

Pasco County Continuum of Care

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE OF MEETING: OCTOBER 11TH, 2023

LOCATION: BAYCARE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH - MAGNOLIA PLAZA (NEW PORT RICHEY)

TIME STARTED: 9:32 AM

TIME ENDED: 11:06 AM

COMMITTEE PRESENT			
ROSANNE SMITHWICK	GEOFF HARLAN	CHRISTA LONGO	GREG ARMSTRONG
MARCY ESBJERG	JENNIFER WATTS		
COMMITTEE ABSENT			
MARK WICKHAM			
OTHERS PRESENT			
THOMAS O’CONNOR BRUNO			
AGENDA	ACTIONS		
CALL TO ORDER	The meeting was called to order at 9:32 AM by Rosanne Smithwick		
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (EC) DEFINED	<p>Rosanne gives thanks to the previous Executive Committee for their hard work.</p> <p>Thomas O’Connor Bruno will take minutes of the meeting.</p> <p>The Committee reviewed the charter and discussed what the role of the EC is – do not want to overstep or interfere but also do not want to ignore responsibilities.</p>		
COC ORGANIZATIONAL CHART	<p>The Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County, Inc. presented the original Organizational Chart at the CoC General Membership Meeting on September 21st, 2023. This was developed with the assistance of the Florida Housing Coalition (FHC).</p> <p>Geoff Harlan asks: does the EC do everything and the LC is there just “because” or are we actively looking to the LC as the “governing board”? Committee discusses that the EC, according to the charter, is there in the event of an “emergency”. An emergency was defined as something that had to occur before an entire LC vote/notification could be done. Committee agrees that the LC is the deciding body of the CoC.</p> <p>A question was raised about the placement of the EC on the chart. The point was made that, in most organizations, the EC is empowered to act for the group in cases where a decision must be made, but the entire group cannot meet. Our governance Charter states this as well. As the EC is designed to communicate with both the Leadership Council and the entire Continuum of Care, the Organizational Chart was changed to reflect this fact. The revised chart is now available.</p>		
SHARED HOUSING COMMITTEE REPORT	Geoff discussed research into Shared Housing. Sarasota’s was run by the Housing Authority but no longer is in practice. There are two in Florida: Pinellas and Charlotte Counties. The		

Homeshare in Pinellas advertises that they serve Pasco as well. The agency is Homeshare Pinellas County.

Marcy: did one in Burlington; usually paired people together that could provide chore assistance; it can be an easy sell for older people.

Geoff: this is a wonderful opportunity; if a good match between people occurs, this can be successful; this is about two people making a business decision.

Christa Longo: people are being priced out; will this follow Housing First?

Marcy: this is less homelessness and more affordable housing; this should be just “another tool in the tool box.”

Rosanne: HUD had a meeting specifically about shared housing and the discussion was that HMIS and BNL could be used but is not mandatory.

Geoff: this is more of a “prevent homeless”; if we can get out to the churches and faith based organizations right away; I hear about a lot of roommate situations where the people work service industries; there are only 60 currently in the system.

Greg Armstrong: one good way to get to them is through Meals on Wheels; those are people we know have need; those individuals are more likely to reach out; also through, in home housecare;

Geoff: everyone who serves in the Continuum could spread the word.

Marcy: in Burlington, it was very progressive; she knows the program because it was funded through CDBG; any time we did anything on affordable housing they talked about homeshare; it never moved the needle; it is hard to have situations where things work out great; don’t have high expectations; I don’t think we would have more than 60.

Geoff: pre-Covid, I think you are right; but since then, lives have been impacted in such a negative way;

Christa: Pasco was on the cusp of this; rowan and 54 building was built for seniors; had some mental health clients sharing, then sober living; apartments are set up the same now; Rowan, just north of 54 on the west side; one building was made into a locked facility.

