Director McSpadden: I am really looking forward to working with this group, hearing your concerns and advice. For those not familiar with me, I worked at the department of disability and aging services and have a direct line of communication. Just start this morning and look forward to the challenges ahead.

Del Seymour: Wanted to add that the Board is with you. We want to be your collaborator and facilitator and to be your reference point when dealing with the community. Our interests are with the people and those who are on the streets and want to help you put all of these things together. There are no experts in this and we want you to be able to depend on us. Understanding that you have just started we wanted to introduce ourselves and will wait till next month to start the business with the Board.

Sophia Isom: Welcome and is great to see you in your new role.

Del Seymour: Wanted to take a minute to thank Sam Dodge as he has served as the liaison between former director and new director of the department.

Sophia Isom: I have a correction in the minutes from the April meeting. Want it changed to say that we all recognize it was short notice but logistically was not the case and that there was an opportunity to participate in the process despite being short notice.

Del Seymour: Wanted to share that the Mayor's Department did give us the ability to get input about the new director and will report back in at last agenda item. And recognize that the minutes will be changed.

Max Discher: Created a memo about the changes to the 2021 NOFA scoring tool and wanted to come before you to speak about its approval and the 2021 CoC NOFA competition.

Our continuum of care funding stream primarily funds permanent housing solutions. Primarily permanent supportive housing and rapid rehousing. Through the community process it voiced concerns about how education was scored and that clients who were in educational programs were not fairly scored in the tool. Adjustments were made to that measure.

This year the scoring tool was also modified on how grant utilization was scored. The measure projects how projects spend down their funding and concern that too many projects were leaving money on the table. The new tool allows for projects to earn points back if they voluntarily reallocate their project and self-reallocate.

Additionally have modified the scoring for low barrier and projects that submit background checks will be penalized more than in previous competitions. Lastly, we have made it so that new projects can more easily apply for CoC funding.

Del Seymour: I believe providers who make clients have background checks should not even be in the program and they instantly create a barrier to housing for our clients. it segregates our housing. We should be about holding people to our standards in San Francisco.

Andrea Evans: What are the measures where you decide in a provider is compliance with low barrier protocols?

Max Discher: I respect your concerns. When there are changes to the scoring tool, must consider the short-term impacts and the effects on the portfolio. To Andrea's question the tool was been changed from self-reporting to providers needing to present policy and procedures demonstrating they are low barrier.

Andrea Evans: What is the timeline?

Max Discher: Projects are on notice that they will be required to submit their policies and procedures to vet those low barrier compliance issues.

Del Seymour: Some of the reasons that we have this unequal process unequal placement on equal housing is because we've been afraid of the short-term effect.

Andrea Evans: It is surprising to me since in February at the emergency meeting with providers about vacancies, this was an issue that was identified as being a big barrier to housing and very damaging.

Max Discher: To which they still exist, we want to eliminate them as quickly as we can, HUD is clear on the rule. We are providing TA to providers to assist them with eliminating the background check barriers and getting them into compliance. The risk is that shifting too quickly will cause a loss in funding to projects and then loss of PSH in our portfolio. Most providers are providing the lowest barriers that they can but can be improvement and that is what the tool is attempting to foster. In the future we can place a greater emphasis on this part of the tool.

Public Comment

Jamie S. Wanted to thank Homebase for their role in helping the funding committee. Love the conversation about low-barrier but want to be mindful that cutting funding is tricky. I think that this board's attention would be better served on to advocating for providers across city, state, federal funders, to get everybody in alignment with a low barrier criteria. We want to see because it puts us in a tricky situation when we must piecemeal all these funding sources together, to be able to provide safe, secure housing for the folks that we serve.

Sammie Rayner: I am the chief operating officer for Community Forward SF. The problem that we see the urgent need to create safe spaces for female identified guests within our system of care. We have been serving women for decades through our shelter on Howard street and our drop in center and also medical respite and sobering center over on eighth and mission and partnership with DPH. And then we have two permanent supportive housing sites in the Tenderloin.

There are approximately 2,700 homeless women and many are aging. There is the need to remove these woman from domestically violent situations and provide a true and safe community. No size fits all so what we ae building towards is a woman's building. With a drop in center with dynamic services. On higher floors there would be both emergency shelter and PSH.

This upfront investment would look like about 250,000 to $300,000 per unit with addition to needing some capital improvement budget because this population is aging.

As real estate pricing dropping, see this as a critical time for real estate investments. Community Forward SF has 43 years of experiences and have launched four new SIP hotel operations in the last 6 months. Executive staff have created similar projects in New York.

