Homeless Coordinating Council  
Virtual Meeting Via Zoom Video Conference  
Tuesday, November 10, 2020, 9:45 a.m. - 11:00 a.m.

Chair, Mayor Tim Keller, City of Albuquerque  
Vice-Chair, County Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty, Bernalillo County

City Council President Pat Davis, City of Albuquerque  
City Councilor Isaac Benton, City of Albuquerque  
County Commissioner Debbie O’Malley, Bernalillo County  
County Manager Julie Morgas Baca, Bernalillo County  
President Garnett S. Stokes, The University of New Mexico  
Dr. Michael Richards, The University of New Mexico

Zoom Information:
Please click the link below to join the webinar:  
https://cabq.zoom.us/j/91862122122?pwd=dFp0UnhuMExKQnNiRVNbA4Ry9yQT09
Passcode: 473061  
Webinar ID: 918 6212 2122

MEETING MINUTES
Introductions and Announcements
A. Introductions/Designees

Mayor Tim Keller, Chair of the HCC, called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. A quorum of members was present.

The following voting members were present: Mayor Tim Keller (CABQ), Councilor Isaac Benton (CABQ), Councilor Pat Davis (CABQ), County Manager Julie Morgas Baca (BernCo), and, Mike Richards (UNM), Commissioner Debbie O’Malley (BernCo), President Garnett Stokes (UNM), Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty (BernCo)

Voting Members not present: n/a
Other individuals present (on Zoom): Lawrence Rael (CABQ), Enrico Grade (BernCo), Betty Valdez (BernCo), Carol Pierce (CABQ), David Parkinson (CABQ), Debra Bazan (CABQ), Jim Collie (BernCo), Lisa Huval (CABQ), Quinn Donnay (CABQ), Margarita Chavez (BernCo), Peter Dan Rice, Rodney McNease (UNM), Xochitl Campos Biggs (CABQ) William Hoffman, Douglas Chaplin (CABQ), Brie Sillery, Jennifer Scacco (BernCo), Marit Tully, Tina Kachele, Tom Neale (UNM), Alicia Manzano (CABQ), Bobby Sisneros (CABQ), Felice Garcia, Jessica Dyer, Laura Norman Prescott, Doreen McKnight, Ilse Biel, David Silverman, Joe Noriega, Ralph DiPalma, Abq Friends, Heather Hoffman, Thaddeus Lucero, Meredith Dixon, Nicole Taylor, David, Robyn Hill, Kelly Sanchez, Doug Simon, Chris Baca, Douglas Heller, NMCEH, xxx-1711,

Acknowledgment of Designees: Charlie Verploegh (BernCo), Designee for Commissioner Charlene Pyskoty

B. Agenda

No modifications to the agenda.

Public Comment:

A. Written comments:

Written comments were received from Mark Burton and were shared with the HCC for review. Mr. Burton’s written comments were accompanied with three attachments (plan.pdf, Albuquerque-food-and-agriculture-action-plan.pdf, and Singing Arrow Clean-up.pdf)

B. Live Questions/Comments: The following online requests for public comment were received: Ralph DiPalma, not present for public comment, however Mr. DiPalma provided a written comment that was shared with the HCC for review; Tina Kachele, present for public comment; and Ilse Biel, present for public comment.

Approval of October 27th Meeting Minutes

A. Handout: October 27th Draft Minutes

Julie Morgas Baca, County Manager, moved to approve the minutes and Vice Chair, Charlene Pyskoty, BernCo. Commissioner, seconded the motion. There were no objections to the draft minutes and they were so approved.