Geoff: asks if he should invite her (Executive Director of Homeshare) to speak at a GM meeting; get people together to brainstorm; talk to all the members; is this something he should start talking with Commissioners about?

Greg: states that the key is getting it started and getting some success stories..

Marcy: lets wait and have them report to the LC meeting.

Rosanne: suggests that Geoff reach out and invite her to the LC meeting first on October 26th.

Geoff: agrees to contact Homeshare Pinellas about the meeting.

TIMES BUILDING UPDATE

Greg speaks about the Times Building. There will be a meeting on Friday, the 13th, at the Times Building (including the CEO of Times, the CFO, the General Manager and all their attorney; Congressman; County attorney and admin); Congressman chatted with CEO and they decided we would get it all worked out.

Rosanne: us as a group, we could suggest what could be done with the building.

Greg: County has a big say in all of this; we just want a seat at the table.

	<p>Marcy: do we want to suggest an “open forum” or start with the CoC?</p> <p>Greg: I think it is very important not to call it shelter or homeless; pushing to call it an “opportunity center”; “shelter” sounds bad.</p> <p>Rosanne: everyone says “we should help the homeless but not in our area”; the 26th meeting could be a good time to discuss.</p> <p>Thomas: does the county have a pre-conceived idea of what the project should be?</p> <p>Marcy: believes the County would like it to follow in the “Pinellas HOPE” model and be a “Pasco Hope” but it must go out to RFP.</p> <p>Thomas: has heard that two other agencies may be interested; at the Florida Coalition to End Homelessness (FCEH) Conference, we spoke with Grace Marketplace in Gainesville;</p> <p>Marcy: asks if Grace is the “best model.”</p> <p>Thomas: believes it is as they are asked to present at every conference specifically about their program.</p> <p>Thomas: asks that the Commissioners temper their expectations because the visual unsheltered are not the ones that will be going to the shelter voluntarily.</p> <p>Marcy: this needs to be low barrier if the county is going to allow for law enforcement to pick up and drop off.</p> <p>Thomas: suggests long term and short term objectives.</p> <p>Greg: the commissioners don’t want a long term plan.</p> <p>Rosanne: “define wraparound services.”</p> <p>Committee suggests to chat about the Times Building at the next LC meeting, after the details have been sorted out on October 13th. A group could be formed to lead the discussion and present during an open forum with the County.</p>
<p>ENTITLEMENT COMMUNITY</p>	<p>Rosanne explained that there is some confusion with specific terms that exist in the homeless and housing environment. One of those terms is “entitlement community”.</p> <p>Marcy explained that “you are either a principal city of 50K+ or a County of 200K+ and HUD notifies that you are eligible to apply for funding: HOME, CDBG, ESG.</p> <p>The money is dependent on low-median income; age of housing stock; housing conditions that are problematic (cost burden, housing stock that has other bad conditions) and the formula based upon several items.</p> <p>The County presents a Consolidated Plan every five (5) years.</p>
<p>FUTURE MEETINGS</p>	<p>The Committee discussed whether or not the EC meetings were closed or not. It was discussed that these meetings are open but, if a non-committee member is present, that person can be involved during the “public comment” section.</p> <p>Committee decided to meet on the first Wednesday of every-other month at 1:30 pm, in person, at the Baycare location. If additional meetings need to be scheduled, they can be.</p> <p>Next Executive Committee meeting will be December 6th, 2023 at 1:30 pm.</p>

ADJOURNED	The meeting was adjourned at 11:06 AM. Next Leadership Council Meeting: October 26, 2023, at 10 AM at Harvester Community Church Next Executive Committee Meeting: December 6, 2023, at 1:30 PM at Baycare Location
ACTION ITEMS	Coalition for the Homeless of Pasco County: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Complete minutes for this Executive Committee Meeting• Printing out name tags for leadership council members• Provide paper sticky name tags for others present at meetings Geoff Harlan: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ask Homeshare Pinellas to present at the Leadership Council Meeting