

**NASHVILLE-DAVIDSON COUNTY CONTINUUM OF CARE
HOMELESSNESS PLANNING COUNCIL (HPC)—MEETING MINUTES**

<p>Council Members Present: Dawn Deaner, Jaha Martin, Karri Gronick, Mary Katherine Rand, Travis Claybrooks, Freddie O’Connell, Will Connelly, Paula Foster, Laura Bermudez, Jeff Gibson, Tom Turner, Treva Gilligan, Ginger Hausser</p> <p>Staff: April Calvin (MHID), Rachel Cook (MHID), Janet Gilmore (MHID), Jay Servais (MHID), TJ Swanson (MHID), Suzie Tolmie (MDHA)</p>	<p>Date: January 12, 2022 Time: 8:30 a.m. Place: Vine Hill Towers</p> <p>Recorded by: Janet Gilmore</p>
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AGENDA ITEM	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSION	RECOMMENDATION/ACTION
I. WELCOME, CONFLICTS OF INTEREST, AND ANTI-RACISM PLEDGE*	▶ Tom Turner, Jeff Gibson, Paula Foster, Will Connelly, Travis Claybrooks, Mary Katherine Rand, and Karri Gornick stated conflicts of interest.	
II. MOMENT OF SILENCE	▶ The names of people experiencing homelessness who died since the last meeting were read, followed by a moment of silence.	
III. STORY OF PROGRESS	<p>▶ TJ Swanson, Metro Homeless Impact Division (MHID), shared handouts showing significant positive progress in street outreach and utilization of Emergency Service Grant – COVID (ESG-CV) funds to place people experiencing homelessness into rapid rehousing. The fact that the published ESG-CV expenditure deadline is 30 September 2022 was discussed.</p> <p>A request was made that in the future data be shared about returns to homelessness; this is a key data point in the HMIS practice and will be shared in the future. A request was made that future agendas include actions MHID is taking to identify additional funding sources after 30 September 2022.</p>	
IV. MINUTES	<p>▶ Minutes from the 12/8/21 meeting were reviewed.</p> <p>Paula Foster asked if a letter from the council chair was issued to the Mayor as was noted in the 12/8/21 minutes. The council chair is still seeking bullet points from two council members and then will issue that letter.</p>	No quorum was present, therefore a vote to approve did not occur.

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V. METRO HOMELESS IMPACT DIVISION COMMUNITY DATA REPORT AND RFP PROCESSES

► Jay Servais, MHID, provided an update about the cold weather shelter openings (11 days) and utilization (1559 individual stays) thus far this season. The maximum number of people staying in a single night so far has been 256. A question was asked as to why the extreme weather shelter was not open during tornadoes during December. As of now, the city opens the shelter based on certain weather conditions, and those conditions were not met on that date. Changes are being looked at regarding criteria for opening the shelter.

Jay also shared that quarterly meetings with the Mayor’s Office have been calendared for this year.

Jay asked that council members review the draft encampment strategy provided to them today and send any suggestions to himself or April Calvin (MHID). A request was made that the next meeting include a detailed presentation by MHID of this plan, how it was created, and using case examples. Jay shared that a pilot of this plan will be conducted with the Jefferson Street encampment; after that pilot, a detailed discussion in the HPC will take place. Additional input will be sought from the Continuum of Care (CoC) Consumer Advisory Board and CoC Youth Action Board as well. Concerns were raised about how Jefferson Street encampment has been prioritized above other needs for housing and that this plan seems like a plan to close encampments one by one, rather than focusing on housing. Jay and April reiterated that they welcome all feedback and input to the plan.

Jay shared that the city awarded \$500,000 to be used for landlord incentives.

Rachel Cook of MHID provided an update on the Request for Proposal (RFP) process to evaluate Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) systems. The process is under way, using Metro Nashville’s standard RFP process. The HMIS oversight committee and the HPC will have representation on the RFP evaluation ad hoc group.

Rachel provided an update on the creation of a data dashboard that is underway with the HMIS team, which is planned to be available in the coming months. She also provided as a handout to the council this month’s Data Report from MHID.

VI. MDHA REPORT AND HOME ARPOVERVIEW

► Suzie Tolmie of Metro Development and Housing Agency (MDHA) announced that there will be a CoC General Membership meeting next Thursday 1/20/22 at Park Center at 10:30 a.m.

