



# HRS Leadership Council Minutes

**Committee:** HRS Leadership Council

**Date:** 3/7/2022

**Duration:** 12:00 – 3:00

**Meeting Place:** VIRTUAL MEETINGS VIA ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86532870646>

Meeting ID: 865 3287 0646

**Presiding:**

**Attendance:**

P = Present

TC = Attended via Dial in

A = Absent

P/A = Partial Attendance

Leadership Council Members							
P	Cathy McLaugherty	P	Richard Johnson				
P	Dianna Grey	P	Tiffany Hart				
P	Dylan Shubitz	P	Whitney Thurman				
P	Emily Seales		Vacant				
A	Jason Philips		Vacant				
P	Quincy Dunlap		Vacant				
P	João Paulo Connolly						
Committee Chairs							
P	Brion Oaks						
P	Ruth Ahearn						
Attendees							
ECHO (CoC Lead)							
P	Maya Beit-Arie	P	Summer Wright				
P	Quiana Fisher						

AGENDA	TIME	PRESENTER	DISCUSSION	ACTION ITEMS
<b>I. Welcome and Values Check-in</b>	12:00-12:15	<b>R. Ahearn &amp; B. Oaks</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Introduction of JP Connolly in Other seat and Tiffany Hart in PLE seat</li> <li>Summer Wright transitioned from LC seat to ECHO Governance and Advocacy Manager</li> </ul>	
<b>II. Announcements</b>	12:15 – 12:30	<b>All</b>	<b>Announcements</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ASOC awardees have been notified, more updates to come               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ECHO’s CE team will be having feedback sessions with ASOC scorers and with non-awarded applicants</li> <li>Awardees are We Can Now, Sunrise Navigation Center, and Urban Alchemy</li> <li>Non-Austin based org awarded, could be problematic—will be opportunity in feedback sessions to discuss</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

AGENDA	DISCUSSION	ACTION
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Still working among awarded agencies to determine distribution of positions</li> <li>○ Independent scoring group made up of people from Equity and Crisis Response, primarily lived expertise</li> <li>○ Brion to connect with Matt to discuss how top orgs received scores, potential for an appeals process for future funding opportunities</li> <li>● Compensation Policy conversation continuing forward with both short and long term implementation</li> <li>● ECHO staff working with LC chair and vice chair to build roadmap to delineate scope of Committees' work, then to Council and Committee members for feedback</li> <li>● Crisis Response Committee have formalized the Inclement Weather workgroup beneath them to begin next steps regarding advocacy letter</li> <li>● Integral Care awarded approx. \$700k of assistance in TANF funds <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Eligible for families with minor child in household, with any member of household connected to IC with mental health, substance use, or intellectual disabilities</li> <li>○ Available until Sep. 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>○ Direct financial assistance to prevent homelessness, home improvement for improving safety and accessibility, emergency housing and hotel voucher assistance for COVID isolation, or short term basic needs. Cannot pay for childcare or transportation</li> <li>○ Up to \$10k over 4 months, depending on family size</li> </ul> </li> <li>● HUD ESG/CV expenditure deadline extended from March 31<sup>st</sup> to Sep. 30<sup>th</sup></li> <li>● HACA commissioners approved 220 additional project based vouchers across 6 different projects</li> <li>● HUD has highlighted Austin during the House America campaign for our governance restructure</li> <li>● LC Retreat to be revisited for early April</li> </ul>

