

~~DRAFT-FINAL~~ MINUTES
Housing and Human Services Advisory Board
Thursday September 8, 2022
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

This will be a digital meeting. Members of the public may participate electronically in the meeting or by telephone. Call in number 877 853 5247 (Toll Free)

Zoom link: <https://a2gov.zoom.us/j/96244385707?pwd=MmpjWVhqczNJQmpuQnZCU2JGa3A2UT09>

Passcode: 934493

Members Present: A. Foster, Skylar Woodman, Linh Song, Sharif Krabti, Jean Leverich, Paul Sher, Anna Erickson, Amanda Carlisle, James Daniel, Karen Wanza, Jean Leverich, Brenna McMahon, Travis Radina (joined at 6:59)

Members Absent: Emily Canosa, Ella Hall, David Blanchard, Mary McMahon

Staff Present: Teresa Gillotti, Nathan Voght, Jennifer Hall, Morghan Boydston, Tara Cohen

I. Convene Meeting:

A.Foster, member, convened meeting at 6:35 PM.

II. Introductions as Needed

Anna Foster, co-chair, Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County

David Blanchard, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Skylar Woodman, co-chair, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Linh Song, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Teresa Gillotti, OCED, Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County

Nathan Voght, OCED, Livingston County

[Tara Cohen, OCED, Ypsilanti, Washtenaw County](#)

[Morghan Boydston, OCED, Detroit, Wayne County](#)

Karen Wanza, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Sharif Krabti, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Mary McMahon, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Jean Leverich,

Paul Sher, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Anna Erickson, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

Travis Radina, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

James Downing, Ann Arbor, Washtenaw County

III. Public Comment

- ☐ James Downing: attended learning session before

IV. Approval of Agenda

Moved by Paul Sher, seconded by Jean Leverich. Motion passed unanimously

V. Approval of Minutes for July 14, 2022

Anna Hart Erickson, "Police Chief" named in Boston, not policy commissioner.

Moved by Anna Erickson, Seconded by Sharif Krabti, to approve the minutes with the correction. Motion passed unanimously

VI. Business/Update

Business

a) New Human Services Partnership Update:

Morghan Boydston, Wash. Co. OCED presented on the New Human Services Partnership

Questions about discrepancies with the due date on the website, and what "COFU" stands for.

J. Leverich asked why can't applicants have received funding previously? M. Boydston said applicants can have received funding, but majority of previous would not be eligible anyway.

P. Sher asked for information on the disruption to the social service agencies? How much have you all looked at that. And, how will you measure racism and equity issues? M. Boydston responded the funding is over next 5 years, and not sure how often people may re-apply. She will use the evaluators to assist with how these will address the issues. We expect this to be a long game. Outcomes won't be immediate.

M. Boydston continued that there is a huge impact with a systems change to the organizations, and OCED acknowledges that. But we want to see change, want to see the root causes addressed.

L. Song appreciates school lunches example of systemic insecurities. She is concerned that we are still in a pandemic, and we can all agree working toward racial equity and justice are worthy. Cost of providing services and labor are increasing, so she is concerned that we are trying to achieve all this locally with less resources.

J. Hall has same concerns as L. Song, that the conversation is about agency, and not the people. The goals are good, but it's so much bigger and so much more money needed to address major ~~institutional~~ problems, yet we're talking about local people that don't have food or housing. Given recent ARPA funding reviewed by the County last night, she's asking what are we going to do about the real loss of services to real human beings that need, services, housing and food? Where do we send people? She needs support services for the people that the housing commission helps.

T. Gillotti responded that COFU had between 4-5M per year for operating grants, and there's much less in the new funding, so fewer awards. Can we provide more funding within this model?

A. Erickson had a question on evaluation. The Opportunity Index is one measure to evaluate effectiveness of funding, but how will we know if one organization is having that impact, vs. the other? She would like to hear from the organizations about how we should evaluate.

Further board discussion on new funding model and concerns about serving those in most immediate need.

Question on funding per year, T. Gillotti stated it's generally \$2.5M per year.

Question how organizations are being supported within this transition to new funding. T. Gillotti incorporated various comments from last summer into the framework.

Mini Grants close on Sept. 23rd, for \$40,000, but other grants are up to \$250K for five years.

b) **Changes to Coordinated Entry in Homeless System of Care** (Teresa Gillotti)

~~HAWK-HAWC~~ was the coordinated system for entry into care. But with a change in their phone system, there were some challenges with a big delay in the turnover. OCED helped out at that time, and then decided to disengage with them, and followed up with MSHDA, and it was a difficult transition. They've had some community sessions for feedback, but this is also an opportunity. What is the standard we want? 12 hour service, vs. 9 to 5.

