



ECHO convened at the Clark County Public Service Center, 6th Floor, Hearing Conference Room, also via WebEx Online.

Clark County ECHO

(Ending Community Homelessness Organization)
Meeting Minutes – February 13, 2024

ECHO Chair, Clark County Councilor, Sue Marshall, called the ECHO meeting to-order.

Meeting Facilitated By: Nancy Pionk

Welcome and Introductions

Approval Of Minutes

ACTION: Moved by unidentified ECHO member to **APPROVE** minutes for December 12, 2023. Motion was seconded by unidentified ECHO Member. All aye/motion passed.

***IMPORTANT NOTE* PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND SPEAK DIRECTLY INTO THE MICROPHONE WHEN MAKEING A MOTION OR SECONDING A MOTION FOR THE PURPOSE OF THE MINUTES.**

- Facilitator Nancy Pionk reviewed the agenda and the expectations from today’s meeting.

Discussion: Review of Interview Themes and Charter Language:

Facilitated by Nancy Pionk

- Where is there alignment among members on these themes?
- How do these themes align with the ECHO Charter?
- What gaps need to be addressed in the Charters?
 - Nancy requested each ECHO member to provide a 2-minute statement regarding the listed questions.
 - Not feeling effective as a group of politicians, just listening to data; but can be effective and accomplish more as an advisory board.
 - The organization has been working hard, although struggling with the complexity of homelessness.
 - Need assistance on how to get people that are in need into the services they require to move them out of homelessness.
 - The organization needs help when issues are identified coming to a quick consensus; how can we improve and implement more effectively.
 - Agreement that ECHO should unify and coordinate the Homeless Response System.
 - Need greater definition if this is an advisory board on who we make recommendations to and how often.
 - Come up with a “Work Plan” for the year to narrow our focus.
 - Have a clearer and more concise version of the Charter.
 - Understanding and addressing the unique needs of each community.
 - Strategic direction and solution orientated approach, having that process have a solution centered dialogue through facilitation and organized structure meeting, i.e. What are our priorities? What are we going to do about that and understanding the systemic root causes to identify and address those gaps and services?
 - The ability to define the role of our providers and their voice; not having a one-way communication, but part of the problem-solving dialogue.
 - What is our process for coming together, for reaching solutions, for coming up with recommendations, identifying gaps and priorities and for defining what are we going to work on for the next year.
 - The desire is to identify gaps and bring resources to those gaps to improve our response as a group.
 - There are two (2) open positions “with lived experience” that are in the Charter that need to be filled.
 - Would like all to see all the jurisdictions as a whole move forward on policy in Clark County.



ECHO convened at the Clark County Public Service Center, 6th Floor, Hearing Conference Room, also via WebEx Online.

- We need to have priorities and focus and realize we're not going to be able to tackle every single component.
- As a group we should specify what we are going to work on, what we want to work on, what are the most effective items that we can work on and make changes.
- As policy makers, we are wrestling with, what is the important role that we have as policy makers and to support the people who are providing the services and figure out how can we be helpful as policy makers.
- Once we fully understand what the system is, how can we be influential to bend the curve on reducing the number of people that are experiencing homelessness in the system.
- Discussion Q & A
 - Mayor Pro-Tem Jennifer Lindsay, Van. City Council Member Ty Stober, and Clark County Councilor Glen Yung to work with Facilitator Nancy Pionk to work on the Charter Memorandum before the next meeting.

Discussion: How does ECHO fit within the Homeless Crisis Response Team? (AKA: Homeless Crisis Response System)

****CON'T TO MARCH MEETING****

Facilitated by Nancy Pionk

- How do members see ECHO's role within the system?
- How does the group's vision align with the vision outlined in the Charter?
- What changes/clarifications are needed in the Charter?
- Next steps?
 - Van. City Councilmember Perez, Mayor Strobehn, Jamie Spinelli, and Sesany from Council for the Homeless will form a subcommittee for the after reaction of the severe weather.



ECHO budget
shortfall overview.pdf

Document Recording Fee Shortfall in 2024

Presented by Jordan Boege, Clark County Sr. Policy Analyst and Michael Torres, Clark County Community Services

- Update on the projected shortfall by Clark County Community Services
- What can be done to address the gaps in the funding?
 - Washington State is looking at \$70M in Shortfall document fees.
 - The County funding shortfall is estimated over the biennium of 2023 -2025 current costs of \$5.3M (\$6.9M for inflation and projected cost increases) that the county won't be receiving to fund our Homelessness Response System.
 - This represents a 22% deficit in our current budget in our homelessness services.
 - The governor proposed \$10M in state funds to address some of the shortfall; also, from the Climate Act and the Capitol Gains Tax may be a possibility.

Closing

- March meeting agenda topics
 - How does ECHO fit within the Homeless Crisis Response Team?
 - Subcommittee Charter suggested changes, report.
 - Subcommittee on after actions weather, report.
 - Conversation on meeting frequency and duration.
- Anything for the good of the order

NEXT MEETING

March 12, 2024; 9:30am – 11am