



CAN Community Council Meeting Minutes, 6/17/19

Community Council Members in Attendance: Aletha Huston, Ara Merjanian, Caroline Reynolds, Ginny Fredricks, Hunter Ellinger, Kathleen Galvin, Kirsha Haverlah, Myneeka Holloway, Nora Comstock, Ricardo Garay, Thomas Martinez

Guests in attendance: Rachel Hampton, Gerry Tucker

CAN Staff: Raul Alvarez, Carlos Soto, Jelina Tunstill

Call to order & announcements: Hunter called the meeting to order at 6:13 pm. Kirsha announced 20th anniversary of the Domestic Violence Court that came out of the work of the Austin Travis County Family Violence Task Force. Hunter announced that there would be a National Peace Corp Volunteer Convention this weekend from June 20 – 22. Raul announced that CAN moved from Metz Elementary to Oak Springs Elementary and that he is now the chair of the Early Childhood Council after serving as interim chair.

Citizens Communication: None

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for 5/13/19 were approved unanimously on a motion by Nora, 2nd by Ara.

Community Council Chair's Report: Hunter stated that there was a CAN Board meeting and Executive Committee meeting. Hunter reported that the Executive Committee about the status of the child poverty report and the Council's discussions on the information accountability project. Hunter added that a big takeaway from the board meeting is that the legislative session was not friendly to the local government.

Executive Director's Report: Raul stated that the final version of the CAN Community Council Child Poverty Report Summary was provided in their packet. He also called attention to the flyer for the Safety Net Forums, a "10 Reasons to Love the Dashboard" sheet, and the "Dashboard At-a-Glance" document. Raul noted that there is a July meeting scheduled, but that we usually take July off since we have difficulty getting quorum. Hunter suggested that July could be used as a committee meeting on all the things we are working on. July will be a working session during our normal time and place.

Discussion: Community Council Accountability Information Project: Hunter shared an example of what the Accountability Information Project would look like. He created a sample using Capital IDEA's website. His example included finding the organization's purpose, funding information, an analysis on how accessible information was, and documents that were linked in the website. After the analysis of the website, Hunter listed suggestions for possible information that could be listed on the website.

Discussion: Community Council Recruitment Strategy: Nora presented a recruiting strategy that included a recruitment message blurb, options for recruiting (places and methods), and an action plan. The action plan includes recruiting members, developing a succinct message and recruiting packet, identifying what characteristics a CAN Community Council member needs to have, number of available slots, targeted outreach, connecting with members that have applied, and having clear next steps.

Presentations on Racial Discrimination in Employment: There were presentations from Gerry Tucker (Vice President of Human Resources at Austin Community College) and Rachel Hampton (Goodwill) about racial discrimination in employment. Information was shared about the employment rate of formerly incarcerated persons and how that is currently over the rate of unemployment in the Great Depression. These presentations highlighted the barriers formerly incarcerated persons face when trying to secure well-paying jobs.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 pm.