

# Minutes

## Community Supports Sub-Committee

October 4, 2016

5:00 PM

9th Floor Council Committee Room

**Type of meeting:**

Joint Sub-committee Community Supports & Housing

**Members Present:**

Paul Hopkins, Melissa Beery, John Schoeppner, Nancy Jo Archer, Laura Tuzinowski, Ann Waldorf, Verner Westerberg, Kathy Finch, Robin Connell, Marcia Harris, Mika Tari (TA), Nicole Taylor (staff)

**Members Excused:**

Ann Waldorf

**Resource Persons Present:**

Margarita Chavez (BernCo)

**Call to Order**

Paul Hopkins called the meeting at 5:05 p.m.

**Discussion to Approve Agenda**

Agenda approved.

**Discussion to Approve Minutes**

Minutes from 9/14/16 approved.

**Key Items of Discussion**

- Kathy F. and Robert Bade gave an update on the ABCGC meeting from 9/29. (Sub-committee members were asked to attend this meeting and future meetings.)
- Margarita Chavez presented the single site supportive housing model.
- Q & As on proposal included:
  - How does the Community Connections program relate to this proposal?
  - What is the source of population to be housed?
  - What is the level of case management to be provided?
  - Who is appropriate to be housed in a single site model? (Mika T. proposed that some high needs individuals do well in scattered sites with periodic assistance)
  - Mike Robertson stated that both single site with 24/7 supervision and scattered sites with supports would receive intensive case management
  - Clarification that no single site model is currently in existence in the community for individuals with either mental health or behavioral health issues

- Vernon asked if this proposal will use a population or individual base unit of analysis – for example, will the length of a time that an individual is part of the program be determined on the individual case or on fixed pre-determined parameters?
- Lisa Huval stated that HUD funds permanent supportive housing through the Continuum of Care (CoC) and “housing stability” definition has been expanded to include analysis of how the program is helping the individual participant.
- Mike Robertson stated that housing should be fluid based on individual needs, but using a recovery model: moving up and out but with the ability to return, if necessary.
- An effective permanent supportive housing program should allow an individual to move out when ready.
- Several members commented about “Linkages”, the State funded program which allows for a discharge discussion upon intake. One of its goals is to move clients to Section 8 housing. “Linkages” serves severe mentally ill who can stay in the program as long as they need. State funding for “Linkages” has been reduced.
- Clarification that Section 8 has a long waiting list.
- What data is available to identify the need? How can data from UNMISR be obtained?
- How can we most effectively assist the most number of people?
- Paul asked for a middle ground between being a “rubber stamp” to County projects and being a proposal writing team; most effective for County staff to write the proposal and the committees to review the proposal and provide feedback.
- Paul asked for proposal to include census/population data; outcomes data that already exists on effectiveness; greater clarity on decision-making process on identifying who is most appropriate for single vs. scattered site model.
- Robert and Verner added that the proposal should include the option of a single site be made up of multiple sites; the target population will define the type of services (what is the admission criteria); best practices from around the country; options for re-entry; differences between scattered and single sites.
- Clarification that this will be a unique site, not currently available.
- Request was made to have folks who work with clients and supportive housing providers and know what is effective and what is not effective present at next meeting.
- Question was posed as to why is the site being identified (\$2 million from City) before the program parameters are constructed.
- Public comments included:
  - A criticism that the makeup of the subcommittees does not represent ethnic and cultural community of the South Valley; criticism of language being used to identify clients (for example, “those people”)
  - Request made to include the homeless community (some of which make up the “tent city” group) in the target population
- John S. asked to see the “big picture”. Margarita responded that the task force is working on the “big picture”
- Questions regarding the RFP process and who from the subcommittees would be involved in the process.
- After two groups separated into their respective subcommittees, Paul asked the Community Supports members how they felt about the process and some suggested that it seems rushed.

- A request was made for the clarification of the purpose of the County tax money.
- Suggestion was made to have meetings scheduled throughout the City so that more community involvement could be achieved.

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**Next Meeting and Adjourn**

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Next meeting October 12, 2016 at 4:30 p.m. at the Domenici Hall. Paul adjourned the meeting at 6:32 p.m.

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