



Planning Council Meeting  
Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020  
GoToMeeting  
4:00 - 6:00pm

---

## Summary of Attendance

### Members Present

Brian Holliday  
Carolyn Smith  
Gertrude Lundy  
Michael Swaney  
Patrick Baum  
Deb Winters  
Richard Swanson  
Stephen Batchelder  
Melissa Hector  
Katie Keating  
Lorraine Jones  
Darren Sack  
Adelina Alves  
Shawna Smith  
Alison Kirchgasser  
Jose Sostre  
Stephen Corbett  
Robert Giannasca  
Ronald *Jazzzz* Bennett  
Stanley Flores  
Manuel Pires  
Jessica Stewart  
Kathy Lituri  
Christopher Cullinan  
Ericka Olivera  
Barry Callis  
Mahara Pinheiro  
Tim Young  
Gelfi Colon

Hariharan Shanmugam  
Bryan Thomas  
John Fabiano  
Justin Alves  
Margaret Lombe  
George Diaz  
Keith Nolen  
Lamar Brown-Noguera

### Members Excused

Wendy LeBlanc

### Members Absent

#### RWSD

Felipe Ruiz  
Emily Bennewies  
Wiona Desir

#### PCS

Liz Rios  
Masill Miranda  
Tatiana Ramos  
Rinka Murakami

#### Guests

Chief of HHS Marty Martinez, City of Boston

---

## Topic A: Welcome and Introductions

Richard Swanson, Planning Council Chair, welcomed everyone, asked members to introduce themselves for the record, and reviewed the virtual ground rules.

---

## **Topic B: Review and Approve Meeting Minutes**

The minutes from the meeting of June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2020 were reviewed. Members went on Basecamp to look at the minutes before motioning to approve.

**Motion to Approve: Darren Sack**

**Second: Justin Alves**

**Result:** The minutes were approved with ( 6 ) Abstentions

---

## **Topic C: Implementation of award and Q1 spending report (FY20)**

Katie Keating (KK), Director of the Ryan White Services Division (RWSD)/BPHC and Emily Bennewies, RWSD Program Coordinator, presented the FY20 Q1 spending and client utilization report. Council members were updated on initial spending rates as services have been impacted due to COVID-19 in the Boston EMA.

### **Questions/Comments**

PCM: Did Part A services receive additional funding from the Care Act?

KK: We received funding through the Care Act and a number of agencies applied. We are about to send out award letters to agencies to inform them of their award.

EB: In our monthly calls, we've been asking agencies about how COVID-19 have impacted to have a sense of how the pandemic has affected them.

---

*Marty Martinez, HHS Chief, then joined the meeting to say thank you to the Planning Council for their hard work and their impact in the community.*

---

## **Topic D: VOTE on the FY21 Funding Scenario recommendations**

Lamar Brown-Noguera and Harry Shanmugam, NRAC Vice Chair, reintroduced and requested motions per funding recommendations and guidance presented on June 11, 2020.

### **NRAC recommendation #1 – Actual FY19 Unexpended funds recommendation**

Allocate 20% to ADAP, 20% to Medical Nutrition Therapy, 30% to Food Bank/Home delivered meals, and 30% Emergency Financial Assistance

**Motion to vote to accept recommendation #1:** Justin Alves

**Second:** Richard Swanson

**Results:** Approved with ( 0 ) Abstentions

### **NRAC recommendation #2 – Estimated FY20 Unexpended funds recommendation**

Allocate 20% to ADAP, 20% to Medical Nutrition Therapy, 30% to Food Bank/Home delivered meals, and 30% Emergency Financial Assistance

**Motion to vote to accept recommendation #2:** Brian Holliday

**Second: John Fabiano**

**Results: Approved with ( 0 ) Abstentions**

**NRAC Recommendation #3 – FY21 Funding Scenarios recommendations**

The Planning Council votes to adopt the package of seven FY21 funding scenario recommendations as presented to the Council on June 11, 2020

**Motion to vote to accept recommendation #3: Keith Nolen**

**Second: Tim Young**

**Results: Approved with ( 0 ) Abstentions**

**NRAC Recommendation #4 – Additional guidance to BPHC (recipient)**

The Planning Council votes to authorize BPHC the flexibility to adjust category funding allocations based on emerging needs and the changing environment by up to 20% above or below the levels for each service category, with the exception of categories funded at less than \$500,000 are given up to **50% leeway** as established in the FY21 Funding Scenario recommendations, as presented to the Council on June 11, 2020.

