



LEXINGTON
*Homelessness Prevention
& Intervention*

Homelessness Prevention & Intervention Board

Lexington-Fayette Urban County Government

June 20, 2019

9:00am – 10:30am

Agenda

Special Meeting

APPROVED July 10, 2019

Board members present: A. Evans, K. Plomin, R. Shepard, A. Wallace, D. Thomas, J. James, J. Parker, M. Meza, B. Revlett, B. Davis

Board members excused: J. Hodge

Board members unexcused: R. Lee

Others present: Jeff Herron and Polly Ruddick (Office of Homelessness Prevention and Intervention), Tandi Orluk and Stephanie Gibson (Veterans Administration), Lori Clemons (Arbor Youth Services), Nikki Stanaitis (Bluegrass.Org/New Vista), Dylan Schell and Lindsay Anderson (Community Action Council), Jen Andrews (The Salvation Army), Erica Dominguez and Jim Connell (Lexington Rescue Mission), Anita Lakes (New Beginnings), David Shadd (Hope Center), Jackie Long and Kendra Boles (Mt. Comprehensive Care Center), Tonya Christopher (Lexington Housing Authority), Phill Gunning, Jennifer Van Ort Hazard and Megan Devoto (NAMI), Charlie Lanter (LFUCG Grants and Special Programs), Jeffrey Gates (Volunteers of America), Wayne Linscott (Health First Bluegrass), Eileen Ward (Kentucky Department of Veterans Affairs), Lt. Corey Doane and Alejandro Zagul (Lexington Police Department), Scott Garther and Rob Allen (Lexington Streets and Roads), Alex Olszawy and Steve Gahafer (LFUCG Code Enforcement), Rachel Childress (Lexington Habitat for Humanity), Glenn Brown (LFUCG Chief Administrators Office), John Day and Susan Plueger (LFUCG Environmental Services), Adam Davis (Eastern State Hospital), Penny Gilbert (University of Kentucky Medical Center), Dr. Kraig Humbaugh (Lexington-Fayette County Health Department), Ken Armstrong (LFUCG Public Safety), Rachel Perkins and Phil Gary (St. James Place), Hannah Spillman, Byran Lloyd, Zach Woualum (Winterwood Properties), Councilmember Susan Lamb (LFUCG Council), Kenny Bishop (LFUCG Council), Kashauna Shepherd and Andrea Price (Welcome House of Northern Kentucky), Melissa Murphy (LFUCG Law Department), Rick McQuady (LFUCG Affordable Housing Trust Fund).

- I. Call to Order – 9:03 a.m.
- II. Roll Call – Polly Ruddick
- III. Approval of Minutes from May 8, 2019
Motion by Davis with grammatical correction made to minutes
2nd by Evans
No Discussion
Passed – none opposed

Motion by Parker to move item #8 up on the agenda for discussion now.
2nd by Davis



No discussion

Passed – none opposed

8. Encampment Standard Operating Procedures and LFUCG Council Resolution of Support**

Motion by Parker: The Continuum of Care membership support the resolution presented by the administration and to adopt the standard operating procedures as presented.

2nd Evans

Discussion

Parker reminded everyone that this discussion was open to the members of the Continuum of Care and not just HPI Board members. Opened the floor.

Stanaitis shared concerns about the language in Vd. Removal. Policy regarding street outreach and the removal and retention of personal property. Street Outreach should not be seen as the removal or taking of property. That would send the wrong message since Street Outreach is there to engage the community. Concerns regarding the emphasis areas and what if the signs or fencing were removed. Stanaitis hopes language would be added to be clear on consideration for signage prior to removing items in emphasis areas.

Ruddick responded that Vd. Removal police regarding street outreach should be moved to make it clear that Street Outreach is there to assist.

Stanaitis suggested that the word “consent” be added to the policy.

Shadd spoke to the difficulty that Street Outreach has already with trust issue and encampments and that any policy that would appear to make them out to be the bad guys would not be beneficial.

Ruddick suggested an amendment to the SOPs - moving the policy to Vc. Plan and adding language regarding consent by individual before removing and storing personal items.

Revlett asked Ruddick about all the signs stated public health or safety concerns. Ruddick stated that the only time the City does remove a camp is due to public health and/or safety concerns.

No other reason. Revlett stated that there is a conflict between what conduct LFUCG finds to be a threat to health and public safety and the descriptions that follow versus that statement made on the signs and by Ruddick. Plomin asked if there was any definition of health and public safety in the SOPs. Ruddick stated no. Group discussion around the difference in public parks as unauthorized entry and use which would be separate from health and public safety. Clemons stated the introduction seems to give LFUCG a loop hole in the health and public safety policy. Need criteria for health and public safety. Revlett again voiced several concerns around the language on the signs versus the policy as written.

Group discussion on definitions as written and signage. Evans stated we need to be clear on parks versus other LFUCG owned and controlled property. Thomas agreed it was not clear in the policy the difference in parks versus other property.

Ruddick suggested an amendment to the SOPs – definitions of public safety concern/issue, public health concern/issue and unauthorized entry/use for parks.

James asked why the board and membership were reviewing this. Ruddick stated that a concern regarding power and control to make decisions had been voiced, i.e. the Director of OHPI having too much control. This resolution and SOP puts the oversight, review, and accountability in the hands of the Board and membership and not just internal to LFUCG and OHPI. Ruddick reviewed the resolution which specifically in reference to the Board control.

