



Minutes ☿ Monday November 9th
4pm-6:30pm
Virtually through Zoom

Council Members Present: *Michael Louder, Lydia Guy-Ortiz (Washington State Dept. of Health), Richard Prasad (Country Doctor), Susan Buskin (Dept. of Public Health-Seattle & King County), Katie Hara (Madison Clinic), German Galindo, Teresia Otieno (Center for Multicultural Health), Eve Lake (University of Washington Medicine), Alora Gale-Schreck, Jonas Nicotra, Genie Sheth (City of Seattle-Human Services Dept.), John Rodriguez, Tony Radovich*

Council Members Absent: *Hector Urrunaga-Diaz (Bailey-Boushay House), Ron Padgett, Gladys Wiessner*

Planning Council Staff Present: Karen Chung, Wilson Pipkin (minutes)

Recipient Staff Present: Linda Coomas (Ryan White Part A Recipient), Mark Baker (clinical quality management), Shila Wu

Visitors Present: Dennis Torres (Gilead), Wanda Vasquez (Janssen Biotech), Leanne Neumann (Janssen Biotech), Tara Roufi (Janssen Biotech), Al Gutierrez (Spanish/English Interpreter), Kevin Hockley (Optum HIV Specialty Pharmacy)

Italics denote Planning Council Membership.

I. Welcome, Introductions and Announcements

There will be a 5 minute break at 5:15 for the interpreter.

Karen announced that *Jonas Nicotra* was confirmed by the King County Executive's Office as a member of the Planning Council.

There is an upcoming Salon Wednesday December 16th, 10am to 11:30 pm where Dr. Sara Glick will present the 2020 Pride Survey Results. Join Zoom Meeting <https://kingcounty.zoom.us/j/4036445528>

II. Meeting Agenda

The agenda was approved as written by acclamation.

III. Meeting Minutes

The October minutes were approved as written by acclamation.

IV. Public Comment

None

V. Recipient Report

Linda announced that the Core Medical Services Waiver was received on October 16th. This is in line with previous years. Recipient Staff is poised to integrate contractual changes that will follow from the reallocation plan. Mark is working on the PROVIDE Database with the state. The Recipient will be working with the NAPSRA Committee to finalize the carryover plan. In response to a question it was stated that the Core Medical Services Waiver allows the Council to side step the legislative requirement to adhere to a 75/25% split between clinical services and support services. This is due to Washington being a Medicaid expansion state, and there being a lot of funding for core medical services.

VI. Executive Committee Report

The Formulary Review Board met in October, and at that point there was an opportunity for community partners to provide input to the Health Care Authority on proposed changes. The community response was overwhelming to the point that the review board opted postpone the vote on those changes until the second week of December. There was an invitation to have a more in-depth conversation with community partners, Washington State Dept. of Health, and others on this topic. The proposed changes are for step therapies. If an Apple Health client and their doctor agree on a new regimen, they have to try and fail on the less expensive regimens before they are allowed to use the more expensive regimens. This could create wait time and barriers to accessing treatment. Getting into care is already very difficult for the most marginalized communities that are disproportionately affected by HIV/AIDS. With step therapy this will continue to be the case. This is not in line with HIV treatment guidelines on the federal level or the governor's call to End AIDS Washington. Those enrolled in Apple Health will struggle to access treatment. It was stated that people living with HIV (PLWH) were not invited to this conversation. It was noted that due to formulary changes and the pandemic it has been very difficult to get PLWH access to treatment.

It was stated that this is larger than just Gilead, and there are other treatments on AIDS drug assistance program (ADAP) that have been Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approved. If you are on a government funded program like Medicare or Medicaid, pharmaceutical companies cannot pay for treatment. If someone does not have access to a government funded program, pharmaceutical companies can assist. The Pharmaceutical Drug Review Board would like to hear community input and feedback on this topic, and there is an upcoming meeting. If you are unable to attend, you can write and submit a statement. It was stated that PLWH used to be very organized, but no longer are. This makes it difficult to find those who can give personal accounts and feedback. Tony agreed to be a point of contact for the meeting happening on the 19th (anthonyradovich@gmail.com).

