

CoC Governing Board
Meeting Minutes
October 1, 2020

The CoC Governing Board Meeting was held on October 1, 2020 via Go-to-Meeting. It began at 2:10 p.m. and was facilitated by Vice Chair, Patrick Hayes with Antonnatta Austin taking minutes.

Board Members in attendance: Stacy Lowry, Warren Wooten, Tchernavia Montgomery, Dennis LaCaria, Patrick Hayes, Alesha Eaves, Dave Collins, Gerald Littlejohn, Victor Nicholson, Timica Melvin

Board Members not in attendance: Kathryn Firmin-Sellers, Anthony Ryback, Deronda Metz, Sonia Jenkins, Stephen McQueen, Lashieka Hardin, Hope Marshall, Maya Marshall, Rodney Tucker

Guests in attendance: Shamika Agbeviade (Mecklenburg County CSS), James Lee, Lynn Cuddy (The Relatives), Harry Mack (Social Serve), Peter Safir (Mecklenburg County CSS), Joann Markley (Roof Above), Kim Sanders (Mecklenburg County CSS), Nicole Dewitt (Community Link), Cori Goldstein (Safe Alliance), Daniel Crow (Safe Alliance), Britany Cunningham, Deborah Majewski (The Leon Levine Foundation), Trish Hobson (The Relatives)

Welcome (Patrick Hayes) and Attendance (Branden Lewis)

Recap of NCDHHS ESG Funding Opportunity (Branden Lewis)

- The Board rendered a decision to split the ESG funding to 58% for Housing Stability and 42% for Crisis Response in August 2020.
- The total funding was \$506,479 with \$293,758 - 58% allocated for Housing Stability and \$212,721 - 42% allocated to Crisis Response.
- The Board agreed to allow the Ranking Committee to decide on how the funding would be distributed.

Ranking Committee Project Application Recommendations – (Deborah Majewski – Chair, Ranking Committee)

- Renewal applications were sent to all agencies that received funding last year per the State's invite.
- Two (2) new agencies submitted applications for consideration to receive funding this year.
- Each application was independently reviewed by each committee member and used a scoring matrix to determine each application/agency's ranking. The ranking scores from the matrix were calculated to determine an average score and comparison to each agency. The questions were ranked using a point system (0-5 points per question). Therefore, the highest number of points obtainable was 50 points---10 questions.
- The applications and completed matrixes were review by the Committee to consider each agency's ranking, previous recipient, performance and the current state of our community and what specific issues were relevant to the agencies' programs.
- The Committee recommended to fund all agencies funded last year at a lower amount reducing the allotment up to 20%. The Committee also recommended to fund two (2) new projects for Community Link and Ada Jenkins Center.

- The Committee did not recommend \$20,000 emergency shelter funds for The Relatives.
- The Committee presented a spreadsheet that identified their recommended funding distribution and additional details that were provided in the application requests.

Board Discussion and Questions for Ranking Committee (Patrick Hayes):

Housing Stability Questions:

- A question was raised regarding Community Link’s ability to effectively manage their programs with the Case Manager position only, and if the position will be fully utilized without additional financial assistance. Another question was raised regarding what would happen to the \$64,000 if Community Link is not able to utilize the Case Manager position.
 - The Committee indicated they would meet to determine the distribution and would present to the Board for approval, if needed.
 - The funds will be reallocated by repeating the same process. The Committee will review the applications and scoring matrixes and present their new recommendations to the Board again to render a decision.
- A question was raised regarding how many agencies applied for funding.
 - Seven applications were received—5 renewals and 2 new.

Crisis Response Questions:

- A question was raised regarding the Committee’s decision to not recommend funding for The Relatives emergency shelter program.
 - The decision was determined because the agency currently has an emergency shelter program and currently houses a smaller number of clients. The Committee felt it was important to assist some of the smaller agencies.
- A question was raised regarding the reduction of emergency shelter funds for The Roof Above, Salvation Army and The Relatives considering the impacts with COVID-19. Another question was raised regarding what explanation would be provided to the media for the 15% reduction to emergency shelter funds targeting women and children.
 - The rationale was to provide funding to smaller agencies who were providing services for the current needs of the community.
 - While reviewing the applications, the Committee did not differentiate between men, women and children.
 - There was a \$4,000-\$5,000 reduction for Crisis Response.
- The Committee was commended for their hard work and dedication to make these recommendations.

Public Comments – (Branden Lewis):

- James Lee shared his colleague told him about a woman she met while performing her census duties. The woman was homeless with a lot of health issues and having a hard time securing housing and getting help. His colleague is allowing the woman to sleep in her car at her apartment complex.

Mr. Lee shared this information as a reminder that numbers represent people and that agencies are doing their best to help. He also expressed his appreciation for the opportunity to work on the Ranking Committee.

Vote: Approve recommendations for NCDHHS ESG Funds (Patrick Hayes):

The recommendations for the NCDHHS ESG Funding were approved as presented. Moved by Warren Wooten and seconded by Timica Melvin without opposition.

- The agencies will be contacted and receive an email regarding their allotment.
- The regional application is due to the State on October 16, 2020.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m. Moved by Warren Wooten and seconded by Aleasha Eaves.