

West Central Homeless Coalition
May 16, 2023 Minutes – Approved on July 18, 2023
1:00 – 3:00 PM – Hybrid in-person & TEAMS Meeting
Chippewa County Courthouse

Members in Attendance:

| | A | Representative Name | Organization |
|----|---|---------------------|--|
| 1 | P | Erica Schoch | West CAP |
| 2 | V | Amy Berg | Turningpoint |
| 3 | P | Angela Friend | Center for Veterans Issues |
| 4 | V | Jamie Dardine | The Bridge to Hope |
| 5 | | Vacant | Benjamin's House |
| 6 | P | Heidi Hooten | Stepping Stones of Dunn County |
| 7 | V | Jennifer Barrett | L.E. Phillips CDC Outreach Office |
| 8 | | Duana Bremer | The Salvation Army, Grace Place, The Family House |
| 9 | V | Kelly Christianson | United Way of the Greater Chippewa Valley |
| 10 | V | Virginia Ormsby | Northwoods Homeless Shelters |
| 11 | | Cheri Moats | Community Referral Agency |
| 12 | | Alyssa Wichmann | Individual |
| 13 | | Brianne Berres | Catholic Charities of the Diocese of La Crosse, Inc. |
| 14 | P | Karla Peterson | Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs |
| 15 | | Jeni Haddad | Family Support Center |
| 16 | V | Casey Levrich | Department of Veterans Affairs |
| 17 | P | Nancy Kraft | Workforce Resource, Inc. |
| 18 | | Jessica Oleson-Bue | Chippewa County Housing Authority |
| 19 | P | Sarah Weltzien | Great Rivers 2-1-1 (Sarah replaced Carla on 2-21-23) |
| 20 | | Deanna Kloster | UnitedHealthcare |
| 21 | | Deanna Arntson | Inclusa |
| 22 | V | Missy Jerome | Embrace Services |

“V” = Virtual and “P” = in person

Guests in attendance:

- V - Cassandra Robinson – NHS Wisconsin
- V - Jennifer Allen – Balance of State
- V – Dan Zabrowski – Workforce Resource
- V – Hayley Sirinek
- V – Caitlin Weeks
- P – Leigh Polodna – Balance of State
- P – Angela Maloney - Legacy Center

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- Welcome and meeting called to order at 1:00 PM by President Erica Schoch
- Approval of April 18, 2023 Meeting Minutes
 - Motion by Nancy Kraft, Cheri Moats, Second – motion passed
- Coordinated Entry Update –
 - Cait Weeks – 211 will be sending referrals for Chippewa and Dunn County for coordinated entry. Working on a new VI-SPDAT that is less intrusive for the client.
- Youth Homelessness Intervention Grant Update –
 - Kelly Christianson reports Western Dairyland is up and running with a new System Navigator and two case managers. Fully staffed. Their YAB is up and going but still looking for members. They hosted a meet & greet that went well and will host another on August 14th 2:30 – 4:00.
 - Nancy Kraft commented that she forwarded the Meet & Greet information to Workforce Resource staff/ CEO and it was well-received. She reminded the coalition that there is a MOU between her agency and the youth demonstration project and that staff from the YHDP need to make referrals to her agency for training/employment-related needs. Kelly will pass this message along.
 - Leigh reported (in Duana’s absence) that Salvation Army has rented four houses for transitional housing and are noticing RRH is needed more. They hired a housing navigator.
- Vote for new Officers
 - President Schoch explained the process and officer roles. She asked for nominations for any of the officer seats for which none were made. Tim M. reported there were none emailed to him.
 - President Schoch offered to continue as chair. Nominated by Nancy K and seconded by Angela Friend. President Schoch asked for other nominations. There were no other nominations after the motion.
 - Heidi Hooten is unable to continue as vice chair due to their new shelter construction. President Schoch asked for new nominations. There were no new nominations, so Ms. Hooten agreed to continue as Vice-Chair.
 - President Schoch asked for nominations for Secretary, and none were offered. In the absence of nominations, Tim Mather agreed to stay on as Secretary.
 - Nancy Kraft made a motion to cast a unanimous ballot for all officers that agreed to run again (President Schoch, Vice-Chair Hooten, and Secretary Mather). Cheri Moats seconded the motion. Discussion followed with no opposition. Motion passed.
 - The delegate was defined as the chair in subsequent discussion per the Charter and thus no vote for that role.
 - Discussion regarding current charter reads that the three current officers will not be able to serve another term after the upcoming one-year term expires.
- Charter Revision
 - President Schoch suggested a bi-monthly meeting schedule along with the formation of an Action Plan Committee to monitor and progress the Action Plan. Angela Friend

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suggested the committee meet bi-monthly on the months the Coalition is off and if this arrangement does not work, we would resume monthly meetings. Leigh would like to see full coalition engagement on this committee, not just West CAP. Nancy Kraft, Angela Maloney, Caitlyn Weeks, and Dan Zabrowski (Workforce Resource) offered to participate on the committee. President Schoch will participate as well.

- Discussion about the alignment of officer elections and the coalition director. The Director election should occur during the regular Coalition September meeting (or earlier) and electronically as needed.
- President Schoch made a motion to (1) begin bi-monthly meetings in July (skipping the June meeting) and (2) formation of the Action Plan Committee. Heidi Hooten seconded the motion. No opposition, motion passed. The next regular coalition meeting will be July 18, 2023. President Schoch will email the committee members to arrange.
- No other comments or motions on the charter revision.
- **New/Old Business –**
 - Erica announced the ESG grant deadline has been extended. She announced the results of the email vote for lead agency was unanimous to keep West CAP as the lead agency. President Schoch made a motion to retain West CAP as the lead agency, Nancy Kraft Seconded the motion. No opposition, motion passed.
 - Grant application extended to June 30th.
 - President Schoch shared the proposed allocation/admin/partner operations amounts for ESG and HPP. A Doodle poll will follow to all agency partners for additional information for the application.
- **Announcements –**
 - Leigh reminded Housing Assistance Program (HAP) applications are due May 22nd, Erica clarified that received an email today that this application was pushed back to June 16th. Any agency may participate if their project aligns with DEHCR requirements. Questions, contact Leigh.
 - Leigh reported BoS meeting link is on their website.
 - Nancy Kraft announced Workforce Resource submitted a transitional jobs grant, which now included Eau Claire County. Four-year grant with possible four-year extension. They also submitted for a five-year food share, employment, and training grant with many opportunities for supportive services. They are also looking to expand their service area for independent living for youth aging out of foster care program.
 - Kelly Christiansen provided a link to the new *ALICE* report which covers 2021 data and includes a national COVID report/trends, a Wisconsin report (*ALICE* in the Crosscurrents). *ALICE* in Focus reports (three total) are also included in the Chippewa Valley United Way website dashboard. Kelly shared that 87% of single-parent households in Chippewa County are below the *ALICE* threshold.
- **Adjourn**

Motion by Heidi Hooten, Second by Nancy Kraft. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 2:06 PM

Respectfully submitted by Tim Mather