

Highland Community Collaboration Council
Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2018
9:30am

The Highlands Community Collaboration Council had a meeting on April 9, 2018 at the Smyth County DSS conference room.

Welcome and Introductions

Chris opened the meeting at 9:30 and members introduced themselves. A sign-in sheet was passed around the room. He asked for additions or corrections to the agenda.

Review and approval of Minutes of February 12, 2018 meeting

Matt motioned and Ruth seconded the minutes. All in favor. The minutes are approved

New Business

- **Matt Sackwitz: Grant Update**

Matt received the information (from Chris) about the Second Chance grant application. The last time we discussed grants, the council was in favor of being a referral entity. We agreed that if any grants came along, that we would consider those opportunities as they present themselves. The question remains: do we want to seek grants? Felisha adds that OEI is the fiscal agent for HCCC. Some grants specify that the fiscal agent be the applicant for the grant. There are also questions in regard to the compilation of the information. This is difficult to do as an agency who meets only monthly. I recommend that instead of HCCC seeking grants, we should support one another who are seeking grants. It is agreed that HCCC will not be a grant-seeking organization.

- **Manuel Street: Website Update**

About 200 views per week. That is pretty good for a new website. Linda says she can send some information. Chris asks if we can post information on the website as opposed to sending e-mails. Manuel says it can be done. Ruth says the County websites have announcements for meetings as well as the minutes. Linda says some would prefer the e-mail reminders. Ruth says it would be good to have the meeting dates on the website. Secretary will include Manuel on the list of receiving e-mail minutes.

- **Agency Presentations:**

Sandy Kiser Tatum (Cumberland Mountain Community Services, Regional Warmline Coordinator & Peer Recovery Specialist): statum@cmcsb.com

This presentation was completed in February.

Council Brochure: Updates/Suggestions

Matt says the content is fine. There were just a couple of broken/old links. We need to update those links or simply remove the entries. The brochure states that we will increase public awareness. There was discussion about hosting a community forum. We will leave public awareness in there. Linda says she regularly conducts public presentations and mentions HCCC as a resource. The brochure can be distributed at such meetings. Matt says we can complete the update to the brochure today. The e-mail contact link will be removed and the toll free number to OEI will remain. Matt will send a draft brochure to Chris and Chris. We will share it with the group. Chris will print them and bring some to the next meeting. Linda recommends that we leave a blank space on the back to allow entry of the identifying information of the entity distributing the brochure. Ruth adds that RAM (Smyth County) will occur in May. The brochures could be distributed at the event. Manuel asks if we may be competing against other entities in the group. Matt says it has happened. Matt says the Target grant doesn't exist. Linda add that we may consider some smaller foundation grants. Matt says we have to have a reason to pursue a grant. Felisha adds that community education is an option to pursue. Matt says the grant committee will meet and start applying for some foundation grants for community education.

May/June 2018 Council Presentations: Suggestions?

Erica with DVS, Linda Midgett with People, Inc. will present in May.

Ruth (Michelle) will present about the drug court in June.

- **Sub-Committee Reports:**

Housing Committee/ Service Integration Committee/ Grants/Finance Committee (Matt, Emma, Andy, Felisha, Andy and Linda)

Hasn't met. Matt says Freedom Tabernacle Church has some apartment to rent. They are on Pierce Road in Atkins. It may be good to speak with them. Ruth adds that they offer meals and showers. It may be good to invite them to a meeting to present.

Employment Committee: (Jimmy with DARS, Mike)

None

Mentoring Committee/ Substance Abuse Committee: (Ruth, Teresa, Chris, Chuck)

None

Public Relations Committee: (Kim, Manuel)

None

Executive Committee: (Chris, Kim, Felisha and Chris).

None

Re-entry Updates

None

Local Coalition Updates

Linda states that ASAC has a meeting in Lebanon this Thursday from 10-Noon. If interested, come to the Russell County Government Center. ASAC is interested in opening up more options for drug drop boxes.

Hands and Feet signed a lease in Glade. There are two gentlemen from the regional jail in Abingdon who are in the leased property. One also received a donated vehicle. There is a current housing need for a mother with two children.

BLR is scheduled to re-open in October. They will be applying for Medicaid-approval.

There will be a presentation at Celebration Church. Linda will provide Manuel with information to put on the website.

Questions/Concerns/Comments/Announcements:

James says he is wrapping up the hospital community assessment. There will be an inpatient treatment facility in the county. Some things identified are that substance abuse, type 2 diabetes, CHF, transportation, and founded child abuse cases. A needle exchange program has been proposed.

Linda says Wise County is considering being the first needle exchange program in southwest Virginia.

Russ says Virginia is running behind in its efforts. We have an opportunity to prepare for this. He recently attended a conference and learned that it will take 6-months for the warm-line to really take off.

Howard mentioned Medicaid Expansion and encouraged members to contact legislative members.

RAM will be held at the airport May 4-6.

Felisha says it may be good to add photos of future (or past) speakers to highlight keynote speakers. Manuel will add this.

Next meeting May 14, 2018

<http://www.highlandsgcc.org>

Please Like and visit us on Facebook at Highlands Community Collaboration Council

The meeting adjourned at 10:50am.

If there is someone you would like for us to invite to a future meeting as either a guest or member, please let one of us know.

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Respectfully submitted,

Chris Austin
Secretary