

Implementation Board

King County Regional Homelessness Authority

KCRHA Implementation Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday,
December 8, 2021

2:00pm to 4:00pm

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

Roll Call:

Last	First	Present	Absent	Notes
Anderson	Carey			
Camino	Nate			Joining at 3:15
Carvalho	Paula			Joining at 3:15
Chelminiak	John	X		
McHenry	Gordon			Joining at 3:15
Odom	Harold	X		
Pattenaude	Damien			
Quinn	Adrienne	X		
Ramos	Michael	X		
Rankin	Sara	X		
Reddy	Simha	X		
Green	Lamont			<i>On behalf of Juanita Spotted Elk</i>
Spotted Elk	Juanita	X		

A quorum is present.

Record of Discussion and Decisions

Land Acknowledgement

Harold Odom speaks to the two paragraph Land Acknowledgement that the County set forth, Harold state that he thinks it should be more in depth, asks the Board Members what they think about continuing presentations, of the Board Members present, they all agree that we should keep this practice. The second question Harold asks, " As a Native American, how does it feel to have people speaking for you"? Harold also asks Board Member Juanita Spotted Elk, how does it feel to have another person speak for you, and you're not in the room?

Juanita Responds: It is a blessing to be a part of this work. I believe this territory is Cosalish, I was taught by Ray Williams and Co-Salish from Squamish , the work he did helped me reclaim my identity and my understanding of what little I know, to have someone who is very familiar with this work in the Land Acknowledgement, its good to have input from others, but for me; it helps me to get grounded and say a blessing, there are elders and some representation from Mother Nation or Chief Seattle Club. It would be good if an elder could open the circle.

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Approval of Minutes – Board recognized Carey Anderson has joined.

Harold Odom makes a motion to approve the November meeting minutes , Adrienne Quinn makes motion to approve, Sara Rankin seconds.

Last	First	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Anderson	Carey	X		
Caminos	Nate			X
Carvalho	Paula			X
Chelminiak	John	X		
McHenry	Gordon			X
Odom	Harold	X		
Pattenaude	Damien			X
Quinn	Adrienne	X		
Ramos	Michael	X		
Rankin	Sara	X		
Reddy	Simha	X		
Green	Lamont			
Spotted Elk	Juanita	X		

With 8 Yay – Zero Nay – 4 Absentees - The Minutes are approved.

Public Comment

- Bill Kirlin Hackett:** RHA has started some working groups on vehicle residency and we have met several times already, we are urgent about our work towards that, The City of Seattle has put some money into our work as Vehicle Residency/Scofflaw, we have recently been getting attention and spoke with the National Alliance to End Homelessness this week, their focus is on Unsheltered Homeless and especially West Coast vehicle residency and will be holding an event in February (2022). Hoping that with this attention will open the program to federal money, but wanting us to be informed as the national organizations are about vehicle residency and its place in our crisis and remedies we are working on and the still slight funding go toward it.

CEO Report

- Marc provided an Operational Update as well as a no vote budget briefing, this budget will be voted on in January 2022. Meg Barclay and Tiffany Brooks will lead us thru that.

KCRHA Staff as of December 8, 2021, about 27 people work here and what department they're in.

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- **The Executive Office – Marc Dones direct team.**
 - Marc Dones – Chief Executive Officer
 - Helen Howell – Deputy CEO
 - Erin Bryant-Thomas – Director of Equity and Justice
 - Naomi See – Special Assistant to the CEO
 - Katherine Wells - Executive Administrative Lead
 - Anne Martens – Director of External Affairs & Communications
 - Nigel Herbig – Intergovernmental Affairs Manager
- **Programs Team**
 - Peter Lynn – Chief Program Officer
 - Carol Mizoguchi – Grants Manager
 - Lisa Gustaveson – Senior Advisor
 - Shani Jones – Procurement Coordinator
 - Tony Machacha – Capacity Manager
 - Alex Ebrahimi – Performance Manager, Coordinated Entry
 - Cristian Santos – Program Specialist
 - Nneka Payne – Program Specialist
 - Raphael Hartman – Program Specialist
 - Olivia Haidos – Program Coordinator
 - Tianna Brave – Program Specialist
- **Administration**
 - Meg Barclay – Chief Administrative Officer
 - Tiffany Brooks – Finance Director
- **Subregional Planning**
 - Alexis Mercedes-Rink – Subregional Planning Manager
 - Paul Tan – South King County Subregional Specialist
 - Sparrow Carlson – Subregional Specialist
- **Community impact**
 - Owen Kajfasz – Acting Chief Community Impact Officer
 - Data Asset Manager – soon to be hired
- **Office of the Ombuds**
 - Katara Jordan – Chief Ombudsperson

Marc continues by saying I just wanted to give you a sense of who works and what their roles are. Our staff consist of 73% People of Color, and several of them identify as folks with lived experience.

