



Atlanta CoC Governing Council Meeting

Minutes

Partners for HOME

Dec 5, 2023 at 8:30 AM EST

@ HOPE Atlanta Offices | 458 Ponce de Leon Ave NE , Atlanta, GA 30308

Attendance

Present:

Members: Julio Carrillo, Natalie Hall (remote), Erica Headlee, LaTarsha Holden, Tracy Jones (remote), Leslie Marshburn, Erika Mitchell (remote), Amelia Nickerson (remote), Marc Pollack (remote), Maxwell Ruppensburg (remote), Brad Schweers, Meaghan Shannon-Vlkovic, Sean Smith, Cathryn Vassell

Guests: Kayland Arrington, Abby Bracewell, Darion Dunn (remote), Anita Harris (remote), Annie Hyrila, Bhavini Solanki (remote)

I. Welcome - Meaghan Vlkovic

II. Minute Approval - Meaghan Vlkovic

The minutes from the September 26 meeting were unanimously approved as submitted.

 [Atlanta CoC GC Mtg Minutes 09 26 23 FINAL.pdf](#)

III. Quick Delivery Housing Update - Darion Dunn, Atlantica Properties

Darion Dunn provided an update on the rapid housing/quick delivery initiative that was authorized by Mayor Dickens and funded through the Housing Opportunity Bond and the Housing Trust Fund. The first site is at 184 Forsyth Street and will have 40 units, all of which are ADA compliant. The units are made out of shipping containers, 12 of which were donated by the Georgia Emergency Management Administration (GEMA). The other 8 containers were purchased. The operating budget for this site is \$10,000 per resident per year. Please see slides for more specific details.

The RFP for the operator and the service provider at 184 Forsyth Street closed at the end of November. Partners for HOME is reviewing applications.

There is a second site (405 Cooper Street) currently in the planning stages. This site will be on two acres of land that the City is actively acquiring in a land swap with Atlanta Public Schools. The master plan is being created for a mixed-income development that will have 100 - 150 units. Public meetings are being held regularly, and the community is being actively engaged. The product type has not yet been determined; Atlantica Properties is looking into stacked or tiny homes or other types of traditional housing.

 [Rapid Housing Briefing to CoC 12-4-2023.pdf](#)

IV. AREA Taskforce Standards - Brianna Flowers

As part of the [five-year strategic plan](#), additional standards have been created to strengthen the CoC's culture and establish CoC-wide JEDI (Justice, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion) vision and standards.

As part of the first goal of building a service culture that promotes antiracism, diversity, equity, and inclusion, there are four tasks that will be undertaken:

1. Establish a CoC-wide JEDI vision and standards and integrate teachings through planning and coaching.
2. Develop a JEDI action plan and metrics to outline behaviors and measure impact of changes.
3. Develop and implement JEDI actionable goals/objectives/standards to incorporate into work.
4. Develop messaging that highlights disparities in homelessness and work to address JEDI.

A [first draft](#) of Community Standards has been created and feedback has been solicited from the CoC. Once the standards are finalized, agencies will be able to use them to rank and rate themselves against the standards.

 [Community Standards Governing Council 120523.pdf](#)

V. Committee Report-Outs

A. Performance Committee - Kayland Arrington

The Performance Committee is still looking for more members and more robust attendance. At the last committee meeting, members reviewed the previous performance measurements and discussed aligning them more closely with HUD's standards.

B. Policy Committee - Cathryn Vassell

The last Policy Committee meeting was in mid-November. The committee discussed the process for how the Governing Council approves policies. The process that the committee identified is that the Policy Committee should receive policy drafts at least four weeks before the next Governing Council meeting. The Policy Committee will continue to meet on an as-needed basis as it relates to policy updates and drafts.

The Governing Council unanimously approved the proposed process for submitting policies to the Policy Committee.

C. Governance Committee - Brad Schweers

Brad Schweers has been identified as the chair of the Governance Committee.

The CoC and Governing Council meetings will be consolidated in 2024 in an effort to increase transparency and accountability.

The Governing Council is in need of a Vice Chair. The Governance Committee is identifying candidates and having conversations with potential nominees. The vice chair is selected from the at-large membership of the Governing Council.

The Governance Committee is looking into evaluating Partners for HOME as the lead agency as part of the charter requirements. Research is being conducted on how other CoCs conduct evaluations of their lead agencies. The evaluation is slated to begin at the end of the first quarter of 2024.

The CoC charter and bylaws have been finalized. The MOU between the Atlanta CoC and Partners for HOME is also being evaluated to make sure it is aligned with the charter and bylaws.

The 2023 Atlanta CoC Sneaker Ball will be held on December 21 at the Marianna in Little Five Points. It will celebrate the "boots-on-the-ground" employees in the CoC. Governing Council members are encouraged to attend, and some may be asked to present awards.

VI. Strategic Planning Updates - Cathryn Vassell

Cathryn Vassell reviewed the vision and key goals of the new five-year strategic plan.

Next steps include finalizing the JEDI standards, work planning with Clutch Consulting, and the creation of performance dashboards.

Stakeholder briefings are being planned with key agencies and entities (DBHDD, DCA, Atlanta Housing, Fulton County, etc.). The goal is to explore partnerships and strengthen collaboration as it relates to each agency's connection to different parts of the strategic plan.

Cathryn Vassell also provided an overview of the "COVID Cliff." This term refers to the loss of COVID dollars related to housing and homelessness. The existing COVID funds are nearly spent, and the expectation is that housing placements will slow with the absence of these funds. Overall, the Atlanta CoC receives fewer annual dollars from HUD compared to similar cities.

 [Strategic plan update 12-5-23.pptx](#)

VII. Partners for HOME Programming Updates - Annie Hyrila

Annie Hyrila provided updates on encampment decommissioning, LIFT 2.0, permanent supportive housing pipeline projects, and metrics and workplans.

Thirteen encampments have been engaged to date as part of LIFT 2.0, Encampment closures occur with key partners including the Mayor's office, the Department of Public Works, outreach teams, and the Department of Transportation.

905 households have been housed to date as part of LIFT 2.0. The goal is 1500 by the end of 2024.

168 permanent supportive housing (PSH) pipeline projects are online. 442 additional units are in various stages of construction and completion.

Workplan planning with Clutch Consulting and Partners for HOME will take place in January. The Partners for HOME project management team is developing metrics that will be shared at CoC meetings and used internally for system transformation discussion. They are also identifying end-of-year housing goals and pushing for housing more households before the 2024 Atlanta Point-in-Time Count.

 [Governing Council Project Update 12.5.23 \(1\).pptx](#)

VIII. Winter Warming Centers - Abby Bracewell

Partners for HOME sends out a communication to CoC members when the City of Atlanta activates one or both of its warming centers (please see slides for activation criteria). These emails also include information on other warming centers across the city.

 [Winter Warming.pptx](#)

IX. 2024 Atlanta Point-in-Time Count - Abby Bracewell

Planning for the 2024 Atlanta Point-in-Time Count is underway. Volunteers are needed for the [night count](#) and the [day site counts](#). If any Governing Council members work at agencies that have vans they can lend to the night count, please contact [Kevin Briskin](#). If members have donations or supplies that can be donated, please reach out to [Jasmine Rockwell Heard](#).

 [PIT Kickoff Presentation - 12 05 23.pptx](#)