

CoC Governing Board Meeting  
Meeting Minutes  
September 24, 2020

The CoC Governing Board Meeting was held on September 24, 2020 via GoToMeeting. The meeting began at 2:01pm and was facilitated by Chair, Kathryn Firmin-Sellers with Emily Frazier taking minutes.

**Board Members in attendance:** Stacy Lowry, Warren Wooten, Kathryn Firmin-Sellers, Tchernavia Montgomery, Dennis LaCaria, Deronda Metz, Stephen McQueen, Patrick Hayes, Aleasha Eaves, Hope Marshall, Anthony Ryback, Lily Haken, Dave Collins, Gerald Littlejohn, Victor Nicholson

**Board Members not in attendance:** Sonia Jenkins, Timica Melvin, Lashieka Hardin, Maya Marshall, Rodney Tucker

**Guests in attendance:** Megan Coffey (Mecklenburg County CSS), Courtney LaCaria (Mecklenburg County CSS), Mary Ann Priester (Mecklenburg County CSS), Bridget Anderson (UNC, Urban Institute) Shamika Agbeviade (Mecklenburg County CSS), Kecia Robinson (VA), Rosalyn Johnson (Cardinal Innovations), Emily Frazier (CSS), Trish Hobson (The Relatives), Harry Mack (Social Serve), Rosalyn Allison-Jacobs (Homeless Prevention Project), Peter Safir (Mecklenburg County CSS)

**Welcome (Kathryn Firmin-Sellers) attendance (Branden Lewis)**

**New Board Members**

Dave Collins (Health Care Center Administrator, Charlotte VA Health Care Center (HCC) and Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC))

Gerard Littlejohn (Executive Director, Steve Smith Foundation)

Victor Nicholson (Executive Director, Stratford Richardson YMCA)

**Motion: Review July and August meeting minutes (Kathryn Firmin-Sellers)**

Meeting minutes approved. (Stephen made motion; Patrick second)

**COVID-19 Response Updates:** new developments in the community response since last meeting

Deronda Metz (Salvation Army)

- Salvation Army partnering with Mecklenburg County to extend hotel housing using an extended stay model
- Salvation Army renovation project to expand building by Jan 2021
- Detention Center (zoning challenges)

Tchernavia Montgomery (Crisis Assistance Ministry)

- Assisting with various of issues clients impacted during COVID 19 (rent, utilities, food)

- Plan to open furniture bank soon

Stephen McQueen (Roof Above)

- Tryon St Shelter still open and running
- Relocated Statesville Rd Shelter clients to hotels
- Housing program still operating and assisting clients in the community

Patrick Hayes (Veterans Bridge Home)

- Veterans Stand Down 9/25/20 9am-1pm 5500 Executive Center Dr
- Homeless Veterans

**Home 4 Good Homelessness to Housing Response Framework Proposal-presented by Dennis LaCaria (Co-Chair):**

- New partners within the community are joining the meetings
- Working to identify challenges
- Working toward finding options, programs, policies, opportunities to assist with homelessness
- Moving toward breaking down silos which encompass more permanent and supportive housing in the community

**State of Housing Instability and Homelessness Report Presentation (presented by Courtney LaCaria/Bridget Anderson):**

- 2020 is the 5th year of reporting this information
- Key Findings (Housing Instability, Homelessness, Stable Housing)
- Content (Cost burden, renters cost-burden is increasing across income levels, rental housing is shrinking, demand for rental assistance increased 907% in first two months of pandemic, 3,111 individuals are actively experiences homelessness in Charlotte, 4,118 CMS students are experiences homelessness, multiple barriers to obtaining housing(\*income\*physical/mental health\*evictions\*criminal record), rapid rehousing and permanent housing has decreased, low-income households rent units at higher cost than they can afford, 44% of households with subsidized vouchers are denied, COVID -19 economic insecurity has increased 98% since Feb 2020, and housing instability is higher for Blacks and Latinx households.
- So, What: \*Inventory is decreasing in Charlotte and the housing need is increasing\*extremely low income households face largest gaps\*barriers limit access to available housing\*housing instability & homelessness are a problem in Charlotte Pre-Date COVID 19\*
- The Message: Our Ship is Sinking\*\*\*There is not enough permanent affordable housing in Charlotte

**Committees & Workgroups Updates: (presented by Branden Lewis):** updates to Board members via email & in meeting materials

Patrick Hayes (Veterans Bridge Home)

- Coordinated Entry Oversight Committee has an opening for the Prevention seat on the committee. Applications should be sent to [charmeckcoc@mecknc.gov](mailto:charmeckcoc@mecknc.gov).

**Public Comment (presented by Branden Lewis):**

N/A

**Charter and Written Standards Updates (presented by Kathryn Firmin-Sellers):**

- What changes need to be made
- Feedback needed and welcomed

**Upcoming Meeting Dates (presented by Kathryn Firmin-Sellers):**

- Special CoC Governing Board Meeting 10/1 2pm-4pm (Review Recommended FY2021 ESG Applications)
- Monthly CoC Governing Board Meeting 10/22 2pm-4pm

Meeting adjourned at 3:23pm (Kathryn moved; Deronda second)