

**CoC Board Meeting Minutes**  
**July 13, 2023, Thursday**  
**9:00 am**  
**Sharing Hope Ministries, 2300 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Ave.**

The meeting was called to order at 9am by President Steve Smart

**Members Present:** Steve Smart, Kraig Stockstill, Jason Riddlespurger, Joyce Knight, Juan Maldonado, Kay Pechin, Virginia Williams-Trice, Michael Johnson, Julie Cleveland, Susan Webb, Audra Rea, Kay Pechin, Dr. Shanna James, Meg DeJong-Shier, Caressa Pena, Rudy Montano, Lilia Escajeda, Audra Rea excused. Vanessa Robinson-visiting

**Approval of Minutes**

The motion was made by Jason Riddlespurger to approve the May 2023 board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Kraig Stockstill and passed unanimously by the board.

The motion was made by Meg Dejong-Shier to approve the May 2023 general meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Juan Maldonado and passed unanimously by the board.

The motion was made by Jason Riddlespurger to approve the June 2023 board meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Kraig Stockstill and passed unanimously by the board.

**Lead Agency Updates**

Jason reported:

- CoC NOFA has been published and is due September 28, 2023 for those agencies wishing to apply.
- The Ranking and Scoring will need to meet in August to rank and score prospective applicants.
- Tech Assistance has been approved from HUD. This will help our CoC understand and use the capabilities of HMIS to improve our scores.
- The PIT Count has volunteers for the day. If anyone still wants to sign up, they will be put with a team to help with the effort.

**Committee Reports**

- **Ending Youth Homelessness**-we still need a chair.
- **Education-Shana will introduce Ryan Francis from Amarillo College at the general meeting. He will talk on adult education and an innovative partnership with the CoC and our clients.**
- **Policy and Procedure**-Jason and Kraig are continuing to meet. Kraig reported that we need to vote on 2 policies today.
- **HMIS Advisory**-did not have a meeting. Caressa expressed a concern that agencies are not using uniform data or even using the data part of the HMIS system. There is an online consortium that Virginia will watch to get more info on HMIS and report back to the board.
- **Ranking and Scoring needs a chair.**
- **Vet Homelessness**- Lois McDonald is the chair. Chris Israel offered a tour of Vet Star after the meetings today.

- **Fundraising Event-** Audra informed the board that we will need to provide a letter to Amarillo Area Foundation that we want to move forward with an event. They are willing to retain fiscal responsibility for the event as long as we stay in compliance. They may also help with seed money rather than having a golf tournament for seed money for an event. We need to meet with AAF to get things ironed out to proceed.
- **Decriminalization of Homelessness-**Kay reported that the NOFA does ask for how we are addressing the law. She posed the question; Do we need a lobbyist? The NOFA does not address legislation. The Health Department has met with Randall County in June and plans to meet with Potter County in August. Randall County gave an intake tour and reentry for the homeless in Randall County. The questions posed are, What are the limitations of the legal system? What are the questions asked of homeless enforcement? How is Randal and Potter the same and how are they different? Intake is key to the way a person is handled. The Amarillo Health Department is working to make a better plan with law enforcement for homeless persons. Potter now has a good CIT. We want to promote educating the troops not to hassle with ridiculous crimes. This will be a good start at decriminalization and not making assumptions.
- The question of needing an Ad Hoc Committee for Decriminalization of Homelessness.
- CoC needs to become visible in the community-maybe a flyer or brochure would be helpful. Meg will make a draft of a flyer and/or brochure on the CoC.
- The idea of using Rick Wilcox to interview the homeless and make a commercial also was suggested.
- Who do we have to do the Social Media for the CoC?
- Meg volunteered to be the Chair of the Ad hoc Committee for Decriminalization.
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Because of time and the general meeting needing to start the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 am.

Respectfully submitted,

  
 Joyce Knight  
 Secretary