



Thursday, August 8, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.
United Way of Denton County, Inc. (1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)

Meeting Summary

Appointees/Ex-Officios Present: Alice Mankoff, Ashleigh Feryan, Commissioner Bobbie Mitchell, Councilwoman Keely Briggs, Courtney Cross, Cynthia Harris, Dani Shaw, Emily Taylor, Gary Henderson, Josh Ashford, Kathy Srokosz, Mayor Thomas Muir, Mary Jones, Roy Metzler, Sheryl English, Stephen Coffey, Terry Widmer, Valerie Foster

Appointees Absent: Councilman TJ Gilmore (regrets), Dale Tamkpe, Frank Padgett (regrets), Herman Oosterwijk, Isabel Rodriguex, Jessica DeRoche, Mayor Chris Watts, Nicole Recker,

Guests: Sarah Kuechler (City of Denton), Elena Lusk (United Way of Denton County), Hope Rodgers (United Way of Denton County), Leah Jordan (United Way of Denton County), Pat Smith (Serve Denton), Jean Brown (Extreme Green Homes), Steve Brown (Extreme Green Homes)

Welcome & Consideration of June 2019 Minutes

Co-chair Mayor Thomas Muir called the meeting to order at 8:03 a.m.
Co-chair requested a motion to approve June 2019 minutes.

Motion: Terry Widmer
2nd: Mary Jones
Motion was approved.

Nominating Committee Presents 2019-2020 Slate

Co-chair requested a motion to approve the 2019-2020 slate of officers: Councilman TJ Gilmore, Chair; Mayor Thomas Muir, Co-Chair; Alice Mankoff, Secretary.

Motion: Terry Widmer
2nd: Councilperson Keely Briggs
Motion was approved.

Amend Bylaws

Co-chair requested a motion to amend DCHLT bylaws to increase the number of allowable appointees from 'Small Cities and Towns' from 2 to 5, and the total allowable members from 33 to 36. Courtney Cross recently met with representatives from the City of The Colony seeking to join the DCHLT and the DCBHLT as they've identified growing needs within their community.

Councilperson Keely Briggs inquired the requirements for small cities to join the DCHLT. Gary Henderson stated that if small cities can join if they have a solution or a need, and smaller cities have unique needs. Co-chair Mayor Thomas Muir stated that small cities may not have as big of an issue, but issues are still present and small cities are detached.



Motion: Councilperson Keely Briggs

2nd: Mary Jones

Motion was approved.

Valerie Foster stated that she is only DCHLT appointee representing schools and children. Gary Henderson inquired if the DCHLT should seek someone from an ISD for DCHLT appointment. A Lewisville ISD social work appointment would be preferred due to youth shelter access in Lewisville. Councilperson Keely Briggs stated the benefit of having a Denton ISD appointment for the purpose of local data.

Co-chair called for a motion to approve a Denton ISD and Lewisville ISD seat to the DCHLT.

Motion: Terry Widmer

2nd: Alice Mankoff

Motion was approved.

Approve New Appointee from The Colony

The City of The Colony has appointed Joe Perez, Director of Community Relations and Programming to the DCHLT. Co-chair requested a motion to approve the new appointee from the City of The Colony to the DCHLT.

Motion: Alice Mankoff

2nd: Valerie Foster

Motion was approved.

Green Extreme Homes Presentation

Jean Brown, Executive Director, and Steve Brown, President & Project Manager provided a presentation on Green Extreme Homes. Green Extreme Homes specializes in building energy efficient homes and remodeling existing homes, where builds are volunteer-based; electric bills in these homes range from \$30-\$40/month. Developments have primarily and historically been in Dallas, including dedicated homes for Veterans. Green Extreme Homes has a 290-unit development for seniors, where 90 units are filled by formerly homeless persons, as well as a 139-tax credit unit in Plano, and has just built their first development in Lewisville. A ribbon cutting will be held on September 14th at 10:00 am for their first Lewisville home.

Green Extreme Homes is in the top 2% of builders in the nation for energy efficiency. Different types of heating and cooling are used to showcase homes. The homes also feature Department of Energy sustainable landscapes and air filtration systems that produce "hospital air" which has shown to relieve symptoms of allergies and asthma.

The Lewisville home, which will be serve single female Veterans, costs \$1.46/day to cool for 2,800 air conditioned square feet. The home also features a chicken coop and a hydroponic warehouse to offer therapeutic farming for returning Veterans through 14 levels of vertical farming equivalent to 30 acres of farm land, which uses 90% less water, is pesticide free and receives light 22 hours a day. Residents can consume and sell produce grown and keep the profits. An MOU with the Dallas VA will ensure that case management is provided for the home's residents and local banks will provide financial counseling. Qualifying Veterans must be employed. Length of stay varies on individual client needs and barriers. The home costs about half a million to build.

When a home is available, including single-family homes, information is sent to the VA and local partners who can submit applications. Tax-credit properties are third party and first come, first serve for affordable housing opportunities.