Harold asks March to go back over the presentation and brings attention to RHA's new logo. Great work by Anne Martens, we were able to secure grant money to be able to do our branding and assistance with re-vamping the KCRHA website, to make it more accessible.

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Meg and Tiffany report out on the budget. - Board recognized Nate Caminos has joined
Wanted to give an update now that the Seattle City Council has approved the final budget.
Power Point slide linked [here](#).

- Items for Action
 - KCRHA 2022 Final Budget - What the KCRHA Budget looks like – Big Picture.
 - 71.04% - Continued Programs - \$11,734,032
 - 22.04% New Programs - \$37,569,077
 - 6.94% Operating and Administration - \$167,144,538The Operational budget gap has closed. Marc shares how grateful for the action the Seattle City Council took on that front.
 - City of Seattle Provisos
 - **Provisos – Budget provisos are the mechanism that the Council uses to impose restrictions on appropriations in the City’s budget. Budget provisos are included in as a part of a Council Budget Action.**
 - Proviso 1: \$800K of the \$3.6M for COVID Mitigation – No impact funds are already planned to be used for modification and services at youth engagement centers.
 - Proviso 2: \$10.7M of the City Base Contracts for tiny house villages – No impact, funds are already planned to be used for the THV’s in 2022 contract plan.
 - City of Seattle Earmarks
 - **Earmarks – An earmark is a provision inserted into a discretionary spending appropriations bill that directs funds to a specific recipient while circumventing the merit-based or competitive funds allocation process.**
 - Funding Directed to Specific Providers:
 - \$185K – Maintain vehicle resident outreach and parking offense mitigation (two adds – Scofflaw Mitigation)
 - \$100K – Expand homelessness day center services (God’s Lil’ Acre)
 - \$900K – Camp Second Chance Village Expansion & Behavioral Health Services (two adds – LIHI).

Questions/Comments

Nate Caminos – The scenarios that Marc just laid out, knowing we are already at December 8th and knowing the Governing Committee is meeting in January 2022, thinking about 2022 budget in 2022 what the scenarios might play in the terms of timeliness if we decide to continue to be reengaged with Seattle City Council regarding provisos?

Marc Dones responds – In the decision you all could make that would have operational impact would be to decline the provisos, since the provisos include what RHA is/are planning to move forward with

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(examples given, - RV) there is no operational impact. If you all decided to decline to accept proviso, which would transition over to RHA, we would then not have authorization to spend those dollars as they are structured. If I had a suggestion; it would be to not do that, but I will say again, "It is you all – Implementation Board decision to make". If the decision was made to not to go with the earmarks as they are, then there would be some negotiation with the Seattle City Council that would take place over the course in January, that would have a significant operational impact if you all were to make that choice.

Michael responds: With no operational impact stated, I would like to see pro-active messaging, acknowledging those budget earmarks & proviso's especially since these are populations in those dollars that are least attended to and have been spoken to frequently in public comment, do this would create common interest with the Seattle elected leaders in messaging that the RHA is moving forward, we will access, evaluate and consider in cooperation these kinds of earmarks & provisos into our regular budget package in the future. In other words, we are monitoring how it goes.

John S. – This sounds like we are being treated as a department, It does not appear there's much programmatic discretion in the budget (asks Marc to expand) or was the expectation that we would do what the City of Seattle wanted to do in this first year and move things thru 2022, standing up our policies and programs – Marc responds – Its all/little in between, we have latitude in for example, the dollars for new significant programming (RV). John interjects, "That is how departments are ran by the City of Seattle, the dollars would be allocated to a specific program and a department named for it". My point is, If the whole point in standing up this organization was to do things differently, why are we simply doing it the same"? – Marc responds, to that degree, there is some departmental interaction, that this is the policy question that is before you all. " How do you all want to be in conversations with your colleagues at the Seattle City Council about this kind of activity moving forward" from my prospective, operationally this does not impact us significantly, because the work we are doing in terms of RV are already there. John thanks Marc and expresses his concern of bureaucracies normally do things the same way repeatedly. Will we have the opportunity to dialogue with Seattle City Council/Mayors Office in the spring on the FY 2023? Will the IB & GC be able to weight in on that? – Yes.

I was going to suggest that we do something different, but if the sense of the body is to accept proviso and budget, then I will support that.

Harold Odom – I'm agreeing with John. In standing up this agency, it is not to have a big brother, we hired a CEO who has hired staff that are competent. I don't think we should have governments telling us what to do with funds.

