

Implementation Board

King County Regional Homelessness Authority

KCRHA Implementation Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday,
November 10, 2021

2:00pm to 4:00pm

Virtual Meeting Link Available at
<https://regionalhomelesssystem.org/>

Roll Call:

Last	First	Present	Absent	Notes
Anderson	Carey			
Caminos	Nate			
Carvalho	Paula			
Chelminiak	John			
McHenry	Gordon			
Odom	Harold			
Pattenaude	Damien			
Quinn	Adrienne			
Ramos	Michael			
Rankin	Sara			
Reddy	Simha			
Green	Lamont			<i>On behalf of Juanita Spotted Elk</i>
Spotted Elk	Juanita			<i>*Email for correct Spelling of Name.</i>

A quorum is present.

Record of Discussion and Decisions

Land Acknowledgement

Nate Caminos conducts a land acknowledgement. He asks other Board members to let him or Harold know if they would like to lead land acknowledgement at future meetings.

Approval of Minutes

Nate Caminos makes a motion to approve the August & September meeting minutes and the notes correction of Juanita Spotted Elk's name.

Nate Caminos motions; **Adrienne Quin and Simha Reddy** seconds. All in favor, none opposed.

The August/September minutes are approved with consent. **Damien Pattenaude, Lamont Green & Gordon McHenry** abstains September meeting notes as they were not in attendance.

Public Comment

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- **Bill Kirlin Hackett:** Interfaith taskforce is doing outreach to vehicles in Seattle, the funding for vehicle residency is inadequate. Outcomes were exceeded even though the program was underfunded. The program needs clinical staff as well as a part time HMIS input staff. When the program moves over the RHA improvements need to be made, advocating for more funding for this program.
- **Ruby Romero:** Community Officers – Will the RHA work with SPD to get Community Officers or is there preliminary information available, also asks why King County HMIS system different from the rest of the state? If there is any information or other resources, please email wcfarm.flea@gmail.com.
- **Bruce Draeger:** Speaking on behalf of the Green Lake Homeless Advocates and the over 400 homeless folks that I have served there at the park and those camping around the Lake City and County. My proposal to have supported temporary mitigation site at a remote virtually unused location in Woodland Park. I have emailed the proposal to you previously. If you have any questions, please email DragerBruce@gmail.com.
- **Zaneta Reid:** On behalf of the LEC in regard to more funding for the Safe Parking Lots advocating for change in the system to create more access and resources for those dwelling in cars and RV's

Presentation from Erin Bryant-Thomas – Director of Equity & Justice

Nate Caminos introduced Erin Bryant-Thomas, KCRHA's Director of Equity & Justice to present the Equity Based Decision Making Framework. [Equity Based Decision Making Framework Deck - Google Slides](#)

Key takeaways - The Framework is designed to ensure that KCRHA's decision making process' are:

- Guided by clear goals, objectives, and measurable outcomes to advance racial equity and social justice.
- Establish people with lived experience of homelessness as decision makers across the system.
- Support and advance people of color in historically marginalized communities within leadership in new entity.
- Identify who will benefit or be burdened before decisions are made.
- Integrate anti-racist and anti-oppressive strategies and mechanisms into implementation.
- Include mechanisms for evaluation of impact and mechanisms for addressing negative consequences and revisiting decisions at a regular cadence that have negative consequences.

Resources

- [NIS Equity Based Decision Based Framework](#)
- [KCRHA Theory of Change](#)
- [Living the Values of Equity based Decision Making \(Video\)](#)

Nate Caminos thanks Erin and talks of revisiting this framework in terms of Implementation Board Members of the committee "ships" and leadership with the Implementation Board beyond Harold and himself in how we work I tandem/parallel to support one another collectively.

