

**Olmsted County Human Services Division
Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB)**

Wednesday, January 9, 2019
Room 161, 2117 Campus Drive S.E.

A. Call to order

Chair Alexander called to order the regular meeting of the Community Services Advisory Board (CSAB) at 7:03 a.m.

Members Present

Susan Ahlquist, Alex Alexander, Melissa Brandt, Patrick Keane, JoMarie Morris, Judy Ohly, Commissioner Stephanie Podulke, Randy Schmidt, Walter L. Smith III, Justin Stotts, Tierre Webster, Shirley Westbrook.

Members Absent

Patrick Gannon, Commissioner Sheila Kiscaden.

Staff Present

Sarah Oachs, Corrine Erickson, Amy Shillabeer, Diane Paradise, Bea SanMiguel-Molina, Dave Dunn, Jenna Gilbertson, Michael Garner, Graham Briggs, Leigh Durbahn, Trent Fluegel, Dan Jensen, Nate Pike, Melissa Brenhaug.

Staff Absent

None.

Guests

None.

B. Agenda Changes for Regular Meeting

None.

C. Approval of minutes from last meeting

A motion was made and seconded to approve the December 12, 2018, CSAB meeting minutes. Change on the 4th page, the first sentence to drop the second “is” in the sentence. Motion carried.

D. Chair Announcements

New Member Introductions

Chair Alexander thanked Randy Schmidt for his service as chair last year and for his help with the transition over to chairperson and expressed best wishes and words of appreciation for the work done by Karen Nation as CSAB Vice Chair for 2018. He welcomed Susan Ahlquist and Melissa Brandt as new members to CSAB. Susan said she has been a long-time resident of Olmsted County and worked for Mayo Clinic. Since retiring her direction has been to serve the community. Melissa has been working for Rochester Public Schools for 8 years. She has worked with families experiencing homelessness and now works with the Family Engagement Team. Members took turns introducing themselves. The chair said there are three vacancies; one consumer and two at large positions. The member at large positions will be filled

later this month as two candidates will go before the County Board for their appointments. He asked staff if there is anyone they could recommend for the consumer position to let him know. The United Way representative is still vacant, and both Randy and Chair have reached out to the United Way. He expects to have an update by the February meeting.

Declare Conflict of Interest

Chair Alexander said on an annual basis, CSAB members are asked to declare any potential conflict of interest, members reported the following:

Susan Ahlquist: Channel One Regional Food Bank Board of Directors, Chair

Alex Alexander: None

Melissa Brandt: None

Patrick Keane: None

JoMarie Morris: Jeremiah Program

Judy Ohly: None

Randy Schmidt: None

Walter L. Smith III: None

Justin Stotts: None

Tierre Webster: None

Shirley Westbrook: None

E. Decision/Working Items

Guidelines & Bylaws

Chair Alexander said the CSAB Guidelines & Bylaws were discussed a year ago and the consensus was to change the name of the CSAB to Human Services Advisory Board (HSAB) and to change some wording; the current document is the most current document to be revised. The Olmsted County Attorney Office is requesting all advisory boards to review their guidelines and bylaws and submit them for review by March for consistency and structure. A discussion took place regarding the wording of the guidelines. Members said the CSAB will not be making budget recommendations to the County Board but would want to retain the option in the guidelines and bylaws. The focus will now be on identifying emerging issues and make recommendations to the County Board to help or elevate the topic chosen by the CSAB. Those recommendations could include policy, strategy, action items, emerging issue and could consist of budgeting. The consensus was to not change the language of the guidelines except under Evaluation Section change the word “assures” to “assure”. The membership section of the guidelines was discussed regarding the United Way representative and will be further discussed in February.

Housing – Dave Dunn

Dave shared the mission of the Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) and gave an overview of what he had previously presented to the CSAB in October. He described the obstacles the department has encountered and summed those up to say the

