

Regular Meeting
April 28, 2021

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL:

Meeting was called to order at 9:01 AM.

Board Members:

- Eric Onisko, Council, City of Shelton
- Kevin Shutty, MC BOCC
- Mark Freedman,
- Cappy Shapiro, Citizen
- Peggy VanBuskirk, MC Board of Health
- Randy Olson, Citizen
- Beau Bakken, Citizen

Staff Members:

- Todd Parker, MC Public Health
- Abe Gardner, MC Public Health
- Lydia Buchheit, MC Public Health

Guest Speakers:

- Jim States, MD, Department of Emergency Management-Social Service Task Force

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

Motion was made by Eric Onisko and seconded by Peggy VanBuskirk to approve the agenda. **Motion carried unanimously.**

4. MEETING TOPICS:

a. Guest Speaker-Jim States

Update on what the Social Service task force has done in the last year. The 1st couple of months was a huge learning curve for resources. In the early days we helped agencies switch from in person services to zoom, this was not an easy task. There were many technical challenges along with emotional challenges as well. The social service agencies were glad that they had the support that was needed.

The next step was helping with barriers and sharing resources. United Way was involved in several new projects/programs. Agencies were very helpful with each other.

The task force continues to meet once a month, working on sustaining all efforts after the pandemic.

Ways to sustain would be to help clients with integrated health care continuing, more resources are needed for this. It will take approximately 3-4 years of commitment to pull out of all the effects of the pandemic. We need to be thinking about some long-term effects from this. We need to supercharge the community to be able to continue like we have been. There are some bills in legislation that will create come new crisis funding.

b. Transportation Program-Abe Gardner

There is huge gap in transportation services for those needing SUD/Mental health help. Dial a ride is being scaled back. Abe put together some costs and some ideas to purchase 2 vans from MTA. 1 could be used for out of county and 1 for in county. GM would be willing to take on this project with the upkeep and the scheduling and driving of the vans. The 1st year would be used to collect data for funding from subsequent years. Once funding is in place then there will be processes put in place on how the vans will be dispatched and how agencies will also refer clients for transportation services. Having this in place will help get more people in to the services that they need. Lydia would like to fund gaps this year with TST monies. It was discussed to fully fund this project for the 1st year and bring to the BOCC for approval of using TST funding.

c. TST Contracting

There was a discussion of opening the RFP process, or just renewing contracts, using a letter of interest for funding. This will be discussed more at the next meeting.

d. Eviction Rent Assistance

The T-rap has been signed and ready to fund. The funding will go through Dec 31, 2021. It is approved for Crossroads and Shelton Youth Connections to use the funding. Todd is also working with PUD for 300,000 to be used for utilities.

e. Housing Needs Assessment

There was a discussion on doing an assessment in Mason County. Thurston County just did one. Need to have a discussion at the next meeting about HB1590.

5. GOOD OF THE ORDER:

MCHA is having some plumbing issues at one of their complexes, they may be asking for funding for that.

Might be a good idea to ask Alex Paysse to the next meeting talk about RV's and Codes.

6. ADJOURN: The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: May 26, 2021 via Zoom