



## PLANNING COUNCIL MEETING

Monday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018

12:30 – 2:00pm

Ending Community Homelessness Coalition (300 E. Highland Mall Blvd.)

### MINUTES

**Attendees:** Helen Gaebler (University of Texas), Kenneth Thompson (DFPS), Sarah Worthington (TRLA), Jaime Rodriguez (US Bureau of Prisons), Rebecca Farrell (Community Representative), Bree Williams (ECHO), Doug Smith (TCJC), Darwin Hamilton (Grassroots Leadership), Mary Moran (TCSO)

**Guests:** Abby Tatkov (ECHO), Cathy McLaugherty (TC Justice Planning), Jennifer Tucker (Goodwill), Elizabeth Baker (Integral Care), Sherri Cogbill (TDCJ), Rebecca Eisenbrey (Equal Justice Center), Bitra Razavi (Goodwill), Holly Kirby (Grassroots Leadership), Nadia Carlson (ECHO)

**Support:** Kelly Nichols (WNA), Annette Price (Advocacy Fellow), Tray Frazier (Advocacy Fellow), KiYa Moghaddam (WNA)

#### **I. Introductions (Helen Gaebler)**

Helen called the meeting to order at 12:38 p.m. She welcomed attendees and facilitated a round of introductions.

#### **II. Vote: January 2018 Minutes (Kenneth Thompson)**

A quorum was not present. A vote will be taken electronically.

**UPDATE:** The January 2018 meeting minutes were approved via electronic vote on February 20, 2018.

#### **III. Update: Advocacy Efforts Related to the Proposed County Jail Expansion (Holly Kirby, Grassroots Leadership)**

Holly Kirby provided an overview of the advocacy that Grassroots Leadership has been conducting in response to the planned new Travis County jail facility for women. She said their organization is waiting to hear from Roger Jeffries to schedule a community stakeholder meeting to discuss reducing the jail population instead of building a new/larger facility. The organization published a letter which encourages the following: drastically reducing the jail population by prioritizing decriminalization for cite-and-release-eligible offenses, reevaluating the prosecution of state jail felonies (specifically the prosecution of possession of controlled substances), and investing in community-based diversion for mental health and substance

abuse related charges.

#### **IV. Update: Nominating Committee (Rebecca Farrell)**

Rebecca updated attendees that the nominating committee has convened and has begun recruiting potential members. They are focusing on faith-based and law enforcement organizations. DeWayne Street, the representative from Goodwill, will officially resign and Jennifer Tucker will be nominated to take his place. The committee is also beginning the process to nominate Sherri Cogbill from TDCJ to fill Lisa Howard's place on the Planning Council.

#### **V. Update: Second Chance Month activities (Helen Gaebler & Annette Price)**

Annette updated attendees that the Reentry Advocacy Project (RAP) is working on events for Second Chance Month in April. One event in the works is a "TED-talk" style event in which RAP members share their personal stories. Another even would involve Planning Council members in a "tabling" setting in which they share the work they do. This could also include a panel discussion with a Q&A session. April is also the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, could have a panel or workshop that shows how reentry and fair housing are connected. Helen let attendees know that she is helping coordinate a panel discussion at Texas State University.

#### **VI. Misc. Announcements and Roundtable**

Kelly updated attendees of a potential Second-Chance Summit in FY18-19 which would focus on employers and would be in partnership with Dave's Killer Bread Foundation. Elizabeth Baker from Integral Care announced funding from SB 292 will allow 90 individuals to be served through Integral Care's mental health diversion program beginning March 1.

#### **VII. Discussion: Revising Roundtable Logo (Kelly Nichols)**

Attendees divided into four groups and spent the remaining meeting time discussing logo options. A summary of similar themes and outcomes of the discussion follows:

1. Colors
  - a. Blue, Brown, Green, Purple or Yellow (2-3 main colors that are complementary)
2. Images
  - a. People around a table, Bridges, Horizon, Sunrise, Seedling, Fire spark
3. General/Overall messaging
  - a. Few words, easy to read, image reflects words, remove the image of Texas, clean and simple, timeless, modern
  - b. Collaborative, inclusive, outreach, change conduits

The meeting adjourned at 1:56 p.m.

#### **Planning Council Meeting**

March 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018 (\*\*Note date change\*\*)

12:30 – 2:00pm

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