**Motion to vote to accept recommendation #4: Bryan Thomas**

**Second: Jose Sostre**

**Results: Approved with ( 0 ) Abstentions**

---

**Topic E: MNC Year End Report (YER)**

Keith Nolen presented MNC's Year End Report. The committee's charge, leadership, membership, recruitment and outreach efforts were highlighted, as well as recommendations for next year's committee and Planning Council.

---

**Topic F: Consumer Committee Year End Report (YER)**

Jazzzz Bennett, Consumer Committee Chair, and Robert Giannasca, presented the Consumer Committee's Year End Report. The committee's charge, leadership, membership, current Anti-Stigma Campaign project, special trainings and presentations were highlighted, as well as recommendations for next year's committee and Planning Council.

---

**Topic G: Anti-Stigma Campaign video**

Tatiana Ramos, PCS Coordinator, gave an update on the Anti-Stigma Campaign video. Amir Now Inc. (ANI) who are producing the video, have had delays, and so the video is expected in the coming weeks. A teaser was expected for viewing at today's meeting, but ANI has not sent it to PCS as of yet. Members who have taken part in the video were asked to discuss their experience with the production team, which was generally positive.

---

## **Topic H: Chair Elect Elections**

Liz Rios, PCS Manager, led the Chair Elect elections for 2020-2021. The nominee elected will move on to be the Council chair in 2021-2022. The nominees are, Kathy Lituri and Darren Sack. Both nominees provided a candidate statement. Council members voted during the meeting.

The Council voted for the 2020-2021 Chair Elect to be: **KATHY LITURI**

---

## **Topic I: Agency Reports**

The representatives for Medicaid (Alison Kirchgasser), New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services (NHDHHS) (Christopher Cullinan), Massachusetts Department of Health (MDPH) (Barry Callis), Mayor Walsh's Office (Melissa Hector), Boston Public Health Commission (BPHC)/Ryan White Services Division (RWSD) (Katie Keating) gave agency updates – SEE below.

### **BOSTON PUBLIC HEALTH COMMISSION INFECTIOUS DISEASE BUREAU, HIV/AIDS SERVICES DIVISION REPRESENTATIVE: KATIE KEATING – DIRECTOR, RYAN WHITE SERVICES DIVISION**

- Felipe Ruiz, our new Senior Program Manager has started
- We are still in the process of hiring 2 Program Coordinator IIs
- Harry Shanmugam will be joining our team as a research and planning intern this summer
- We continue to participate in the EHE Planning process led by MDPH
- We are working on our EHE Plan to resubmit by August 11th
- We continue to work with agencies to track impacts of COVID 19, identify opportunities to better meet needs, and connect with resources. We working on allocating and distributing COVID Supplemental funding.

### **NEW HAMPSHIRE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, NH CARE PROGRAM REPRESENTATIVE: CHRISTOPHER CULLINAN – DATA ANALYST / ADAP COORDINATOR**

- NH HIV Planning Group met 6/19/20. Presentations included Trans Health Update, HIV Needs Assessment Survey review, Peer Support Services.
- The National Ryan White All Grantee Conference in Washington DC, hosted by HRSA and scheduled for August 2020, will be held virtually. The NH Ryan White CARE Program staff expects to participate fully.

### **MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH BUREAU OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE AND LABORATORY SCIENCES (BIDLS) OFFICE OF HIV/AIDS (OHA) REPRESENTATIVE: BARRY CALLIS - DIRECTOR OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE PREVENTION**

- OHA staff generated a list of training/education/capacity development needs related to COVID-19 and reopening to support funded programs.
- OHA staff continue to have monthly engagements with Black, Latinx, Transgender, and Gay Men's Advisory Groups to document and respond to recommendations.
- Ending HIV Epidemic in Suffolk County Update

---

**Topic J: Other Business, Announcements, Evaluation & Adjourn**

**Meeting to Adjourn**

**Motion:** Justin Alves

**Second:** Kathy Lituri

**Result:** The meeting was adjourned.

---