Adrienne Quinn - Largely in agreement with the sentiments shared, I think one way to address this is to express appreciation to the Seattle City Council for increasing the amount of monies that they are directing toward homelessness. The one concern I have as mention previously is, if any Council, government agency or public funder decides what programs to be funded, will undermine the expertise and authority of the RHA. I think we could invite the Seattle City Council and other funders to participate in conversations and ensure the role that they play is they are adhering to the priorities that are being approved by both the Implementation Board and Governing Committee that have representation from City, County. So that their role is to approve the priorities being stated but not to fund specific programs.

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Simha Reddy – I appreciate the discussion. Thanks Adrienne who expressed thoughts/concerns well. I think we should accept this budget as is, if we want to ensure stability for the programs as John mentioned, that are important in this coming year, but going forward we want to minimize the earmarks and provisos that would create restrictions on our ability to make equity base approaches. The FY 2023 will give us the opportunity to have robust conversations with King County & Seattle Councils and Mayors office to insure they understand our priorities and not make funding for/on specific programs.

KCRHA Policies

Anne Martens – Public Records Request Policy – As it details the procedure for making a public records request with what is needed by the requestor and what the RHA can do in response and making sure that the policy is available to the Public. Policy was reviewed by legal counsel to make sure that the policy adheres to the letter and spirit of the law.

Peter Lynn – Contracts and Document Signing Policy– This document details who is authorized to sign documents in the various contact levels and the ability to accept electronic signed documents. Board approval is needed to demonstrate that the RHA has adopted the acceptance of electronic signatures.

Nat Caminos asks for a move on approval of the Public Records Request and the Contracts and Document Signing Polices by voice vote – Simha Reddy moves, Carrie Anderson Seconds. Both Policies are approved by the Implementation Board.

Point In Time Count – Marc Dones

- **Process & Approach**
 - The PIT (Point in Time) count is an annual count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness on a single night in January.
 - HUD requires that Continuums of Care conduct on a biennial count of unsheltered people experiencing homelessness
 - Each count is planned, coordinated, and carried out locally
- **PIT Count Challenges**
 - It is widely known that the PIT Count is a devastating undercount of people experiencing homelessness, especially in sub-regions outside of Seattle.
 - The PIT relies on what volunteers see during a few hours in the early morning, in a neighborhood that may be unfamiliar, recorded on a paper tally sheet, with a likelihood of heavy rain or cold, which means there are many ways for data to be missed.
 - Without an alternative, the PIT Count has become the national census on homelessness by default.
 - Without a true number of people experiencing homelessness, we cannot right size resources to make an impact in the community.
- **Opportunities to Re-Envision the PIT Count**
 - The RHA is committed to a customer-centered approach to the PIT Count.
 - We are developing the research plan in collaboration with the LEC, service providers and stakeholders across King County.

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- Our current best thinking is that we will carry out a multi-modal qualitative engagement, including surveys, interviews, and focus groups, and will include a headcount that meets HUD requirements.

- **Next Steps**

- KCRHA will be engaging key stakeholders through a series of workshops, surveys, and conversations over the next several months.
- KCRHA is working closely with HUD on obtaining a waiver and exploring how KCRHA’s approach can inform future guidelines around the PIT count.
- KCRHA is working to develop a By Name List that will be a dynamic picture of how many people are experiencing homelessness and their specific needs.

Board Calendar for 2022

KCRHA staff introduces a Board Calendar for 2022, as per the ILA it requires a vote by the Board for approval. Proposed meeting dates for 2022. No changes were made to the regularly. Nate Caminos asks for a motion to move on the approval of the 2022 Board calendar as written – Adrienne – move Carey Anderson – Second via voice vote . 2022 Board Calendar Passes.

Officers/Co-Chairs/Subcommittees

- **Vote for new Co-Chair (replace Nate Camino’s seat)**

- Simha Reddy would like to fill the Co-chair to support KCRHA on a deeper level. Motion by Adrienne Quinn to approve BM Reddy for the Co-chair seat effective today, seconded by BM Chelminiak.

Last	First	Yay	Nay	Abstain
Anderson	Carey	X		
Caminos	Nate	X		
Carvalho	Paula			X
Chelminiak	John	X		
McHenry	Gordon	X		
Odom	Harold	X		
Pattenaude	Damien			X
Quinn	Adrienne	X		
Ramos	Michael	X		
Rankin	Sara			X
Reddy	Simha	X		
Green	Lamont			
Spotted Elk	Juanita	X		

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With 7 Yay – Zero Nay – 5 Absentees - The motion passes. BM Reddy now is Co-Chair

Nominations for Treasurer and Secretary

Will Poll for nominations offline.

Adjourn

Next Meeting

DRAFT