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	<p>Suzie communicated that no word has been received so far about the CoC funding Nashville applied for, and she reminded the group that the Point In Time (PIT) count is scheduled for the night of 1/27/22.</p> <p>Treva Gilligan of MDHA provided an overview of the HOME ARP program and provided a handout to council members. Funding is \$9.3 million, with at minimum \$7.9 million made available for housing for people experiencing homelessness or at risk of experiencing homelessness. The funds must be used by 30 September 2030. The goal for announcing an overall plan to allocate these funds is March 2022, with an open public comment period following.</p>	
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<p>VII. MAYOR'S OFFICE UPDATE AND HOUSE AMERICA FEDERAL INITIATIVE</p>	<p>► Ginger Hausser introduced Angie Hubbard as a new partner to this council in her role as Director of Housing for the city. Hannah Davis will be part of Angie Hubbard's organization within the Metro Nashville Planning Department. Going forward, Ginger Hausser will serve as the Mayor's Office representative on the HPC. Angie Hubbard and Hannah Davis may also attend HPC meetings.</p> <p>Ginger also provided an update that Nashville has been invited by HUD to participate in House America initiative. This initiative urges cities to announce housing goals from September 2021 to December 2022, then communicate progress toward and, eventually, achievement of these goals. By participating, HUD technical assistance is granted to the city to help with the goal-setting and reporting. The mayor will be deciding if Nashville will participate. The council asks that council input be considered in setting and communicating the goals.</p> <p>Ginger also shared that schematics have been issued for the city's new construction affordable housing building, and she will share these schematics with the council.</p> <p>A request was made for the mayor to attend a future HPC meeting and provide his personal vision for addressing homelessness in Nashville.</p>	
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<p>VIII. DECEMBER 20TH, 2021 CHARRETTE UPDATE</p>	<p>► Vice Mayor Shulman provided an update from the charrette held on 12/20/21. The bulk of the meeting was used for breakout groups to provide input to MHID for addressing outdoor homelessness. He also provided an overview of the letter issued to him from the</p>	
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	<p>Mayor in December, urging him to bring input the charrette meetings to the HPC. He also shared a response he wrote to the Mayor, urging regularly scheduled meetings between the chair of the HPC and the Mayor, adequate authority and funding to the HPC, and changes to the cold weather shelter to have it open at 32 degrees rather than 28 degrees.</p> <p>Laura Bermudez, HPC council chair, committed that she will circulate to the HPC the charrette handouts and the letters between the Mayor and Vice Mayor.</p>	
<p>IX. EXTREME WEATHER SHELTER</p>	<p>► An update was provided by Cathy Jennings (The Contributor) and shared by Laura Bermudez asking the HPC to support a request to the Mayor to change the criteria for opening the shelter to 32 degrees from 28, and to allocate associated needed funding.</p> <p>A request was made to get an update from the Mayor’s office about these suggested changes to the operation of the shelter as well as changing it to a permanent overflow or extreme weather shelter for conditions other than cold weather.</p>	<p>No vote was taken due to lack of quorum.</p>
<p>X. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE POSITION AND NOMINATING DISCUSSION FOR 2 OPEN SEATS ON THE COUNCIL</p>	<p>► An election to the two open seats for the HPC will occur at the CoC General Membership meeting next Thursday 1/20/22.</p> <p>Travis Claybrooks has been nominated to the Executive Committee. Other nominations are sought.</p>	<p>No vote was taken due to lack of quorum.</p>
<p>XI. OTHER BUSINESS</p>	<p>► Laura Bermudez shared that the RFP process is under way to hire a consultant to help revise the HPC’s strategic plan. The goal for a draft plan is March 2022. Freddie O’Connell shared that funding was approved in a recent Metro council meeting to help create a strategic plan addressing homelessness.</p> <p>Laura Bermudez reminded everyone to note the three channels by which public comments to the HPC may be submitted.</p> <p>A request was made that it be discussed at the next meeting that these council meetings be extended to two hours.</p> <p>A request was made that the HPC is owed an update from the Mayor’s Office regarding their study that the HPC was asked to support, as an alternative to the bill proposed by</p>	

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	Freddie O'Connell in previous months.	
XII. ADJOURNMENT	▶ Adjourned at 10:08 a.m.	NEXT MEETING: February 9, 2022

***We define racism as racial prejudice plus the misuse of power by systems and institutions (misuse can be intentional or unintentional). We are mindful of the racial inequities across housing, economic mobility, health care, criminal justice, and other systems. These all contribute to racial inequities in homelessness. I pledge to stay mindful of the power and privilege that I bring into every space that I enter and conversation that I have. I pledge to actively and intentionally practice antiracism when participating in the Homelessness Planning Council and all Committees in the CoC, representing this committee and the CoC in the community, and in talking about homelessness and housing issues in Nashville.**

****There are three channels available for submitting comments to the HPC:**

- **Email address** NashvilleHomelessCouncil@gmail.com
- **Hub.nashville.gov** website (https://hub.nashville.gov/s/?language=en_US), there is a choice under Social Services & Housing called "Public Comment for the CoC Homelessness Planning Council."
- **Suggestion box** located at the downtown branch of the Nashville Public Library, on the third floor in the Reference Library section.