



CAN Board of Directors Meeting 8/10/18 Minutes

Location: Boards & Commissions room, Austin City Hall

Present: Eric Bustos, Capital Metro; Kelly Crook, Del Valle ISD; Juan Garza, (for Mike Geeslin) Central Health; Laura Griebel, CAN Community Council; Hunter Ellinger, CAN Community Council, Diana Nguyen, (for Marina Bhargava, Greater Austin Asian Chamber of Commerce); David Escamilla, Community Justice Council member; Jimmy Flannigan, District 6, City of Austin; Sherri Fleming, (for Margaret Gomez, Commissioner, Travis County Precinct Four); Trey Fletcher, City of Pflugerville; Simone Talma Flowers, Interfaith Action of Central Texas; Juan Garza, (for Mike Geeslin, Central Health); Kay Garza, (for David Smith, United Way for Greater Austin); Laura Griebel, CAN Community Council; Patricia Hayes, Greater Austin Black Chamber of Commerce; Jeremy Martin, Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce; Luis A. Rodríguez, Greater Austin Hispanic Chamber of Commerce; Ronda Rutledge, Chair, One Voice Central Texas; Erica Saenz, Associate Vice President, UT Division of Diversity and Community Engagement; Nick Solórzano, (for Sabino Rentería, District 3, City of Austin); Ann Teich, Austin ISD; Dewayne Street, (for Jerry Davis, CEO Goodwill Industries);

CAN staff in attendance: Raul Alvarez, Carlos A Soto, and Jelina Tunstill

Other guests: Ara Merjanian, CAN Community Council;

Call to order and Introductions: Dr. Crook called the meeting to order at 1:10 pm and members introduced themselves. Jeremy Martin greater announced the Greater Austin Business Awards scheduled for August 30, organized by the Greater Austin Chamber of Commerce. Sherri Fleming announced that the County is in the midst of budget hearings, please visit the website for more information.

Approval of minutes from 6/8/18 meeting: The 6/8/18 meeting minutes were approved as submitted, on a motion by Simone Talma Flowers, seconded by Erica Sáenz. The vote was unanimous.

Community Council Report: Laura Griebel began her report with an announcement that at the September 17 meeting the Council has invited 5 elected officials to be part of a panel regarding the child poverty report. The idea is to ensure that elected officials are aware of the child poverty report and the work the Council has been doing, and to have some very deliberate conversations, in anticipation of the legislative session, about what can be done from a policy/legislative perspective to address issues of families and children living in poverty. Hunter Ellinger added that, looking into next year, one of his goals would be to have orientation materials for community council members that could include CAN history. Another goal is to draft a document outlining people's expectations for the Community Council. It's also important for the general CAN membership as well as the Community Council to have documentation of some of CAN's history and the different pieces of institutional knowledge shared among its members that enable the Council to be most helpful.

Executive Director's Report: Raúl Álvarez announced the deliberative dialogues scheduled for October. This year the topic will be Addressing the Opioid Crisis. CAN staff and committee members are currently developing meeting materials and hosting planning team meetings. Planned dates include October 9th at University Presbyterian Church, and October 15th at the Community Council at 700 Lavaca, with more locations and dates being planned. Next planning team meeting date is August 22nd. Regarding the Regional Summit, we met with local stakeholders in Hays County, including representatives from the City of San Marcos, Hays County, the Greater San Marcos Partnership, and the San Marcos Chamber of Commerce. The date for the event changed, now it's scheduled for Thursday, November 9, 2018, the idea being that after Thanksgiving it might be more

difficult to attract participants. The location also changed, now it will be held at the Convention Center, at no cost, thanks to the Greater San Marcos partnership. If you or your organization would like to sponsor the event or be included in the planning, please let Raul know. We will be scheduling some calls on the topics of Workforce Housing and Workforce Development, with subcommittees focused on developing the panels and developing a keynote for the event. Álvarez also discussed the Beyond Diversity training events which have increased to 10, thanks in part to our collaboration with Leadership Austin. The only dates still available this year are in November, with more dates also available for the spring. CAN is also continuing its book study on Michelle Alexander's *The New Jim Crow*.