RFP will be released next week, with one agency with satellites in some locations for referrals.

P. Sher upset to learn about this in the paper. How can we address larger issues if we can't get single point of entry right? It seems like there's a way forward, but will this work?

Further Board discussion on challenges with single point of entry system.

Zackariah Farah joined the meeting and was promoted to Panelist.

A. Foster asked why the Count wouldn't take on these services permanently. T. Gillotti said we don't have staffing or the expertise.

c) Proposed changes to City Ordinance – Payment in Lieu of Taxes

This presentation was postponed to a future meeting.

d) By-Laws – Reaffirmation so we can send to Council

Board skipped to this item, as Teresa dropped.

J. Hall clarified anything under \$25,000 from the Trust Fund they had to review, but City did change it's requirements for 3 quotes for between \$25k and \$75K, but could still be approved by this Board. But Board still needs to review requests \$25K and under.

T. Gillotti rejoined the meeting. She said they can add back in the By Laws that the Board still review Trust Fund applications under \$25K.

Move by Sharif Krabti (2nd Jean Leverich) to approve the By-Laws.

J. Leverich asked why someone living with assisted living can't serve on the Board.

T. Gillotti thinks maybe this could change. J. Hall commented this could be a conflict, but maybe they could recuse themselves from the vote.

The Board agreed to remove Ethics Item #4, Pg 13. The motion carried with that change.

e) Presentation – Affordable Housing/Millage Fund Policy (Teresa Gillotti and Jennifer Hall)

This presentation was postponed to a future meeting.

Updates

f) Affordable Housing Fund Balance (Teresa Gillotti)

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

g) Renters' Commission Liaison report (Karen Wanza and Sharif-Ahmed Krabti)

Zackariah Farah is the Chair of the Renters' Commission, and updated the Board on the Ordinance is being developed. Right to Renew Ordinance being developed, to fix loopholes to fix last year's ordinance.

Z. Farah presented on the Renters' Commission and why it was established. Renters sometimes not allowed to renew their apartments, which leads to lack of stability. He presented the details of the proposed ordinance, and the protections afforded renters.

J. Leverich asked questions about certain scenarios.

Councilmember Radina discussed certain provisions in the ordinance related to Cause. Sudden increases in rent a concern. Z. Farah discussed state laws related to rent control and how much a landlord can raise rent.

The Board discussed ways landlords may try to get around requirements.

T. Gillotti talked about approval timing at Council, and they should weigh in now, as it may get sent to Council prior to next meeting.

Motion by K. Wanza (2nd S. Krabti) to approve Resolution, and the motion passed unanimously.

Whereas the renters commission has been working closely with University of Michigan GAO Graduate Employee Organization (GEO), ~~and~~ area housing providers and heard of issues from renters related to leasing, renewals, and rent increases

Whereas we understand changes specific to affordable housing providers with local, state and federal restrictions are forthcoming to the Ordinance.

Resolve HHSAB supports adoption of the Right to renew ordinance as jointly approved by renters' commission with expected changes as presented by the Renters Commission in coordination with the City's legal team.

VII. City Council Member Update

T. Radina and L. Song discussed things they are working on, DTE energy, and utilities.

VIII. General Updates

Saturday Black Asian event in Pittsfield Township at Montpellier Park from 1 to 5 pm.

IX. Public Comment

None

X. Adjournment

Sharif Krabti Moved to adjourn at 9:05, 2nd Jean Leverich, and the motion passed unanimously

h) New Human Services Partnership update (Teresa Gillotti)

The Request for Proposals were due on April 25, 2022 and we received 34 submissions. Thirty-one (31) were eligible for review with total requests over \$8 million.

- 10 applications in Emergency Food System
- 9 applications in Housing and Homelessness
- 8 applications in Health and Basic Medical Needs
- 4 applications in Childcare

Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners reviewed the recommendations at their June 1 meeting and approved the following actions

- Approved the Tier 1 recommendations (7 agencies)
- Increased overall funding into the New Human Services Partnership
 - A structural increase of \$192,529 from 1,015,000 to \$1,207,529
 - 6-month extension grants for all previous COFU grantees not funded through the Tier 1 Recommendation.
- The 6-month extensions total \$1,519,311.50
Mini-grant funding round expected to open in August.

VII. City Council Member Update

- Linh shared that she and Travis will be on the policy committee
- Travis shared that the police chief was recently named to as the Policy Commissioner in Boston, and will be going back home
- Linh shared that the city is in the hiring process for a DEI officer
- Linh noted that the Black Lives Matter mural will be in Gallup and Wheeler Park – with a workday coming up on the weekend.

VIII. General Updates

- None

IX. Public Comment

- None

X. Adjournment

The meeting closed at 8:55 pm

