



**Siskiyou County Advisory Board Special Meeting
May 10, 2023
2:30pm – 4:00pm
Red Oak Room, Behavioral Health, 2060 Campus Drive, Yreka**

1. Call to Order/Quorum Established/Introductions

Duane Kegg called the meeting to order at 2:40PM. A quorum was established.

Present: Members Dr. Collard, Duane Kegg, Mark Gilman, Nancy Ogren, Sarah Springfield, Michael Aiuto, and Denise Patterson. Alternate Member Steven Bryan. Staff member Maddelyn Bryan. Public attendees Ali Kutzer and Cal Conklin.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes from March (Attachment A)

Board members will review and approve minutes from March 1, 2023.

Dr. Collard pointed out a misspelling in the minutes. Nancy Ogren motioned to approve the minutes with the correction. Mark Gilman seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

3. Public Comments (limited to 3 mins. per comment)

Mark said that the Homeless Liaison Officer had handled over 2,000 calls since January 1st. The other members remarked on how substantial that number was and thanked YPD for their efforts.

4. Updates

a. PIT Preliminary Results—Duane Kegg

Duane Kegg reviewed a draft of the 2023 PIT results, noting that the total for Siskiyou County was 507 individuals. He also observed that Siskiyou County had the third highest homeless population after Shasta and Del Norte Counties. Duane continued, highlighting notable demographic statistics. Dr. Collard addressed the importance of focusing on disparities among subpopulations experiencing homelessness. She explained that reviews of past Siskiyou data revealed a disparity in the impact of homelessness on Native Americans. Cal Conklin expressed concerns of possible errors in the data since the sheltered/unsheltered counts matched on several demographic points. Dr. Collard shared her experience of a three-week trip to Japan where she did not observe a single unsheltered individual and expressed hope that homelessness can be resolved.

5. Discussion

a. Public Engagement—Nancy Ogren/Cal Conklin



Cal described the challenges he encountered when first trying to understand what the organizations on the Board did to address homelessness. It took him six months to understand that members did indeed have projects to provide services to individuals experiencing homelessness. He conveyed a desire to help Yreka residents understand the role and accomplishments of the Advisory Board. Steve Bryan added that messaging should target and include other areas of Siskiyou County as well. Other communities have expressed a belief that the housing resources benefit Yreka only. Ali Kutzer enquired about the target audience for public engagement. Discussion ensued about different populations that would benefit from more information about the CoC. Members agreed to begin by focusing on the general public of concerned citizens and explaining the basic role of the CoC. Ali offered to design materials for this purpose. Maddelyn volunteered to work with Ali to provide content. Mike Aiuto said that the homeless population in Yreka is starting to open and to learn about how the government operates. He believes there is a new willingness among the unhoused population to make changes in the community and themselves.

b. March 6th Focus Group (Attachment B)—Cal Conklin and HHSa Staff

Cal clarified that HHSa had already held a more recent focus group with the residents of local encampments since March 6. He expressed satisfaction with the attendance levels of the two meetings. His impression was that the unhoused population liked the idea of a Pallet style shelter, particularly has it would give them the ability to lock their doors. However, they shared that rules of any kind are a possible deterrent to seeking such services. HHSa staff requested that the Board not publicize these meetings except to the unhoused population. They are trying to preserve the meeting as a space to bring out the voice and input of persons with lived experience. Mike Aiuto agreed and noted that the group was making progress in advancing trust with this population. However, he suspects that progress could easily slip. Mike requested that encampment trash cleanup be on the next meeting agenda.

6. New Business

a. Governor's new housing initiatives and CSAC's "AT HOME" program (Attachment C)—Nancy Ogren

Nancy Ogren described her experience at the recent legislative conference where cities and counties drafted the AT HOME plan. CSAC is currently taking the plan to the Governor who is beginning to use it for talking points. At a basic level, the plan explains that the State lacks a comprehensive, coordinated plan to address homelessness. The AT HOME plan is not a one-size-fits-all solution. Instead, it takes into account the differences in capacity and need between urban, suburban, and rural communities. The plan also calls for more focus on sustainability in solutions to end homelessness. Nancy added that the AT HOME plan Has been approved by the Siskiyou County Board of Supervisors.

b. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program—Dr. Collard



Dr. Collard reported that HHSA applied for the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing Program. They are seeking approval to create a Pallet-style shelter village with these funds.

7. County Updates

Denise Patterson shared that the Karuk Education Department is putting on an event to serve the homeless population.

Sarah Springfield communicated that the Modoc Tribe currently had short-stay hotel vouchers available.

Denise Patterson said that the Yreka Food Bank would be moving soon and is searching for a new location.

8. Discussion Items for Next Meeting

Update on public engagement—Duane

PIT update--Duane

Update on meetings with the hill—Sarah Collard

Discussion on CoC transitions—Sarah Collard

Trash cleanup—Mike Aiuto

9. Adjournment

Steve Bryan motioned to adjourn the meeting. Dr. Collard seconded. A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Next Meeting

June 7, 2023

1:30pm-3:00pm

If requested, the agenda shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability, as required by Section 202 of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. Sec. 12132), and the federal rules and regulations adopted in implementation thereof. You may contact 530-841-2748 for disability-related modifications or accommodations, including auxiliary aids or services, in order to participate in the public meeting.