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Questions/Comments from Implementation Board

- **Gordon McHenry** – Accepts challenge to listen to the video and suggests that an assessment be done 6-9 months out and report back findings to the Board on how its working in the comprehensive areas the Authority is working on; feedback on ways we can model the same behaviors. Gordon asks if the Framework is being utilized by other communities. Marc Dones responds, yes, its broadly available and in use by many communities, it was distributed as part of the technical assistance push by the National Covid Response, Center on Budgeting Policy Priorities, and the National Alliance & Homelessness.
- **Michael Ramos** – Interested in seeing with Marc’s leadership the practical application of this framework/strategies especially in the policy area of the budget. This framework could shift decisions within the Seattle or other municipal governments whose decisions are pending. I’d like to see practical application about some of the policies such as vehicle residency, which has been highlighted by several speakers today.
- **Harold Odom** – Refers to pages 21-28 of the NIS report and states how this framework was developed, He and the LEC pushed for The Theory of Change that one of the chairs be held by person of lived experience/LEC Coalition.
- **Lamont Green** – Is there a model/cheat sheet that we could use as these various Boards are making very important decisions? It is not known at this time whether it’s a must for boards to use framework tool, The Authority must use the Equity Based Decision Making Framework tool, at this time it not known if you as a board must use this tool. We can take it up with council and get back with everyone, but if you as a board wish to adopt use of the tool we can put something together for you all on how to use the tool.
- **Dr. Reddy** – Likes the idea of bringing the equity-based framework tool to our work, even if not required, sees the importance of using tool and how everyone can benefit from it.
- **Nick Caminos** – Thanks Erin for presentation and acknowledges as well as staff being trained, Board members would benefit from receiving this training too.

CEO Updates

- Internal Operations – we have hired 23 people across all divisions – we are 73% People of Color.
- Peter and his team have had the Provider Notification webinar and have done tremendous work to stand up the Grants Management System. Providers went thru what the contracting process will look like between now and January in order to migrate the bodies of work that they’re doing, currently held by the City of Seattle and King County over to RHA, making sure they have an active contract to invoice against starting January 1.
- Internal Fiscal Controls fully implemented by December 1, thanks to Meg Barclay our Chief Administrative Officer.
- Three working groups on Core Policy to focus on the areas we see gaps in. These groups include:
 - ❖ High Acuity – People with significant behavioral, significant substance abuse issues, and/or significant co-occurring disorders and are also experiencing some form of homelessness.

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- ❖ Outreach Workgroup – What and how to do this work.
- ❖ Vehicular Residency – Folks living in vehicles.

For all the working groups we have involved folks with lived experience as well as those folks who want to be a part of the conversations.

- **Emergency Housing Vouchers** - KCRHA is on pace for referrals. Peter's team has led that work, the lease up time from the Federal Government is aggressive and perhaps unrealistic for large markets like Seattle's, that is very competitive, so while the referral rates are looking good, the lease up rates are slower.
- Lastly, because of the current budget proposal from the City of Seattle the Authority no longer has any operating deficit. All admin deficits were cured by council act. This is good because its nice to know we will be able to staff and have those staff in perpetuity.

Questions/Comments:

- **Lamont Green** – Regarding EHV, Lamont asks if there is a dashboard and are we desegregating any of that data by various demographics to see who is getting those vouchers. I'm also curious about the Public Housing Authorities role, sometimes they have stricter requirements regarding criminal legal background than HUD does, which often is a problem with people who have criminal legal histories, this adds to the barrier to housing folks. Response: There is a HUD dashboard, we are building a local dashboard, its not up yet, but is underway, To the second part of your question, The housing authority has only turned down one referral out of 600 thus far, that is my understanding, to the broader question of how we are targeting the vouchers, this was done through the framework that was refined out of the COVID Prioritization work which explicitly targeted historically marginalized communities and folks experiencing unsheltered homelessness.
 - Do the EHV vouchers allow for paying 20% over fair market rent values and is that incentivizing them? Response: The EHV do go to 120% Fair Market Rate cap.
- **Gordon McHenry** – Appreciate last conversation. Its good to hear that these parts of our system are working well with intentionality to those who are in need of those resources. Are there opportunities to communicated to our federal partners what things can be done in a non-crisis situation that supports the work.
- **LaMont Green** comments, the State of Florida used the Landlord Risk Mitigation Fund and found that it helped incentivize landlords more. It provided the landlords a sense of insurance and ease. So, I think in this competitive market we have, we have to be creative and innovative in thinking about how to incentivize landlords, I think that's something we've seen nationally that works well.

KCRHA Policies

There are a couple of policies that we wanted to bring back for vote.

- We changed some of our financial policies to reflect our staffing structure.
- We changed the financial policies particularly governance internal controls and then financial policies around Treasure & Investments.