Sophia Isom: Wanted to know will the building have options for women with children?

Sammie Rayner: Yes that is an excellent question and the yes, the building would include options for families. We just have no figured out the exact options or number of units. We do have day programming for mothers, with children.

Kelley Cutler: Thank you for presenting, I have been to your program and know the reality of what our women clients face.

Andrea Evans: Can you speak to providing women's only housing and any issues around that?

Sammie Rayner: That is a good question, we are currently reaching out to the Board of Supervisors to request a waiver to create gender specific housing.

Del Seymour: In San Francisco we understand that women have been neglected and a waiver system exists. It is real that women need their own safe space.

Mary Kate Bacalao: I'm so glad that community forward is pursuing and trying to move into the future in a positive and sustainable way. Think it is also important that we discuss congregate family shelter for example Horace Mann and think it is wonderful that we are targeting buildings for families.

Aram Hauslaib: Wanted to reach out to Sammie about the potential for CoC funding. Are you looking for funding for PSH and potentially domestic violence funding? Would love to connect more and learn to determine if CoC funding would be a good match?

Mae: I work for Asian Women's shelter. We are a domestic violence provider and would like to connect.

Rommie: I am the senior director at Downtown Streets and want to speak to how vital Community Forward SF is to our community. Here to give support and speak to their good works.

Del Seymour: Want to be clear that the Board supports unhoused women and creating a safe place for them to be housed and receive services.

Del Seymour: I want the language to reflect the need to greater penalize providers who are not low-barrier and a better tool next year.

Charles Minor: What is before the Board is the approval of the 2021 scoring tool. The memo and presentation by Homebase summarized those changes. The Board traditionally votes on the scoring too in May before the NOFA is released. Wanted to remind you there was a community process and that there were no drastic changes made. As you alluded to before a change in the tool as ramifications on projects scores and they have the tendency to fall dramatically. Having the current matrix allows providers to adjust their policies and procedures and receive TA.

Del Seymour: I still have concerns about the language in the tool.

Brenda Jewett: I agree with Del and would love to hear what material difference the change would make?

Andrea Evans: I would recommend in the future that those projects that defy the low-barrier process are identified and brought before the Board to explain their positions and polices. There is also the opportunity when the priority listing is created to see where those projects are before the list is approved by the Board.

Max Discher: That is correct. The priority listing will come before you at the end of the COC NOFA competition and you would have the discretion when it comes before you.

Del Seymour: I like the idea of crafting a statement about our position on low barrier that will be included into the scoring tool and the following years competition. Can the scoring tool voted on with amendment to have a conversation concerning low barrier and increased penalty for providers who do not engage in low-barrier protocol in the 2022 NOFA

Francisco Herrera: From the Latino Taskforce. it includes the Saint John Episcopal Church, Hilary Ronan's office and the coalition on homelessness and work in partnership with the COVID Command Center. We were last before you on December 8th and would like your support. Since then we've had a very good conversation with folks at the street needs assessment team in the Tenderloin, and are looking to develop another conversation with folks in the Bayview as well. Have done lots with health and mental health, safe sleeping villages and safety management.

Valerie Tuiler Would like the resolution that we brought before you adopted. Also want to recognize our relationship with Sam Dodge and his relationship with DPW. He assisted us with a tour of DPW and where they collected the belongs of unhoused individuals. When we made the resolution did not realize the larger impact.

We are asking that the LHCB support our recommendations. including addressing the ongoing needs of the unhouse community in the mission district and the establishment of accountability by funding liaisons with community based organizations to be present at all homeless operations to prevent the illegal destruction of on house people's property. This includes mandating DPW supervisors and staff to be fully trained in trauma, informed practices, our community partners, photographing items.

Del Seymour: I am a big supporter of the Latino Task Force, but this board has no jurisdiction over agencies in it. There are some items in the resolution the LHCB does not have governance over. We do not have authority over DPW.

Kelley Cutler: I want to push back some as we have a response to street homelessness through HSOC and DPW is a part of HSOC, on the frontline. If this is not the place, where is the place when it comes to the criminalization of homelessness?

Valerie: to clarify, we are asking you to support the safety plan and want the support of the mission district neighborhood's safety plan.

Del Seymour: Thank you for the clarification, the Board can do that. but again we do not have oversight over many of the items in the plan.

Letter of support voted on an unanimously adopted.

