

# COMMUNITY ACTION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Meeting held remotely

January 4, 2022

<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>EXCUSED</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>	<u>STAFF</u>
Bridget McLeman			Rebecca Royce
David Poland			Michael Torres
Melanie Green			Janet Snook
Lance Carter			Beth Landry
Alishia Topper			
Amy Roark			
Megan Mulsoff			
Karyn Kameroff			
Rob Perkins			
Jamie Spinelli			

Guests: CODAs Interpreters; Vanessa Gaston (Clark County); Samantha Whitley (City of Vancouver)

I. Welcome/Introductions

II. Adopt 2022 CAAB meeting date and time

Survey Monkey results reveal most members are interested in meeting for 1.5 hours bimonthly at:

First Tuesdays, 8am, keeping current meeting time, or,

First Wednesdays, 9am

Following a Webex poll, with 9 participating members, 2 preferred Tuesdays and 7 preferred

Wednesdays. Staff will work to update documents and send out notices for the new meeting time.

III. Election of 2022 CAAB Executive Officers

No new nominations were received. Nominations were accepted as follows:

Chair: Alishia Topper

Vice Chair: Amy Roark

Secretary: Bridget McLeman

Following a Webex poll, with 8 participating members, all nominees were approved.

IV. Approval of November 2021 minutes

Bridget McLeman made a motion to approve the minutes. Motion was seconded by Rob Perkins, and carried.

V. Board Business (Org. Stds 5.4, 5.6, 5.8)

- The bylaws were updated in July 2021. Copies were sent by email and available at <https://clark.wa.gov/community-services/caab-member-resources>.
- Members signed the Conflict of Interest Policy and the Board Responsibilities via DocuSign.
- A roster of current members will be sent to members. There are a few vacancies.

VI. 2022 Work Plan

The 2022 Plan seeks to increase board-driven advocacy; complete the RFA process; create a five-year strategic plan; increase knowledge of funded programs and their outcomes. An additional meeting will be held in April for the CAP application presentations. The March meeting will be extended for the HCRS application presentations. Funding recommendations will be set in May. A motion to adopt the plan was made by David Poland and seconded by Amy Roark. Motion carried.

The board discussed creating a Legislative Advocacy Committee consisting of Amy Roark, Alishia Topper, Karyn Kameroff, David Poland and Rob Perkins. A motion was made by Bridget McLeman and seconded by Rob Perkins to appoint Amy Roark as 2022 legislative advocacy chair. Motion carried.

VII. Community Services Director Updates, Vanessa Gaston

- Community Services Strategic Plan will be developed in 2022, using an equity lens. All staff will participate. Advisory boards will be invited to contribute. Will kick-off at manager's retreat in February. Specific focus is on housing needs, care coordination, and on helping people reach goals.
- HBI277 funding performance measures are being developed and are stressing equity and permanent supportive housing. Plan will also address electronic challenges faced due to COVID.
- Community Services staff continue to telecommute.
- COVID-relief funds are being administered through the department's housing programs.
- The Crisis program has been transferred to SeaMar.

VIII. July – Sept 2021 Outcomes Report (Org. Std. 4.4, 5.9, 8.7)

Eighty-eight percent of respondents reported overall satisfaction with service. Community Action Programs are on track for spending. Homeless Crisis Response has new outreach programs just beginning and Bertha's Place, a new shelter, is opening soon. Other programs are on track.

IX. Community Services Strategic Plan Update (Org. Std. 6.5)

Goals of the adopted 2017-2022 Strategic Plan are housing stability, economic advancement, well-being, and connected and resilient community. Steps to achieve these goals include data collection, outcomes-based contracting, equity and inclusion training to reduce and eliminate barriers, and outreach and engagement. Since 2017, 296 affordable residential units were added, 161 affordable behavioral health units, and 124 additional non-congregate shelter beds. Caseload management guidelines have been implemented.

The Community Action and Housing programs of Community Services completed 190 contracts and modifications; funding \$65.5M, and conducted six RFAs, with an equity lens. Covid eviction prevention rental assistance has helped 4,335 households with \$36.7M rent.

X. CAAB structure updates

Council district boundaries are changing following last November's election to establish five districts. CAAB membership will correspond once the boundaries are established. Current vacancies will be advertised once districts are established.

XI. Legislative updates

WSCAP supports:

Federal

HR5129—CSBG modernization grant to reauthorize the grant.

HR3684—Infrastructure Investments and Jobs Act.

HR5376-- Build Back Better Act

John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2021

State

Governor Inslee's climate priorities, which includes \$10M for weatherization program rehabilitation.

Housing supply bill

WLIHA supports: (<https://www.wliha.org/advocacy/2022-state-policy-priorities>)

\$400M for affordable housing

Housing Justice Act

Increase age, blind, disabled allowance

Health Care Authority foundational community supports funding

Tenant-protection from rent increases

Real estate excise tax exemption for affordable housing developers

Increased capacity of service providers

\$1.3M for tenant access to counsel and legal aid pre-eviction

Bridget McLeman made a motion that the Legislation Advocacy Committee track and make recommendations of the WLIHA priorities. Rob Perkins seconded. Motion carried.

XII. City of Vancouver Affordable Housing update

The Affordable Housing seven-year levy has completed, awarded, or has underway 501 new units, preserved 321 units, provided rental assistance for 1,144 units, and added 230 shelter units in first five years. RFA underway for 2022 funding. Information is available on City of Vancouver website.

XIII. Strategic Plan workgroup

Maintaining and providing updates of the department's Strategic Plan is an Organizational Standard requirement. It must be created every five years and reviewed annually. CAAB is currently operating under the Community Services Strategic Plan, which expires in July 2022. Organizational Standards allow for the board to develop its own strategic plan. Due to the short timeframe and knowing that the department is undergoing an in-depth process, the board recommend seeking an extension from Commerce on submission to allow Community Services to complete theirs.

XIV. Open Forum

No discussion.

XV. Other Business

Next meeting: 8am-12pm, January 7.

Meeting adjourned.

Bridget McLeman, Secretary

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