

## DRAFT MINUTES

### HCDC Advisory & Recommendation Committee – Homeless Assistance

Friday, May 31, 2019

11:00 a.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> floor Conference Room - Central Permit Facility

500 W. Winchester Road, Libertyville

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#### 1.0 Roll Call

The Housing & Community Development Commission's (HCDC) Homeless Assistance Advisory and Recommendation Committee (ARC) meeting was called to order at 11:01 a.m.

E Mary Cunningham

X Daniel Venturi

X Raymond Rose (10:04)

Guests: Supervisor Diane O'Kelly of Fremont Township; Jonathan Birch and Dustin Calliari of the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP); and Laurie Wilhoit of the HCDC

Staff: Jodi Gingiss, Brenda O'Connell, Eric Foote, Dominic Strezo, Irene Marsh-Elmer, Daniel Kletzing and Laura Walley

Jodi Gingiss, County Development Administrator, thanked the new HCDC member, Laurie Wilhoit, for attending the meeting and asked her to introduce herself. Ms. Wilhoit stated that she'd lived in Lake Zurich for 23 years, where she was on the board of the Chamber of Commerce and now provides social media and marketing services for the Village of Long Grove's downtown. She is the president of a non-profit which works with the homeless. Introductions were made around the table, including the two consultants from the Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning (CMAP), who are present to provide information and technical assistance on the strategies that staff is developing for the new Five-year Consolidated Plan, which may align with and support implementation of CMAP's regional plan, On To 2050.

#### 2.0 Approval of Minutes

2.1 Approval of November 16, 2018 minutes

**Motion:** To approve the November 16, 2018 minutes.

**Motion Made By:** Daniel Venturi

**Motion 2nd By:** Ray Rose

**Motion approved**

#### 3.0 Public Comment (items not on the agenda)

There were no public comments.

#### 4.0 Old Business

There was no old business.

## 5.0 New Business

### 5.1 Discussion: Preparation for 2020 – 2024 Five Year Consolidated Plan for the U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development (HUD)

Jodi Gingiss, Community Development Administrator, informed the ARC that Lake County was awaiting the results of the Corporation for Supportive Housing's (CSH) county-wide homeless needs gap analysis, as the results could influence how funds might be allocated within the County's new Five-year Consolidated Plan (Plan). For the benefit of the newest Housing and Community Development Commission (HCDC) member, Laurie Wilhoit, Jodi provided an overview of the funding sources and players working in this arena. The group responsible for ending homeless in Lake County is the Continuum of Care, which is governed by the Lake County Coalition for the Homeless (Coalition). Lake County Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) funds, approximately \$200,000 annually, are used in concert with the Continuum of Care's funding to maximize homeless services and work toward the goal of ending homelessness. She then mentioned the other federal funds that the HCDC helps to allocate and the possible uses for those funds. The Coalition administers approximately \$2 million yearly in federal funding, which is primarily to be optimized for permanent supportive housing. Those federal funds, from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), are to be used on a Housing First model, to either divert people from homelessness or to quickly get them into housing. Lake County's shelter system is administered by PADS Lake County, with a rotating-site shelter using churches and volunteers, thereby keeping costs low.

Supervisor O'Kelly, of Fremont Township, spoke about recent problems she's encountered with the homelessness system while trying to help house five individuals who had lost their housing. She said that her township had just joined the ServicePoint system, which greatly assisted her in helping her constituents, but she wondered why PADS couldn't accept referrals through ServicePoint. She stated that there was a need to have a list of all of the available resources to facilitate locating assistance for those in crisis. Jodi Gingiss asked Eric Foote, Grant Administration Specialist, to provide an update on PADS accepting referrals in ServicePoint. He said that the idea had been piloted for those coming from the jail, with case managers referring clients whom they knew to be homeless to PADS to be assessed for assistance through the Coordinated Entry System. Talks are ongoing on how to expand this system to help everybody in need and he added that the Coalition is focused toward working on and improving the system. As proof that improvements are ongoing, he stated that Lake County is now one of the few communities in the country that can claim to have reached functional zero for veteran homelessness, as determined by an outside organization. There was further discussion on the homeless shelter system and the Coordinated Entry System.

To begin the conversation about planning for the new Consolidated Plan, Jodi Gingiss asked the ARC members to discuss the possibility of the need for a family shelter with thirty-six beds, focusing on where to locate it. As homeless people are found throughout the county, how would we engage communities to locate a shelter within their jurisdiction? The ARC members discussed possible locations, partnerships, transportation issues, limited resources, NIMBYism and land-use

zoning which all affect the issue of housing the homeless. Jodi stated that the update of the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice will be issued shortly and that it contains information pointing to the fact that zoning has played a role in the lack of affordable housing and in the lack of services options. Jonathan Birch stated that Dustin Calliari and he were attending the meeting to address those concepts that meshed with CMAP's regional plan, On To 2050, and he confirmed that there was no mention of homelessness in the plan. Jonathan stated that the three broad principles of On To 2050 are prioritized investment, resilience and inclusive growth. He tied prioritized investment to Lake County using its limited resources to best address the problem of homelessness; resilience to the ability to build a system that is able to assist those in need; and inclusive growth to all citizens being able to participate in the economic growth of the region. He added that a lot of the recommendations in the CMAP's plan are focused on better linking housing, jobs, workforce development and other resources. He said that this linkage could be applied to a homeless person, as the length of time that the situation continued would make the individual increasingly distanced from the community, therefore it would be advantageous to apply rapid re-housing and supportive services. Jonathan then provided a synopsis of the housing solutions that were discussed during the meeting.

Jodi asked the ARC members and Supervisor O'Kelly to help her interface with one of the faith organizations within their respective areas, so that dialogues could begin and connections could be made towards solving the homelessness issues. She was informed that there is a group of churches in the Mundelein area whose leaders regularly meet and could, therefore, form a foundation to communicate with their members to raise community support. Love, INC. was also suggested as a good group with which to speak. She said that the CSH consultant would provide an initial presentation on the Homeless Needs Gap Analysis at the June 12<sup>th</sup> HCDC meeting. She offered that the new Five-year Plan would likely include a goal focused on maximizing affordable housing and asked that the Commissioners contemplate the composition a goal to address all of the ideas just discussed. Jodi informed the members of the term "Homeless Crisis Response System", which she feels is in touch with CMAP's resilience concept and will also mesh with the County Board Chairman's plans to establish a Crisis Response Center. It is hoped that this crisis response effort to help those with mental illness will extend to those who are homeless, as well.

## **6.0 Staff Reports**

There were no staff reports.

## **7.0 Adjournment**

**Motion:** To adjourn to meeting at 12:01 a.m.

**Motion Made By:** Daniel Venturi

**Motion 2nd By:** Ray Rose

**Motion approved**