assistance demand exceeded the supply and he explained the funding constraints in 2018. The Housing Choice Voucher (HCV) waiting list has been closed since 2012, but he expects the list to open sometime in 2019. The Public Housing list closed in 2016, and there are about 300 families on the waiting list. These programs make up most of the housing assistance they can provide and because of the limitation they have not been able to open up the application process for some time. Rental rates are difficult to track, but homes sale data is more accessible to attain, which is a good predictor for rental rates. The Rochester single-family home sales have increased from the median sale price of \$152,000 in 2010 to \$235,000 in 2019. The inflated cost of development and incomes not increasing has made it more difficult for families to buy a home. There are some multi-family housing projects underway with about 6,291 units, but 63% of these are priced at the higher market rate. In 2018 HRA made some progress with the Olmsted County Housing Environmental Scan and Health, Housing & Human Services Housing Workgroup which were made up of Olmsted County HRA and the Community Health Assessment and Planning (CHAP) Process. The goal was to articulate the current housing issues in Olmsted County, gain a better understanding of who is working with what, with the aim to clarify roles, identify what resources are available, gaps, develop priority areas, and common goals. The third group and most recent to join the efforts is the Housing Alliance. With the help of the Continuous Improvement & Analysis (CIA) team, they have come up with a common goal and identified workable solutions. Recommendations were split into four categories, and First Homes is taking the lead in the Supply Enhancement, and Maintenance category, HRA's specialty is Barrier Reduction category, but there has not been much work done in the Regulation, Policy, and Data Collection & Analysis nor in the Access and Awareness categories. Internally they had a Housing Workgroup which brought each department of Health, Housing & Human Services (HHHS) to develop a plan on how services can be delivered to a client no matter the client's entry point. They also need to determine how to get the information out to the community. The efforts to do outreach and connect with landlords, property managers, and landowners is required. This work cannot be done alone and HRA has an extensive line of collaborators, but there are still plenty of opportunities.

Trent Fluegel

Trent explained his role as the Housing Resource Coordinator and the unique structure it brings to be able to incorporate himself in all the areas of HHHS. Based on the grant obligations his position is tied to with the Department of Humans Services (DHS) they must complete a map of current housing resources and funding streams, complete a model and results-based accountability framework, develop a strategy of outreach, and put the objectives into operation. Working with the Housing Workgroups and thinking of housing in a home circle structure, building stability within the families and the community is the main priority. If people have a stable home, all other aspects

of life can be assessed to help the family be more stable. He has used mapping as a tool to gather information and grouped four key areas: resources, plans and reports, policy and advocacy, and collaborations. He has identified about 600 resources, but the biggest obstacle is accessibility. He has also gathered a great deal of information on the separate groups and organization who are actively involved in advocacy and interested in policies surrounding housing. Plans and reports have led him to find objectives and ideas within the different community groups but has also seen some overlaps and consensus. He has made some landlord liaison efforts by attending meetings at the Rochester Multi-Housing Association. He has interviewed with Board & Lodge services and Housing Support providers to identify needs. He is planning a Housing Choice Voucher landlord survey along with HRA to help better understand their concerns and opportunities. A Landlord Symposium is scheduled for mid-February. There is an opportunity to improve the housing stability plan which is part of case management. This will create an alliance between the tenant, landlord and the case manager. He has also seen an opportunity for housing to be considered in part as healthcare. How this would be executed is still being discussed, and many are interested in researching this possibility. A new connection to funding was made to access some previously closed funds, and they are hoping to be able to provide funding to specific participants such as the Father Project, Disability Services Unit, Corrections, Adult Behavioral Health and within the Crisis Center. Evidence shows the sooner a family can access stable housing the better, so children can maintain their stability.

Gap Identification - CSAB Members Dunn

Chair Alexander asked the CSAB and staff to split into two groups to discuss the course CSAB would like to take regarding Housing and Behavioral Health. The purpose of the exercise is to decide the actionable direction CSAB will seek to present the path to the County Board. After the two groups met, the Chair said they will discuss their ideas at the February meeting. CSAB will decide on the topic and course of action at this next meeting.

F. Emerging Items & Updates

County Board Announcements

Commissioner Podulke said this year's County Board Chair is Jim Bier. The Youth Commission handed out flyers at HyVee to help with the homeless youth food banks.

Staff Announcements

Corrine said because of the government shutdown Family Support & Assistance has received some inquiries about funding. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) will be funded through February. Olmsted County has about 4,800 cases, which is about 10,300 people; approximately \$152 per household or about 71 dollars per person, 8.7 million dollars a year for Olmsted County and about 358 million dollars for the State of Minnesota. These are federal funds that are administered by

the State of Minnesota and Olmsted County determines eligibility based on federal and state mandates. In the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) there are about 750 families, Medical Assistance has about 24,000 people, Child Care Assistance has about 775 families.

Other

None.

G. Adjournment

Chair Alexander adjourned the meeting at 9:02 a.m.

Minutes submitted by: Bea SanMiguel-Molina