AGENDA		DISCUSSION		ACTION
III. Leadership Council Selection Policy	12:30-1:00	M. Beit-Arie & All	<p><b>Leadership Council Selection Policy</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• New LC members are endorsed by LC and then approved by all stakeholder meeting by consensus <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Governance group to workshop new process for LC to vote on</li> <li>○ Doodle poll to be sent out to schedule new group</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Process for filling interim vacancies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No need to wait a year or call an all stakeholders meetings with every shift mid-year</li> </ul> </li> <li>• People on council should serve as point of contact for the seat they represent <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Conversation for retreat to discuss feasibility and implementation</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Reminder that terms are 2-3 years</li> <li>• Vacant seats filled by either reopening process or appointing previous applicants, measured against matrix to ensure diversity requirements <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Serve in temporary capacity and must be endorsed and elected during the next All Stakeholders, when their term begins</li> <li>○ Interim councilmembers still have to complete same application process</li> <li>○ Representation reviewed by community annually</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Chair and Vice Chair positions 1 year each, Council can re-elect a Vice Chair at any point, transition in May</li> </ul>	
IV. Changes to LC Members on Committees	1:00-1:15	M. Beit-Arie & All	<p><b>Changes to LC Members on Committees</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Summer was previous LC member and co-chair on Equity committee</li> <li>• Rhie was LC member on Crisis Response committee</li> </ul>	<p><b>Action:</b> Vote to approve JP as Crisis Response committee as LC representative.</p> <p><b>Action:</b> Vote to approve Tiffany Hart as Equity committee as LC representative.</p>
V. Committees Attendance and Representation	1:15-1:30	S. Wright	<p><b>Committees Attendance and Representation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low attendance, especially among PLE and equity advocates</li> <li>• Following up more rigorously <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Phone notifications/texts prior to meetings</li> <li>○ Follow up by support staff with people who haven't shown up to meetings</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Not only PLE having difficulty showing up</li> <li>• Netanya Jamieson: Finding space for people to attend, would be willing to open up space/help with transportation</li> </ul>	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Partnering more closely with SPs and library branches to find spaces</li> <li>● Erin Whelan: Difficulty familiarizing with virtual meeting spaces <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Communicating with text/in more familiar ways</li> <li>○ Hybrid meetings, including food at in-person meetings</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Technology need is being met, though LC will need to incorporate that in future fundraising</li> <li>● Potentially due to compensation policy, need to speak with people</li> </ul>	
<b>VI. Encampment Sweeps &amp; Response</b>	1:45-2:30	<b>Q. Fisher &amp; M. Beit-Arie</b>	<b>Encampment Sweeps &amp; Response</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● We Can Now, Little Petal Alliance, Austin Camp Support, and Austin Justice Coalition present on ground day of sweep on the 22<sup>nd</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Callous indifference of police, Rosemary was well known in community and her loss was felt</li> <li>○ Any eyewitnesses on potential cause of death were swept, no statements collected</li> <li>○ PARD has ranking for safety risk of campsites, this encampment ranked low, over 100 campsites that ranked higher</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Sweeps are not new and occur frequently, even before Prop B</li> <li>● Should be calling out council offices for applying pressure to accelerate sweeps, councilmembers need to take responsibility for where people should go</li> <li>● Need to evaluate cost of sweeps and the prioritization of resources</li> <li>● Neighborhood Associations may be applying pressure to councilors <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ NAs and certain parts of faith based community need to be accepting responsibility for their parts in calling for sweeps</li> <li>○ Question has to be “Where will folks go?”</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Displacement of people coming from developers gentrifying neighborhoods</li> <li>● Desperate need for housing and it isn’t happening</li> <li>● We do have a voice, we can advocate—brainstorm spaces where we can have discussions to gain clarity around processes and, at bare minimum, ensure adequate service connection around sweeps</li> <li>● Camping ban was a ballot initiative, not council voted decision <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ No unified decision on how to choose to respond to pressure</li> <li>○ How are we selecting where to enforce—new city group is convening</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need for active connection with community to connect people with and bolster resources</li> <li>• Where is the city with property acquisition? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ City has purchased 4 hotels, not including DV shelter</li> <li>○ Two of the hotels have been stood up as bridge shelters, other two moving towards renovation for PSH on April 1<sup>st</sup> and the months after</li> <li>○ Actively looking for other properties now</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Anyone passing outside reflects many failures of many systems—What do “sweepers” report back in terms of contract fulfillment? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Community groups who work for free are the ones who do the actual work of helping people pack belongings</li> <li>○ Contractors’ work is to pressure people to move and throw things out if not quick enough</li> <li>○ Officers telling the people who were doing work were told to stay back until PARD presence</li> <li>○ Depending on where sweep occurs, it may be contractors with a city department, not APD, or Austin Resource Recovery</li> </ul> </li> <li>• HOST team member present?</li> <li>• PEH are constituents of their districts, part of our role is to help represent people, and we should apply pressure</li> <li>• We could open meetings with moment of silence/grounding in necessity of work to acknowledge people who lose their lives on the street</li> <li>• Look at length of time people are provided warning</li> <li>• \$500k of diversion funds attached to ASOC money can play a role</li> <li>• City RFP to be released for Crisis Response on 31<sup>st</sup>—could be used for additional shelter capacity, additional CAs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Focus won’t be on HEAL, HEAL already has shelter attached to it, funds will be more flexible and can be used for sweeps where housing isn’t already attached</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	
<b>VII. Public Comment</b>	2:30-3:00	<b>All</b>	<p><b>Public Comment</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Tracey Moody: More compassion needed, it could be any of us</li> <li>• David Vaughn: Offer for Systems Improvement Committee to take on the charge of looking at sweeps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sweep response could fall under many committees, staying under Crisis Response now</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	

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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Systems Improvement can assist with looking at how we connect people with services as sweeps are set to occur</li> <li>● Pamela Bryant: Many people do not want housing, we should be thinking of ways of helping people meet needs without needing to go into housing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ People don't want housing that doesn't meet their needs, we need to offer services that meet needs</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chris Harris: Provision in HB-1925 allows for local jurisdictions to adopt a diversion program as an alternative/provide resources in lieu of citations and arrests <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Need to stop using law an excuse for mistreatment of people, need to ensure resources available</li> <li>○ Prop B can be more punitive—does not include provision that it must be charged/prosecuted, many laws on books aren't enforced (e.g. TX still has sodomy laws)</li> <li>○ HB-1925 includes provision that it must be enforced</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Appreciate the addressing of the issue/conversation</li> <li>● Whitney Callari: new team lead at N and S Bridge Shelters <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Can provide clarity about IC's role in shelters with HEAL</li> <li>○ Has feedback from clients about what could be improved</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Mark Hilbelink: Cold Weather Shelter workgroup has been set up</li> </ul>	
<b>Adjournment</b>	3:00	<p><b>FUTURE AND ONGOING AGENDA ITEMS</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Governance Group to Meet to Review Selection Policy and Charter</li> </ul> <p><b>Next Meeting: April 4<sup>th</sup>, 12:00PM – 3:00PM</b></p>	