At the request of Mayor Keller, Carol Pierce, FCS Director provided an update on WEHC and other locations being utilized for emergency shelter. The WEHC remains open 24-7, there are isolation areas, COVID safe practices are being followed and hot meals are being served. In addition to the services at the WEHC, FCS has set up four hotels with the anticipation of a fifth hotel coming online with the help of the County. Two of the hotels are for COVID positive individuals without homes who need to isolate.
The other two hotels are for COVID negative individuals without homes who are either older, vulnerable and with chronic health conditions. Families with children are also included in the hotel. The fifth hotel with the County’s support, will be utilized for first responders/essential workers. Ms. Pierce identified gaps in the system which included: 1) COVID positive people with high medical acuity, in particular, people who are coming out of hospitals with medical problems who do not have homes. The medical staff at the COVID hotels are not equipped to manage this need. 2) COVID positive people discharged from a hospital who cannot go home because they live in a congregate setting or a home with someone who is medically fragile etc. 3) COVID positive people with severe behavioral health or substance use problems. County Manager Morgas Baca mentioned the value of the partnership between the City and County and working together as one community to open up and help staff the fifth hotel.

Presentation: Crisis Triage Center (Bernalillo County/UNM)

County Manager, Morgas Baca began by thanking UNM for providing the property needed for the Crisis Triage Center (CTC) located at 2600 Marble NE. The County and UNM will each contribute $20M capital funding toward the project. It was less clear about the total operating funds for the project. This will allow for a federally regulated maximum of a 16-bed stabilization unit serving both men and women 18 years or older. The facility will serve those with a mental health diagnosis who do not meet the criteria for psychiatric acute inpatient placement but need continued support or for those who are stepping down from psychiatric acute inpatient care. Rodney McNease with UNM provided input pertaining to the question raised by Ms. Pierce on the need for services to keep those with drug induced psychosis out of the emergency rooms. Mr. McNease stated that the CTC is one part of a whole continuum of care and all the work between the City, UNM, and Bernalillo County over the last few years to develop this continuum of care in Albuquerque. The CTC is another tool to address the needs of the community. The stabilization unit at the Bernalillo County Care Campus will continue to operate and the two facilities would be working in tandem. This new pathway will fill an important gap that currently exists in the system. For the people with drug induced psychosis, they can be admitted to the psychiatric center at UNM and essentially transition to the CTC depending on their acuity level. There is an anticipated timeframe of two to two and a half years to open the facility.

Discussion: Committee Updates

A. Facilities/Gateway Committee: The Committee met last week which included additional work to add more details pertaining to facilities to ensure that we have a stronger coordination with all providers, to look at impacts of the facilities to the communities and continue to look at alternatives, to not just shelter spaces but also looking at other encampment conversations as we move forward. These minor changes to the framework will be made and go out as part of the survey/community feedback form
for input. The committee is also in the process of conducting an environmental review of the Gibson facility which will give a better understanding of the site and operational/mechanical systems. The committee is also identifying various available sites north of Lomas.

B. Services Committee: This Committee is moving forward by highlighting the work further on the need for a continuum of services including detox for substance use for both youth (14-18) and adults. The true need for behavioral health crisis triage which is a great addition to our community through UNM and the County.

C. Outreach Committee: This Committee has identified four high level strategies in the framework and have been working hard to develop them and making terrific progress. The committee identified the need for a coordinator to meet the needs of the providers to ensure the hard work being done continues to happen. Another high-level strategy, the Coordinated Street Outreach Agreement continues to be revisited and revised as there will never be one approach to coordinated street outreach as there is a need to constantly adapt as the services offered may change. The committee agreed that agreement needs to be updated biannually.

Discussion: Community/Neighborhood Outreach and Framework

Alicia Manzano provided an update on what is being done to garner community input pertaining the framework document that has been approved by the HCC. There will be a survey/community feedback form, via SurveyMonkey, posted to the HCC website that will also be promoted through social media, through an e-letter to the community and promoted through the UNM and Bernalillo County networks as well. This will give the community several avenues to provide input to the work of the HCC and the framework document.

Discussion: Presentation at ABCGC, Nov. 19th 5 p.m.

Mayor Keller mentioned the request to present to the ABCGC on November 19 to provide an update to on the work of the HCC. Carol Pierce has agreed to report and asked UNM and Bernalillo County to co-present with her. Both entities agreed to present on the topic.

Summary of Next Action Steps

The council adjourned at 11:02am.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, Nov. 24th, 2020 9:45 am-11:00 a.m.