Discussion: Will there be more scholarships available for the trainings? Yes, particularly for the trainings in the upcoming year. Dr. Crook shared her experience with organizing and carrying out the trainings in Del Valle and the positive feedback she received from participants, adding that she's excited to hear about these dates for next year, particularly the scholarship opportunities. Erica Saenz also shared her positive experience with the training at an event sponsored by Leadership Austin for her Leadership Austin class, adding that there might be a good opportunity to reach out to previous Leadership Austin classes and make the training available to graduates from previous classes who haven't participated in the training yet. There was also discussion about creating a cohort who could be trained to conduct/facilitate the training, through ACC's Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Campus Center.

CAN Partner Spotlight, One Voice Central Texas: Rhonda Rutledge, past chair for One Voice Central Texas & Executive Director of the Sustainable Food Center, shared her support for a related training (*Undoing Racism*) and her experience taking part together with the entire Sustainable Food Center staff, adding that she's excited there are other opportunities available for One Voice members. One Voice is a coalition consisting of the leadership of over one hundred nonprofit health and human service organizations collaborating with policy makers and the public so that each person can reach their highest potential. Rutledge is currently serving as Past Chair, with Simone Talma Flowers now serving as Chair Elect and Jo Katheryn Quinn of Caritas currently serving as Chair. Next, Rutledge discussed the One Voice membership and how they are a group of experts whose mission is to build well-being at every stage of life. They hold monthly meetings where members team up into groups that focus on specific aspects of the work.

Rutledge provided an overview of the work of its standing committees. The Standards of Excellence group strengthens the ability of members to achieve best practices for nonprofits, through trainings, learning opportunities, and issue area discussions. The Public Policy group advocates for the nonprofit sector and its clients, and serve as an expert resource for policymakers on health and human services. Equity and Social Justice group address equity and diversity issues in our community and the nonprofit sector, targeting four key issue areas of disparity: jail bookings, food security, obesity, and school readiness. The Connecting Members group provides networking and mentorship support to nonprofit EDs, including a peer-to-peer buddy program, a mentorship program for new ED's, and networking events. The Reframing Human Services group works on implementing a new communications framework that conveys how human services build wellbeing for everyone in the community. The Member Benefits group provides opportunities for members to collectively purchase quality benefit plans to lower and stabilize costs. Current Priorities for One Voice: strengthening the nonprofit sector, addressing diversity challenges, and focusing advocacy efforts locally. Request to CAN: continue to support Beyond Diversity in the community; advocate for affordability issues, higher wages, affordable housing, etc.; partner with local nonprofits to address critical issues in our community; help nonprofits evaluate and analyze data to improve effectiveness (CAN data is invaluable to a number of One Voice partner organizations); invest in high performing nonprofits; and encourage employees to be a part of Austin Gives.

Discussion: Some members mentioned the great number of nonprofits in our community and how that can make aligning resources and efforts a complicated task. Council member Flannigan pointed out that as a city of

innovation, there is no shortage of support for people with great ideas, and commended One Voice for their skill at managing the tradeoffs and understanding that we need to build partnerships between groups in order to effectively answer complex questions. Patricia Hayes added that the high rate of nonprofits has been that way for a while, adding that it would probably be a good idea to share with the CAN board the slide highlighting One Voice's requests for CAN. Sherri Fleming also thanked Ronda for One Voice's help and collaboration on the County's investment strategy. Jeremy Martin thanked One Voice for mentioning Austin Gives and helping it grow into the big event it is now, and asked Ronda to talk more about the effort to increase board diversity and how the different nonprofits who are part of One Voice will measure success. Ronda responded that she knows that Caritas will be tracking their efforts over the next few years and report back. Erica Saenz asked about organizational structure and how the work is divided. Ronda provided a brief overview.

Adjournment: Brion Oaks, Chief Equity Officer for the City of Austin, was unable to present. Dr. Crook adjourned the meeting.