusing them.

- 2 of the families that were provided a motel room have destroyed the property at 2 separate motels. This means the motels won't take Welfare clients again. Also, many motels are becoming very high end, too expensive.
- 90% of people who seek assistance from City Welfare are under eviction or have back rent due.
- Due to government shutdown people get food stamp benefits for Feb. in late January.

Review of draft governance document

Byron reported that Pam, Claudia and Byron met, and Ellen G joined.

It is up to this committee to establish term limits – Steering Committee is a City Appointed Committee, CCEH is a major player, as is City Human Services. Governance subgroup is recommending 3 year terms, renewable once. Will look at current membership and create "class years" (will be assigned to year 1, 2 or 3). Human Services will have an ongoing role, and others may as well, such as a City Councilor seat.

Process for new members: If committee is interested in someone, or someone is interested in joining the Steering Committee, they submit a Resume and Letter of Intent. A subcommittee would interview the person, determine interest, commitment, tools, knowledge, connections, etc. If subcommittee determines the person is a go-ahead, City Rep/councilor on Steering will give resume and letter of interest to City Clerk, it will go to Mayor, be presented at City Council, if no red flags raised, vote will go on consent calendar to be voted on my City Council. This is a 2 month process.

The plan for this process will be written up and submitted to City Council.

Propose a Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary for the Steering Committee. Submit nominees to Mayor/City Council for approval.

Quarterly meetings of this Steering Committee is appropriate (rather than monthly or every other month as we have done so far.)

CCEH ED and others will present reports on where we are relative to the goals.

Add an Educational part to the meetings – speakers.... Representatives of various agencies...

Prospective members – a person with lived experience of homelessness; Friends Program/Service Provider rep; a landlord with low income properties, NHCF rep/donor advised fund focused on homelessness rep; School Superintendent or designee; school board member; banking community (especially community reinvestment); Health care community; Merrimack County Public Defenders' Office.

Kara will check with Ron White on his continued interest; Ellen G will check with Nicole Shultz-Price.

Will go on a calendar year starting now.

CCEH is lead agency, but subject to the Steering Committee.

Tenley Callaghan may be interested in becoming a member. Her letter of interest (and any going forward) will be requested to go to Ellen at CCEH. EG will ask Tenley for letter of interest and resume.

Who will be on a vetting committee for new members? Suggest 3 members.

Steering Committee will meet in March, then go to quarterly meetings.

Governance Committee will go through current Committee roster, see who is staying on, nominate new members, review them for acceptance. Could be sent to City Council and be ready to serve in June.

Potential Speakers: Pam made some suggestions - Health Needs Assessment, Population Health (Betsy Rhynhart) Pamela will ask Betsy if she'll speak in March at meeting – 10 min. talk, 10 for questions.

NH Housing Finance Agency? How to get more affordable units.

Work on filling out workplan with dates and responsible parties. Updates on any workplan items.

Availability of Housing units to LI, VLI, etc. in Concord? EG will ask NHHFA for statistics.

Costs and Benefits of Housing First – who can get this info? Carsey School? Byron will ask Michele Holt-Shannon. Ellen G will tell Byron what info we are looking for.

How to get preferences for those experiencing chronic homelessness? How get Homeless clients to rise to the top of the list more quickly... Ellen will be discussing with John Hoyt of CHRA.

CCEH is having a fundraiser hosted by UNO'S: Raise the Dough fundraiser from 4-7 on Thursday Feb. 7th. CCEH staff plans to be present, and maybe waiting table, etc. MUST tell server that you want % of your purchase to go to CCEH. EG will send out posters for businesses.

SouperFest March 30 at Rundlett Middle School

Next Meetings: The Steering Committee will meet next on Tuesday, March 19, 2019 , from 2 - 3:30pm. Then it will meet every 3 months, the third Tuesday of the month, beginning on June 18th.

Respectfully submitted by Ellen Groh, Executive Director, Concord Coalition to End Homelessness