The next step for Extreme Green Homes is mixed-income communities which are a best practice. Low income wage earners experience upward mobility when mixed with high wage earners.



Emergency Solutions Grant

Applying agencies provided an update on the status of their Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG) applications. Alice Mankoff provided an update on behalf of Denton County Friends of the Family (DCFOF). DCFOF applied for \$300,00 across all three available program components: homeless prevention (HP), rapid rehousing (RRH), and emergency shelter.

Daphne Adams provided an update on behalf of Christian Community Action (CCA). CCA applied for HP and RRH but was unable to submit their application on time due to waiting on critical documents from their board of directors. CCA will be applying for the Continuum of Care (CoC) grant for \$300,00 for 20 households and will be working closely with Giving Hope. CCA has allocated general funds for HP to continue serving clients during the gap of grant funding.

Cindy Harris provided an update on behalf of Giving Hope, Inc. (GHI). GHI was unable to submit their ESG application on time but will also be applying for the CoC grant in the sum of \$300,000. Cindy stated that the CoC grant has more funding available, will allow GHI to fund two staff members as well as provide RRH assistance for 6-9 months rather than 3-6 months. GHI is also applying for 10 additional beds for their Permanent Supportive Housing program, as well as applying for private grants for RRH and street outreach in case they aren't funded through the CoC, and is ready to support the Salvation Army if they receive ESG RRH funding.

Dani Shaw stated that the only difference between the CoC and ESG grants is that the CoC has more funding available. There will be both a drop in RRH funding and a gap in funding until RRH contracts are signed.

Workgroup Updates

Data Workgroup

Courtney Cross stated that there this is not a Data Workgroup update due to staff transitions, but that next steps for this workgroup include identifying someone who can help build and automate the Denton County Homelessness Data Dashboard.

Housing Workgroup

Terry Widmer provided an update on the Housing Workgroup. The Housing Workgroup meets every other week with to discuss the specific needs and barriers of individuals and families on the Housing Priority List. The Housing Workgroup has also hosted local service providers to provide outreach and education opportunities for its members, including sensitivity training when providing services for clients living with differing abilities, as well as how to identify clients who may eligible Skilled Nursing Facility services. Terry stated that a recurring barrier in the Housing Workgroup is a lack of substance abuse treatment for low-income individuals.

Ad Hoc Committee

Courtney stated that the City's budget season, which is currently underway, impacts the Ad Hoc Committee. The Ad Hoc Committee is currently waiting to reconvene.

Shelter Planning Workgroup

Courtney stated that the Shelter Planning Workgroup is waiting for further direction from Denton City Council to reconvene this workgroup. The City of Denton will be making a decision to provide funding for MKOC, the Barriers Fund, and street outreach in the coming weeks. The City of Lewisville is considering contributing to the Barriers Fund as well.

Ending Veteran Homelessness



Courtney has connected with the Denton County Veterans Coalition (DCVC) who has appointed a DCVC member to represent them and serve as their point of contact throughout the duration of this collaboration. Courtney reminded the group of the upcoming 100-Day Challenge and Denton County Veteran Stand Down. The Veteran Stand Down will provide an opportunity to target key players in the 100-Day Challenge.

Denton County Homeless Coalition Update

Dr. Mary Jones provided an update on the Denton County Homeless Coalition, including an Affordable Housing Panel which will be held on September 5th at CoServ in partnership with the League of Women Voters.

Motion: Terry Widmer
2nd: Commissioner Bobbie Mitchel
Motion was approved.

Backbone Support Update

Courtney introduced Elena Lusk, UWDC's new Coordinated Entry Specialist/HMIS Support.

Hope Rodgers provided an update on the DCBHLT. The DCBHLT last met in July and entered in a strategic planning process. The DCBHLT has convened a Strategic Planning Committee and two out of three workgroups have met to discuss strategic goals, including the needs of aging Veterans in the Veterans Workgroup, and how to better engage in local anti-human trafficking efforts in the Child & Family Systems Workgroup. Leah Jordan stated that the VA has officially opened their new mental health annex and provided an update on the HB-13 grant which aims to reduce jail recidivism under a mental health umbrella. Leah has requested amendments to the HB-13 grant, including a 6 month extension and the ability to use funds differently within the grant.

New Business

Serve Denton's Pat Smith stated that the Salvation Army has signed a letter of intent and will be scheduling a meeting with the City of Denton for feedback from City staff regarding rezoning processes before moving forward on a more detailed process.

Councilperson Keely Briggs stated that Denton County Homeless Data Dashboard should have the ability to filter data by city.

Adjournment

Co-chair requested a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:28 a.m.

Motion: Mary Jones
2nd: Terry Widmer
Meeting was adjourned.

Next Meeting:
Thursday, October 10, 2019 | 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. | United Way of Denton County, Inc.
(1314 Teasley Lane, Denton, TX 76205)



Secretary

Date