Sam Dodge: This is the first day of HSH bringing on its new leadership team. Want to thank you all for your leadership during the transition. So much of my work during the time as director involved the COVID Command Center and helping the City process its response to the pandemic.

Important to see how many San Franciscans have been vaccinated over 72% which is amazing and hopefully opening to the yellow tier shortly. Homeward Bound still being affected by the pandemic and lack of travel but should start to rebound soon. Housing placements have improved, and the SIP rehousing plan is continuing. Batch referral has continued to match more than one person to an available unit to speed up the rehousing process. Housing Ladder- the Abigail Hotel was used as a shelter in place hotel and now being used for exits. There will be 56 placements that we can take advantage of.

Assessments continue very strong. Of course, the assessment process is really integral to how we're going to get that through the shelter in place rehousing process. Vacancies is a large concern and units are being used right now to match with the shelter in place process. Using batch referral process and 7 providers.

We are excited about the pandemic prioritization category D is the short-term housing assistance, we've also been partnering with a workforce accelerator fund to use these sorts of short-term housing assistance for people in jobs programs. We have a large CoC portfolio and been working with HUD to spend unspent money and reorganize our portfolio. The process has meant 89 additional units of housing.

There is a transition as the COVID Command Center demobilizes which means that there are increased job opportunities and encourage people to apply and check the website for opportunities.

Del Seymour: What really need to know is when is the system going to transition back? When are we opening shelters? Are we starting back to square one? Also when it comes to hiring we need to know more about whether these are permanent positions? How can we better connect people to the jobs that are available and out there? It is not clear what the department is looking for and people get tired with the waiting and games that are being played with HR and hiring.

Sam Dodge: I have worked in government for a long time and this is not acceptable.

Mrs. Black: City hiring can be extensive and we are working with our HR manager and creating a hiring committee for different classifications to attempt to remove the bottle neck.

Kelley Cutler: How are the SF Hot team's success rate defined? Since SF HOT is still under HSOC and doing encampment resolutions. Also with not having a shelter wait list? How will that be working when they switch more to case management?

Sam Dodge: We agree that number needs to look at more in-depth.

Mrs. Black: We are examining the numbers and wanted to confirm it reflected the team’s good work. Want to reevaluate what the encounters are measuring. We are starting to redefine what they do and their impact and at all housing interventions. Working with the community's expectations of the outcomes and going back to look at this. We need to have a theory of change from the beginning of a project.

Kelley Cutler: Want to comment the hot workers and their work and to read what has been documented about how they dealt with clients in the pandemic with limited resources is amazing. Think that as I read about the mayor and tent counts and returning to the old system, I am alarmed.

Del Seymour: My agenda request to have a presentation on the high rates of African American evictions within PSH. So I would like to see something presented and a conversation around why this is happening and what is being done to address it.

Brenda Jewett: I have been hearing about the inefficiencies of coordinated entry and would like to hear from family providers and providers about their experiences with coordinated entry including what barriers they have faced, removing those barriers and how to increase access.

Kelley Cutler: Want to know more about HSOC as it moves from the CCC. We have not heard from HOSC since the pandemic when the new director said there would be major changes to HSOC. Now that the CCC is closing we need to know where HSOC stands on matters.

Del Seymour: Co-chair Loyce and I cancelled the last HSOC meeting without consulting the Board and before we do something like that again want to consult with you about how to move forward with HSOC?

Brenda Jewett: I agree with Kelley that this is lack of transparency regarding HSOC and the Board needs to spend more time about how it wishes to communicate with HSOC

Erik Brown: I would let the new leadership develop a relationship with the other members of HSOC and follow their lead as I have yet to see the benefit in our participation with HSOC.

Del Seymour: I do not want the Board to be a rubber stamp for people who will give BS and we have not input on policy over. But understand that there is the need for transparency and accountability for HSOC and there is none currently exists outside of our body.

Kelley Cutler: I agree Dell and that is why there is the need to have a robust discussion about HSOC because if not us who was the ability to hold them accountable?

James Loyce: As a Board I would like to have a full discussion about our role and expectations are before inviting them or going before them.

Robert Hill: I work for DPH and wanted to request that the board hear nominations for its vacant seats. The SMC is an independent group charged with documenting patients of congregant family shelters in San Francisco to improve the health, safety, and treatment of, of residents and other stakeholders. Anyone interested in appointment can contact me directly and look forward to presenting next month.

Mary Kate Bacalao: Mary Kate Bacalao. I want to support member Jewett's request to put coordinated entry and related issues on the agenda.

General Public Comment

Meeting Adjourned