



**Metro Denver Homeless Initiative - Board Meeting
December 12, 2019 - 2:00 - 4:00pm
Mile High United Way, Busse Board Room**

Board Minutes

Attendees:

In Person

Ben Ryan, John Feeney-Coyle, Elissa Hardy, Brenton Huston, Karissa Johnson, Jennifer Beiss, Brian Arnold, Shelley Mckittrick, Rachel Vaughn, Renee Belisle, Mike Malloy, Andrew Aslip, Ken Hayes, Alex Midgley, Eugene Wade

By Phone:

Claire Clurman, Brian Arnold

MDHI Staff:

Matt Meyer, Rebecca Mayer, Kelly Hellman, Jackie Hernandez, Bethany Maynard-Moody, Diane Howald, Mikah Wagner, Layla Said, Alex Rigberg

Administrative:

Ben called the meeting to order at 2:04

Ben recognized new board member Ved who also attended the last board meeting and welcomed the new board members who are in attendance.

Consent Agenda:

Ben covered the consent agenda minus the financials. No members had anything to add.

Vote -Shelley McKittrick motions to approve consent agenda minus the October Financials, Brenton Huston seconds no opposed, no abstentions, motion passes by acclamation

Discussion around October financials began and in particular, a review a \$48,060.64 charge for equity training from the National Innovation Service who conducted the training. MDHI acted as a passthrough for the Denver foundation and is on the hook for 5k after reimbursement. Discussion ensued as to whether policy was followed for this contract per the board Bylaws.

John asked when we are to get reimbursed from Denver Foundation for their portion. Matt answered – next week

Brenton ask for the details of invoice which were read aloud by Kelly.

Brenton asked if MDHI had a contract, vetted costs and if reasonableness of the training were discussed. He also asked if we had any written record from the Denver Foundation to pay for 43K of which they promised. Matt verified that we had a contract for the services but only had a handshake agreement with the Denver Foundation. Shelley and Karissa spoke on the reasonableness and vetting process that went into hiring National Innovation Services, originally vetted through the City of Aurora and The Denver Foundation.

Ben stated that MDHI's commitment was only 5K and felt that cost and reasonableness and vetting should be separate discussions.

Ben went on to say that by running the National Innovation Service contract through MDHI, it bound itself to a 48K contract and effectively needed something in writing from the Denver Foundations to offset their commitment. He added that we must be more prudent as an organization to make sure that we are following policy in the future.

Jennifer stated that the board should be cognizant of all policies and procedures as it sounds like many board members are not aware.

Matt then spoke and took responsibility for not following current policy and should have received Claire's approval. He went on to say that MDHI has a longstanding relationship with Denver foundation and that is why in his view, a handshake agreement was enough. He also stated that it is only a 6% variance from the professional services budget.

Claire added that there are a few board members who are not familiar with the financial policies and stated that Kelly will spend a few minutes during each board meeting this spring to discuss different topics. She also reminded the board that anything within the approved budget and under contract does not have to have special approval.

Brenton pointed out that the total was booked in training and should have been booked to Professional Services.

Andrew reiterated that it is the board duties to be fiscally responsibility and backed the discussion to challenge the cost and if policy was followed.

Ben Ryan stated that Kelly will recategorize the expense from Staff Training to Professional Services and entertained the motion to approve the October Financial Statements. There was no response from the Board Members. Ben then said that we will correct the October Financials and re-vote on them at the January Board meeting

Topics:

Adding Northern Colorado to the Colorado HMIS Collaborative

Rebecca stated that as part of the vote we will also to approve the redline and edits to the HMIS Collaborative Framework.

Elissa solicited a vote:

Vote – Brenton Huston motions to approve adding Northern Colorado to the Colorado HMIS Collaborative and edits to the HMIS framework, Karissa Johnson Seconds, no opposed, 1 Abstention (Mike Malloy) motion carries and approved by acclamation.

PIT Methodology

MDHI staff member Diane Howald stated and described that the Board must approve PIT methodology as determined by 4 points:

1. To utilize data in HMIS, or comparable database, to complete a census count when possible in sheltered situations.
2. A "night of" count in other sheltered locations, with extrapolation used as needed
3. A 24-hour count from Sundown 1/27 to Sundown 1/28 for all other service across the region
4. 48 hours of outreach using both known locations (hotspots) and high probability areas to survey

Vote -Alix Midgely moved to approve the methodology for PIT, Eugene Wade seconds no opposed, no abstentions, motion carries and approved by acclamation.

Built for Zero

Kristin Toombs (Colorado Department of Local Affairs, Division of Housing) and Melanie Lewis-Dickerson (Community Solutions) presented Build for Zero which is a rigorous national change effort designed to help a core group of committed US

communities end chronic and veteran homelessness. This is built on local partnerships and investments with the goal to end veteran and chronic homelessness by 2022. The slides presented at the board were sent out on December 18.

Matt recognized Mel and Kristen for the work they have done.

They stated that this is just the beginning and that more information on the Build for Zero website in the near future.

Equity and Accessibility Committee Recommendations

Ben framed discussion by acknowledging that the work was well thought out and bold and he is proud of the committee for the recommendation document and singled out Karissa for her work. He went on to say that it is a serious document and contains a lot to discuss. Karissa provided an overview on the report that includes three recommendations for systemic infrastructural improvements to our current homeless crisis response system. Ben stated that at our next 3 board meetings, we will spend time discussing the 3 recommendations in depth, 1 at each meeting to give people a chance to review it. Ben is also open for other strategies on how we engage this and recommended reading the report multiple times.

The Meeting was adjourned at 4:00

MISSION: *Leading and advancing collaboration to end homelessness in our region.*