

Task Force on Shelter Meeting Minutes
Monday, October 18, 2021; 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
Meeting held via Go To Webinar

Welcome and Roll Call

Members Present: Andrea Simonett, Minnesota Department of Human Resources (DHS); Ariana Daniel, Servants of Shelter-International Falls; Blair Harrison, Minnesota Department of Health (MDH); David Hewitt, Hennepin County; Judy Moe, Richfield Disability Advocacy; July Vang, public member; Kate Erickson, Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC); Kevin Formo, public member; Kim Norton, City of Rochester; Kristin Frye, Freedom from the Streets; Laura Birnbaum, St. Louis County; Lauren Ryan, Minnesota Department of Public Safety (DPS); Mary Riegert, Minnesota Tribal Collaborative; Paul Williams, Minnesota Department of Veterans Affairs (MDVA); Reed Olson, Nameless Coalition-Bemidji; Rinal Ray, People Serving People-Minneapolis; Ron Elwood, Legal Services Advocacy Project; Sam Juneau, Minnesota Department of Transportation (MnDOT); Sam Smith, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI); Sherry Shannon, public member; Tamara Stark, Tubman; Tyra Thomas, Street Voices of Change

Guests Present: Kristina Krull (DHS); Cathy ten Broeke, and Sue Hite-Kirk, Minnesota Interagency Council on Homelessness (MICH); Kristen Allord, Allison Alstrin, Kate Bradley, Sarah Busch, Amber Hanson, Jillian Nelson, Katelyn Warburton, Ben Weiss, Lindalee Soderstrom, Matt Traynor, Mary Baumgartner, Anita Clark, Amber Gale, Sandy Hennem, Harold Johnson, Alexis Kramer, Kim Lieberman, Sara Liegl, Joan Miltenberger, Melody Morrow, Joe Nathan, Monica Nilsson, Ethan Osten, Chelsea Rackliffe, Tytiana Reid, Lisa Rolle, Karina Schmitz, Sue Watlov Phillips, LaTonya Whitley, Zara Wolfe and La Shella Sims (members of the public)

Note: Guests on the phone were not identified

Agenda Review

- Kristina Krull facilitated the meeting as the Chair was not available.
- No other changes were made to the agenda

Small Orders of Business

- As requested last time, we aren't recording the meetings anymore. Instead Sue from the Interagency Council on Homelessness is taking minutes. The process is that Sue has one week after the meeting to prepare draft minutes and then Julie and Kristina have a week to finalize. Minutes will then be posted to the website.
- We're requesting members of the public not record this meeting but realize we can't stop you. This is a request from some of our members who have experienced homelessness and are concerned about their safety.

- If Ashley isn't here today, she will have missed three meetings. Julie is required to notify the MICH Director, who can remove Ashley from the position and refill the appointment with someone else.
 - **Julie will proceed with notifying Ashley that she has missed three meetings. Cathy ten Broeke, MICH Director, will remove Ashley and reappoint another member**

Values

The process for obtaining input was explained by subgroup member Laura Birnbaum. Kristina shared screen for list of eight values. There was discussion by all. The chat comments will become a part of the file for this meeting. The revised document will be provided electronically to all members.

Questions/Comments:

- Challenge for the group will be to deliver across the values, especially for the first three
- What about accessibility, meaning making sure all participants can access everything in relation to the group; language added to #7. Equity and #8 Responsibility
- Thanks to the subgroup who worked on these

Consensus: Values were accepted

Tribal Government Representation

One of the concerns raised in the appointment process was the absence of a designated seat for tribal government that's parallel to the city/county/state government seats. We looked into options for remedying that and we didn't find any options besides a legislative change. Given that, how would the task force like to proceed in making sure the voice of tribal government isn't lost in this process?

Questions/Comments:

- All would like to appoint an ex-officio member from Tribal Government if appropriate
- Acknowledge oversight of not having tribal representation
- David/Laura are willing to share a co-county appointment in order to have Tribal Government representation
- Mary did have conversation with MICH staff; tribal shelters will look much different than state shelters and need to make their own decisions from one tribal nation to another
- How would this look with all tribal nations and/or state tribal liaisons
- Our recommendations for the state should consider tribal nations
- Actional strategy to be culturally proactive

Next Step: Kristina will have a conversation with MICH regarding next steps, if any, to remedy given legislative restrictions; not likely able to add a member to this Task Force.

Work Planning

Kristina thanked all who contributed ideas for work planning. Ideas were organized into 5 topics to look into further. It was suggested that members break into three subgroups to focus on three topics for the next couple months: About Shelters, Current Shelter Oversight, and Current Shelter Policies. Since this is somewhat regional, we're proposing a Hennepin-

Ramsey group, a suburban Twin Cities group, and a Greater MN group. Each group would look into these questions for those areas, collect and summarize information, and then provide Kristina with your information by December 6. In December and January we can plan to conduct stakeholder engagement to learn other things.

Funding is something that feels a little premature to discuss without having any recommendations developed. Historical context is something Julie and I will be working on separately.

There was much discussion about dividing geographically vs. by topics. The chat comments will become a part of the file for this meeting.

Questions/Comments:

- State and County could share information for all so that work isn't redundant; although may not be consistent via all counties; what are the standards across all? What would definition of standards mean?
- Baseline information is the goal; prioritize speed and simplicity; don't just focus on what is but what could be; everyone do what they can now, consolidate information; then find out where the gaps are
- For those who do not have a lot of information about these topics, do the best you can
- Kristina updated word doc shared with all during meeting

Consensus: Members will work individually on what they know about all three topics.

Next Step: Submit information on Google Docs or email Kristina. She will provide email instructions and due date.

Stakeholder Engagement Preliminary Work

Preliminary conversations about what sort of stakeholder engagement efforts are being envisioned so that planning can begin. Kristina shared stakeholder table and added to the document as suggestions were made to the following questions:

- Who's missing from the table?
- What methods would you like to suggest we consider for stakeholder engagement moving forward?

Questions/Comments:

- Stipend for stakeholder engagement; Kristina to check with MICH staff
- Gather our information first and then determine what is missing
- Go to existing groups at existing meetings; use multiple methodologies for input

Next Step: Kristina will share documents.

Close Out and Next Steps

- Next Meeting: November 15, 2021; 1:30-3:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.