VII. Needs Assessment, Priority Setting & Resource Allocation Committee Report

Richard introduced the reallocation plan that was put together at the last meeting. What it shows is the requested money within service categories where services were asking for more money and those categories which are going to underspend and return funds. This happens every year in order to meet legislative requirements to spend a certain amount of funds. Due to the clinical quality management position remaining unoccupied for several months, there was extra money to add back into the reallocation. There is more money being returned than is being requested. This allowed for filling every request, with some being left over. The extra was absorbed by the

Recipient to put toward administration. It was noted that this plan will go into effect if and when the Council votes to approve it. Reallocation is done to spend out funds and not get penalized.

MOTION: Richard motioned that the Planning Council accept this reallocation plan. Michael seconded.

Discussion: In response to a question, it was noted that Housing has not requested more funds and will spend out allocated funds and this has to do with programmatic capacity. This is not reflective of the overall housing need. Funds were not reallocated to service categories that did not request more funds, as they would go unspent.

The motion passed with the following vote:

- In favor – 9 – Michael, Jonas, Richard, Susan, Katie, Eve, Lydia, Teresia, Genie
- Opposed -0-
- Abstaining -1- German

MOTION: Richard motioned to allow the Recipient to reallocate funds toward the end of the grant year to spend out funds. Susan seconded.

Discussion: It was noted that this would allow the Recipient to move funds at the end of the grant year without Council approval in order meet legislative requirements.

The motion passed with the following vote:

- In favor – 9 – Michael, Richard, Susan, Katie, Eve, Jonas, Lydia, Teresia, Genie
- Opposed -0-
- Abstaining -1- German

It was noted that the directives are not quite finished yet. They are not due until the RFP goes out, so there is a little time.

VIII. Membership/Operations Committee Report

This committee interviewed a new applicant and will hopefully bring this before the Council at the next meeting. *Katie, Richard, and Lydia are all due for reappointment.*

MOTION: Eve motioned to reappoint Lydia Guy-Ortiz to the Planning Council. Richard seconded.

Discussion: None

The motion passed with the following vote:

- In favor– 9 – Michael, Richard, Susan, Katie, Eve, Jonas, German, Teresia, Genie
- Opposed -0-
- Abstaining – Lydia

MOTION: Eve motioned to reappoint Katie Hara to the Planning Council. Richard seconded.

Discussion: None

The motion passed with the following vote:

- In favor– 9 – Michael, Richard, Susan, German, Eve, Jonas, Lydia, Teresia, Genie
- Opposed -0-
- Abstaining -- Katie

MOTION: Eve motioned to reappoint Richard Prasad to the Planning Council. Lydia seconded.

Discussion: None

The motion passed with the following vote:

- In favor – 9 – *Michael, German, Susan, Katie, Eve, Jonas, Lydia, Teresia, Genie*
- Opposed -0-
- Abstaining – Richard

In response to a question it was stated that *Teresia's* 2 terms have ended, but she can continue to serve until a replacement is found. *German's* term is coming to an end and this will be addressed at the next Membership meeting. It was stated that having information brought to the full Council on when terms are coming to an end would be helpful. In response to a question it was stated that *Jonas* will be set up with a King County email address. It was noted that this Committee is back down to 2 members and is in need of more. There is ongoing discussion about trainings that will be brought to the Planning Council.

IX. +Caucus Report

The +Caucus discussed COVID relief funds and how to access them (<http://www.seattle.gov/iandraffairs/programs-and-services/covid-19-disaster-relief-fund-for-immigrants>). There was discussion on a consumer handbook, content this will have, and timeline of its creation. The purpose of this would be to facilitate consumer and overall participation in the Council. There was discussion on the +Caucus recruitment brochure, which has been sent for printing. There was also discussion on a consumer led and focused webinar.

X. System of Care Committee Report

This committee did not meet, due to quorum not being met. The next meeting is Nov. 16th. There is a newly prioritized and funded service category (Emergency Financial Assistance) in which service units, service standards, and standard measures need to be created. Service standards are being reviewed and updated for all other funded service categories.

XI. Adjourn @ 6:05

NEXT MEETING: 4pm, Monday December 7th virtually through Zoom.