

Amarillo CoC

**General Membership Minutes**

**January 11, 2024 @ 10:00 a.m.**  
**City Hall Room 105**

The meeting was called to order at 10:05 am by Kraig Stockhill.

**Members Present:** All general members made their introductions.

**Approval of Minutes:** Board members ratified their board, none opposed, it was ratified. These are the first minutes of the year.

Kraig provided an update on Board minutes; policies were kept, and minutes were accepted.

Kraig spoke on the Shelter Committee historically meeting on a regular basis. The challenges the Homeless Shelters are having within the community and the Shelter Committee will need to reform and Michelle Shields and Virginia Trice Williams will co-found the board.

If you are a person responsible for sheltering, please participate in the Shelter Committee. The first meeting will be held on February 2<sup>nd</sup> at 10:00 AM at Family Support Services.

**Lead Agency Updates:**

Jason Riddlespurger provided updates on the CoC's acceptance through HUD. The HUD representatives provided the CoC new technical assistance with Homebase. Homebase consists of experienced members that work with CoC restructuring. As a reminder, the City of Amarillo is not the CoC. The technical assistance will aid in increasing our overall application scores that can result in additional funding. There will be changes and input/feedback is encouraged.

Kraig added that in the last meeting with Homebase it was discussed that our scoring was 12 out of 59 points. We left 47 points on the table. With improved scores this improves the funding, resulting in more resources.

Jason talked about the new Library Case Manager partnership between the Library and Coming Home. Justin Ward will be navigating available resources to clients that come into the Library. If you haven't gotten the chance to meet Justin Ward, please get to know him. This program is available to everyone in the community.

## **Committee Reports:**

Shanna James talked about the PIT Committee. Duplications have been an issue when PIT count is conducted. A solution to this issue is providing 'I Count' stickers to individuals experiencing homelessness once they have been interviewed during PIT.

Kraig added that the 'I Count' stickers were supported by the Board but was opened up to the General Membership if they feel inclined to donate to the cost of the stickers.

January 26<sup>th</sup> there will be a Resource Fair at the GSRC, please contact Shanna if you would like to participate.

If you are using HMIS, please be sure to update HMIS entries during PIT.

Currently, there are a total of 65 volunteers to help with the 24-hour count. We need additional volunteers to make this a successful count. Please tell your church groups, friends, family, etc.

Although the count is for 24-hours, this does not mean that volunteers are required to count for 24-hours. The shifts will be for 2-3 hours and this count will focus on unsheltered individuals.

Training for PIT will be held the day of. The training will provide guidance on how to conduct the interviews, providing detailed descriptions and scenarios. Please contact Samantha Hernandez or Shanna James for donations. Donations for volunteer food are needed.

## **Collaborative Action – Shanna James**

This is a New Year, New CoC!

What is a collaborative group?

- Working together to indicate progress.
- Some questions to consider.
  - What type of collaboration group is the CoC?
  - What type of collaboration group should the CoC be?
  - How can we get there?

Collaboration is a mutually beneficial and a well-defined relationship entered by two or more organizations to achieve results. They are more likely to achieve goals together rather than alone.

Why do we collaborate?

- Create a change and work as a team.
- Complete problems that require complex solutions.
- Great knowledge, ideas, skills, and resources.

## Levels of Collaborations

- Networking
- Cooperations of alliances
- Coordination of Partnership
- Coalitions
- Full Collaborations

Hogus's Level of community linkage model, the collaboration process.

## Lowest level of collaboration

1. Networking – aware of organization loosely defined roles. Little communication all decisions are made independently.
2. Cooperation – Providing information to each other, somewhat defined roles, all decisions are made independently.
3. Coordination – Share information and resources, defined roles, frequent communication, and some shared decision making.
4. Coalition – Share ideas, share resources, frequent and prioritized communication, and all members have a vote in decision making.
5. Collaboration – Members belong to one system, frequent communication characterized by mutual trust, consensus is reached on all decisions.

Shanna concluded her presentation, there were no questions.

## **New Facebook Page:**

Shanna spoke about the New Facebook. Please be sure to unlike and unfollow the old Facebook page we are working to get it deactivated. The new Facebook page will have updates and will be better for social media sharing.

## **Updates/Announcements:**

Please update your membership applications through the QR code.

Cenikor, Seth – Running a special free week every month, 30 spots available for males. Cenikor is putting in for a grant to get Big Texas Rall Recovery held in Houston and Dallas to be held in Amarillo. The deadline will be in September. Looking for help with collaboration.

City Federal Credit Union – Financial literacy classes, basic checking/saving accounts. Would like to collaborate with other agencies. Currently working with Heal the City and Another Chance House.

Amarillo National, Lilia – Financial literacy classes available in English and Spanish.

Martha's Home – Woman Collation meet second Friday of every month at the CFA.

City of Amarillo, Jason – We are not experts! Please ask questions because we are learning things. It's encouraged to network and find out what is happening in our communities. We need a larger voice, and we need to come together to be that loud voice.

AHF, Virginia – Compassionate training will be cancelled and will be sending out an update on when meeting will happen. Fentanyl and other opioid – Narcan training. The cancellation is due to weather.

They will be open 7Pm to 7AM, pets, carts, backpacks and bikes are welcome. Text us your location and description so pick up can be arranged.

DTW- Annual Luncheon, February 7.

**Closing Remarks:**

A challenge to you all, bring a coworker or anyone that has never been to the CoC meeting.

**Adjournment:**

Meeting adjourned at 10:57AM.

New Members –

Kevin Baker General Membership  
Major Tex Ellis with the Salvation Army  
Will Grant with Guyon Saunders Resource Center

All were approved and allowed membership

Meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.