 **Full Membership Meeting Minutes**

**Date:**  Thursday, November 17, 2022

**Time:** 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM

**Location: NIHC Returned to In-Person Meetings. Virtual option listed below.**

Winnebago County Health Department

Room 115

555 N. Court Street, Rockford, IL 61103

Note: Masks required at all times. HEPA filters cleaning the air in the meeting room as an additional layer of mitigation. Distant seating arrangement due to COVID protocol

Northern Illinois Homeless Coalition Meeting  
Thursday, November 17, 2022: 3:00 PM – 4:30 PM  
**Remote Option:**Zoom joining info<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89656947564?pwd=Y205N01CdVQzNHVFYnN4VHJDMGxSQT09>  
Meeting ID: 896 5694 7564  
Passcode: 281254

**Present:** Kira Devin, Brooke Henderson, Laura Ortiz, Bob Campbell, Nathan Boven, Mike Hendrick, Sarah Brinkman, Cassandra Barnett, Todd Kisner, Angie Walker, Shelton Kay, Joanne Rouse, Paula Lind, Stephanie Jacobs, Susan Rader, Jennifer Yochem, Joyce Williams, Angie Schaulis, Kelci Cox Raney, Emily Schwartz

**Agenda Items:**

1. Welcome and Introductions
2. 10/20/22 Meeting Minutes Approval
   1. 1st – Kira, 2nd – Shelton; unanimous approval, minutes approved.
3. HMIS Lead Agency
   1. Working on report and going well
4. Treasurer’s Report – $1,856.67
5. Sarah Brinkmann – HUD ARP Funds
   1. Recd $3.5 mill from HUD Home Office, serve certain population
   2. Would like to create more units
   3. Consult COC along with other agencies, deadline in March
   4. RFP is out, will evaluate and put in place
   5. Money awarded to City of Rockford, focusing on Rockford
6. Panhandling Campaign Graphics Vote
   1. Bring to COC, get thoughts
      1. Identifying panhandling – judging legal activity – doesn’t align with COC
      2. Better encouraged by the Police Department vs COC?
      3. Give better is the only graphic, not derogatory
      4. Liked the cards the Rockford Mission gave out, if we could do something like that
      5. City has spoken to panhandlers, most don’t want assistance; if they are truly homeless, they are receiving services
      6. PR Committee has the information
      7. Like to hear from the agencies who are listed on the graphics before voting
         1. Main concern – increase in aggression level, number of people in the streets, safety for panhandlers and citizens, general complaints
         2. Effort for people to stop giving to panhandlers
7. Committee Updates
   1. Coordinated Entry
      1. 2nd Thursday of month
   2. Built for Zero (formally Chronic Homeless)
      1. 1st Friday of the month
   3. Membership, Ed & Public Relations
      1. Homeless Memorial 12/21, put on calendar - information coming soon
      2. Hunger and Homeless week next week
   4. Equity and Diversity
      1. Making progress on training in Spring
8. COVID-19 Update
   1. COVID, RSV and Flu are high
   2. Vaccinate when you can and wear masks in public
9. Agency Updates/Announcements
   1. Angie – lack of warming centers; Pastor Dave is moving to Alabama; reached out to Pastor Becky – short staffed not scheduled to open until January
   2. Not able to put people up into hotels, encouraging to go to the Rockford Rescue Mission
   3. City is assisting with mortgage, rent only if there is a court ordered eviction; still doing LIHEAP and water assistance
   4. IHDA rent assistance is back open
   5. Zion’s 40th anniversary in December 9th at Embassy Suites [www.ziondevelopment.org](http://www.ziondevelopment.org)
   6. City’s funds open for comment until 12/6
10. Adjournment
    1. 1st – Kira, 2nd – Angie; meeting adjourned.