James asked about the process for the SOPs moving forward. Ruddick stated the Board could modify the SOPs at every single board meeting if they so choose. As quickly as July 10th.



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Shepard asked about forming a committee or workgroup for the SOP. Ruddick stated the item has been and will continue to be in the Advocacy Committee as a rolling agenda item. Ruddick and Evans reminded the group that motions and amendments could still be made from Council, this was not a done deal yet. Ruddick stated that Council could not accept the resolution or SOPs in their form as presented.

Plomin asked about this resolution growing into an ordinance. Both Ruddick and Parker reminded everyone that we cannot discuss an ordinance as it is not on the agenda for today's meeting. Plomin stated that other cities include a homeless person definition and asked if we could add a homeless person definition to the SOPs. Group discussion agreed that including a definition of homeless would target that population and this policy should not target homeless individuals. Lamb stated that she appreciated the discussion and her support for the resolution keeping the oversight to the experts in the field.

Gibson asked why Catholic Action was stated as the contact agency under removal. Ruddick stated that Catholic Action volunteered to help with the storage of belongings, but that the LFUCG was not under contract with them and the RFP would be the contract the LFUCG would be under for removal and retention. Ruddick stated Catholic Action was a secondary plan on a volunteer basis.

Orluk asked who the "division" was under identification. Ruddick stated it was the LFUCG division that would be responsible for cleaning and removing the camp. Orluk also asked about the time frame stated. Ruddick responded that there is flexibility in the communication timeframe because of vacations, holidays, weekends, etc and that we still want to follow on the SOPs even if the communication does not happen as quickly as possible. No division should use the timeframes as a way out of following the SOPs.

Clemons asked that amendments be made to the SOPs prior to being sent to Council. Ruddick reviewed the amendments and stated that she was against adding homeless language due to having no impact on the policy. Wallace agreed. Group agreed not to target the homeless.

Motion by Wallace to make amendments to the document as discussed prior to being sent to Council.

2nd by Meza

Discussion

Childress asked to clarify that the homeless definition was not included in the amendment. Ruddick stated it was not an amendment. Revlett stated that he didn't know how to vote because he hadn't seen the amendments.

Clemons stated that the motion was to include the amendments prior to sending to Council and that we could work on again July 10th.

Thomas expressed concern on Plomin's use of the word "ordinance" and questioned if someone who wants to criminalize homelessness and that we are doing something that someone can then take it and make it an ordinance to which this body would have an issue with. Wallace agreed that it would seem that the Council is asking for this body to bless this resolution and SOPs so that then they can change it into an ordinance.

Evans said no. Ruddick reminded everyone we can't discuss the ordinance and Thomas stated she didn't want to vote on something that would come back to harm the very population we are working to protect.

Lamb spoke to Thomas's concern as a person, not speaking for her colleagues, that she is concerned about it becoming an ordinance and she supports this resolution and these SOPs managed by the HPI Board as the right direction to go.



Murphy stated that because this is a special meeting we are required to stick to the agenda and that is why Plomin's discussion of an ordinance was not able to be discussed.

Wallace stated that anyone in the Continuum that wanted changes to the SOPs, please email him and he will bring them up at the Advocacy meetings.

Passed Full Membership– none opposed

Motion by Parker: The Continuum of Care membership supports the resolution presented by the administration and adopts the standard operating procedures as amended.

2nd Evans

No Discussion

Passed Full Membership– none opposed

Ruddick asked if anyone was opposed to discussing item #6 next due to timing and individuals having to leave the meeting.

Parker recused, Davis took the chair

Motion by Evans

2nd by Davis

No Discussion

Passed – none opposed

6. Letter of Support for AVOL – Polly Ruddick

Parker briefly described the project.

Motion by James

2nd by Evans

Discussion

McQuady stated that his office was in full support of this project and it would be a huge assist to the community.

Passed – none opposed

Davis yielded the chair back to Parker

IV. HMIS Billing and Invoicing – Jeff Herron

Herron reviewed the new billing procedures for the FY20 year. Invoices will be coming from OHPI and not KHC.

V. Presentation by Welcome House on Payee Program – Welcome House Staff

Ruddick welcomes the grantee for the Payee Program to start July 1, 2019. Welcome House staff gave a brief overview of the payee program and asked that all agencies start contacting them directly for referral process.

James asked what would happen if the client moves out of Fayette County to which Welcome House stated that would work with the person to move the payee if possible, but they would no longer be covered under the Fayette County payee program.

Davis asked if Welcome House was bonded. Ruddick stated that their RFP response included that and they had passed SSA audits.

VI. FY20 Final Budget adoption*



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a. RFP Discussion of Street Outreach

Ruddick reviewed the final FY20 budget for adoption. Shepard asked about the new rolling funds and the amount under contract. Ruddick explained the rolling balance from previous years and that the planning will be an RFP.

Motion by Parker

2nd by Davis

Discussion

Passed – None Opposed

VII. Next Regular Meeting

b. July 10, 2019, 1:30 – 3:30 Central Library, Conference Room A

VIII. Adjourn

Motion by Plomin

2nd by Davis

No Discussion

Passed – none opposed

*Denotes action item by HPI Board

** Denotes action item by CoC Membership