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- We also modified our procurement policy to include more robust language, referencing the equity-based decision-making framework and particularly investments which there was some concern raised.

Questions/Comments

Adrienne Quinn – Asks if legal counsel review the fiscal policy? Marc responds, Yes, they are generated by the accounting firm we retain, then are review by myself, Meg, Helen and Peter, then reviewed by council.

LaMont Green – Will the documents have hyperlinks to the equity-based decision framework throughout the policy documents? Marc responds, yes, we can do that, currently those documents are saved in a matter that is accessible to those who come on.

Motion to Adopt these two policies as presented with the two amending factors that were noted by Adrienne and LaMont via roll call. So moved by Gordon McHenry and seconded by Adrienne Quinn.

Last	First	Yea	Ney	Abstain
Anderson	Carey	Y		
Caminos	Nate	Y		
Carvalho	Paula	Y		
Chelminiak	John	Y		
McHenry	Gordon	Y		
Odom	Harold	Y		
Pattenaude	Damien	Y		
Quinn	Adrienne	Y		
Ramos	Michael	Y		
Rankin	Sara			
Reddy	Simha	Y		
Green	Lamont	Y		<i>On behalf of Juanita Spotted Elk</i>

Motion passes to adopt the policy presented with the two amending factors.

Nate Caminos – A couple of things. One is you’ve received a message from me about a month ago, that I am unable to continue committing to be co-chair as we get into 2022. Exactly one year ago today you voted Harold and I as your co-chairs, we didn’t set term limits, I just want to make sure that members of the KCRHA support staff and utilize this opportunity before we get to January on the overall structure of our Board itself. We discussed other key positions in terms of officer positions as well as subcommittees,

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we voted unanimously and passed a sub committee cohort, but we have not assigned or met some of those subcommittees.

We need to have discussions as a board on what direction and what type of resources we're willing to commit to ourselves and where we would like staff to be assigning those resource. Time will be dedicated to talking about the structure of the committee and making decisions on actual assignments at the December meeting.

Questions/Comments

Dr. Reddy – Dr. Reddy thanks Nate for his leadership. Our job is to provide oversight and support the RHA, therefore which of the standing committees are of most importance? Marc responds – It literally satisfying the legal requirement around oversight of the core functions.

Nate Caminos asks the committee members to think about where they see themselves working on one of the sub committees at the December 8th meeting.

Motion to Defer Annual Requirements

Marc Dones – Marc asks for permission to not to file the annual requirements. The ILA refers to several annual requirements, we are not in a state from a start-up perspective to satisfy this requirement. To answer would be onerous, an extreme to even attempt, the results would be inaccurate, and I think they would do damage to the staff capacity to be able to do the work they need to do in order to finish system stand up by diverting those critical resources to writing reports. We are in the space where we are going to begin to develop a five-year plan in alignment with the regional action plan etc. The ILA says by the end of the year we need to file an operating budget that is consistent with a five-year plan or a successor. The five-year plan does doesn't exist yet and the budget is just FY 22 that is consolidated with city and county.

Questions/Comments

Damien Pattenaude – The request for our consideration is not to do it this year and defer to a later date or would you do this next year? Marc responds – We would do it at the end of 2022 in conjunction with all the reports that need to be filed, this includes the five-year plan, the sub-regional plan and all the other reports that need to be filed for 2022.

Motion to defer Annual Reporting Requirements set forth by the ILA until the end of 2022 via Roll Call Lamont Green motions, Damien Pattenaude seconds.

Last	First	Yea	Ney	Abstain
Anderson	Carey	Y		
Caminos	Nate	Y		
Carvalho	Paula	Y		
Chelminiak	John	Y		

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McHenry	Gordon	Y		
Odom	Harold			
Pattenaude	Damien	Y		
Quinn	Adrienne	Y		
Ramos	Michael	Y		
Rankin	Sara			
Reddy	Simha	Y		
Green	Lamont	Y		<i>On behalf of Juanita Spotted Elk</i>

Motion passes 10 Yea/ Zero Nay/ 2 absent

Adjourn

Next meeting will be on Wednesday, December 8th 2:00pm – 4:00pm. I will call this meeting to close at 3:48pm.