



HIV Health Services Planning Council
PLANNING COMMITTEE *DRAFT* MINUTES
Tuesday, March 11, 2008
San Francisco Department of Public Health
25 Van Ness Avenue, Room 330 B
3:30 – 5:30 pm

Members Present: Laura Thomas, Mark Molnar, Steve Manley, Charles Siron, Gerardo Ramos, George Simmons (Co-Chair), Don Soto (Co-Chair), Mark Molnar, Ellen Sweetin

Staff and Department of Public Health: Michelle Long, Dean Goodwin, Bill Blum, Celinda Cantu, Jack Newby, Ray West, Joe Lynn (notetaker)

Others Present: Bill Hirsch, Steve Smith, Brett Andrews, Kelly Hunt, an unidentified representative of Asian Pacific Asian & Pacific Islander Wellness Center

1. Introductions 3:36

The meeting was called to order at 3:36 pm, and everyone introduced themselves.

2. Review/Approve Agenda

The agenda was approved by consensus.

3. Review/Approve *February 12, 2008* Minutes

After a discussion of the Centers of Excellence portion of Item 13 of the minutes, the minutes were approved by consensus.

4. Announcements

Council Member George Simmons thanked the co-chairs for their work and noted that this was the last meeting of the Planning Committee as the result of the recent reorganization of the Council.

5. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

6. Steering Committee Update

There had been no steering committee meeting so there was no report.

7. Status Update of Presentations

- *Veteran's Administration*

Representatives will not be available this month for this presentation.

- *Healthy San Francisco*

Representatives would be available for the next council meeting but would need to be at the beginning of the agenda. Otherwise, they would be available in April.

8. Status Update on Needs Assessment 2008

Michelle McGee from Harder and Company led the discussion. She wanted to discuss some things with the Committee before going forward.

The first issue is to gain the committee's support of the approach that would focus on severe need populations. She recommended a sample size of 200, with proportions retained among the three counties. Females, transgenders, African American, Latinos, Asian-Pacific Islanders, and older folks both 50-59 and 60 and over would be oversampled. The focus would be on the previously incarcerated and those over 50.

While the focus on the survey would be on those in severe need, other folks for the focus group would be added who may be concerned over disability.

Focus groups in the past have had problems with the previously incarcerated because of confidentiality problems. If money becomes available, folks from the forensic program would be recruited for one on one interviews. There remained issues of what qualifications for previously incarcerated folks should be used. (E.g., how long should the incarceration have been for?)

The next meeting of the working group had not been set because of attendance problems.

Motion (Simmons/Siron) to forward the recommendations to Steering passed unanimously.

9. Review/Discuss General Funds Prioritization and Allocation

The City has been running a large deficit, and we can expect deep cuts to City programs. The proposed cut to HIV programs is \$4.2 million.

A four-step proposal made by the Co-chairs proposal was discussed:

1. The Ryan White legislation requires local jurisdictions to continue level of effort. The cuts raised issues concerning this requirement. Clarity is needed.
2. There is a concern that cuts on HIV are disproportional to other services. That is not fair.
3. Look to other funding streams; otherwise prioritize existing services over new ones.
4. A reductions protocol may need to be developed.

The Council doesn't need to decide instantly what the priorities will be, and there is time for the providers to be given opportunity to be heard.

Representatives from the Department of Public Health discussed the big picture, and steps that could be taken regarding programmatic savings, etc. The first step suggested by them was a decision from HHSPC on programmatic savings in RWPA, MAI Award reductions and RWPB Augmentation dollars. The second step was an allocation of stop-loss funding and other cost savings. They recommended moving general fund core services of \$3.3 million onto RWPA. They also would move \$900,000 in general fund support services to RWPA. They also recommended a third step of moving \$700,000 in RWPA funds for other support service categories from the general fund to RWPA and then \$3.3 million prioritized to remaining service categories.

Some concern was expressed over the clarity of the proposal. Suggestions were made regarding simplifying and clarifying presentation. Some questioned whether allocating

RWPA funds capitulated to HRSA definitions and institutionalizes possible inequities – the alternative would be to create new service definitions in the next few weeks.

Motion (Thomas/Simmons) approved unanimously concerning the document entitled HIV Health Services Planning Council Steps for Needed Decisions and Recommendations regarding Ryan White Part A (RWPA) & General Fund Dollars:

- 1. Approve Item I with option a1, asking the Department of Public Health to further clarify the proposal and make its recommendation consistent with HRSA residential substance abuse policies on Item Ic.**
- 2. Accept Items II and IIIA**

After discussion,

Motion (Thomas/Simmons) to adopt the Proposal for the March 11, 2008 Planning Committee Meeting from the HIV Health Services Planning Council Co-Chairs

The discussion then centered on identifying \$1.6 million to be moved from non-core services onto RWPA; the options were to move proportionate amounts or take specific service charges and re-prioritize them. Some could not be moved to RWPA.

The consensus was to consider any decision a placeholder in lieu of harder task of prioritizing. After some discussion,

Motion (Molnar/Siron) passed unanimously concerning document entitled General Fund FY 2007-2008 Programmatic Allocations, remove lines 60, 110, 118, and 123 of Column S and allocate changes proportionately to the rest.

10. Next Meeting Date & Agenda Items

- The next Planning Committee Meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, April 14th, 3:30 until 5:30 p.m., 25 Van Ness Avenue, Room 330B, San Francisco.

11. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 5:30 pm.