

**MN Council for HIV/AIDS Care and Prevention**  
**Community Voices Committee Meeting (CVC)**  
**(Remote Mtg.)**  
**September 14, 2020**  
**4:00 pm – 6:00 pm**  
**Meeting Summary/Minutes**

<b>Committee Members Present:</b>	
Andrew Bauman	Mark Medelbo
Johan Baumeister	Stephen Jensen
Chris Booneville	James McMurray, Co-Chair
Loyal Brooks	Lesla Nelson
Belinda Charleston-Green	
<b>Guests:</b>	
Alex Palacios, Aliveness Project	
<b>Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:</b>	
Thuan Tran	<b>DHS (Part B) Representative:</b>
	Darin Rowles
<b>MDH (Prevention) Representative:</b>	
None	
<b>MCHACP Staff:</b>	
Richard Puella, Council administrative specialist (minutes)	Carissa Weisdorf, Council coordinator

- I. **WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS:** Introductions were made, and the proposed agenda and past meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
  
- II. **Community Presentation:** Alex Palacios presented on civic engagement and how the voting the process will look like this year.
  - Carissa Weisdorf thanked Alex for taking the time to come out and present this training and education to the Community Voices Committee (CVC).
  - She asked if those with an absentee ballot must be dropped off at the Hennepin County Government Center or if there are other locations. Alex noted that besides the government center, the Voter and Elections office is another drop off point.
  - Safety measures have been implemented to help stop the spread of COVID-19 throughout judications across the state.
  
- III. **Connecting the Work:** James McMurray led a discussion about the concern with CVC only meeting four times a year and feels that more meetings are needed during their off months. At the last CVC meeting it was suggested that council members, and co-chairs of other committees attend CVC, and James thanked those who attended this evening.
  - The CVC feels that they are left out and are not aware of what other committees are working on and other committees do not know what the CVC is working on. Although attending CVC meetings are not mandatory, James encouraged other committees to send one member to attend every CVC meeting.
  - Developing strategies on the most effective ways to promote CVC to the community to gain more participation, with the hopes of attracting more consumer voices.
  - Stephen Jensen suggested the CVC look at the Membership & Trainings (M&T) recruitment flyer to use as a model for CVC's own flyer and offered M&T support to James and the CVC.

- Andrew Bauman noted that all the committee and planning council meetings are open to the public and anyone is welcome to attend a meeting to gain a better understanding of what the Council is about.

**IV. Co-Chair Election:** James noted that Destiny Holiday, a co-chair of CVC has resigned, and CVC needs to fill that vacancy and is asking for nominations.

- Belinda asked how long the co-chair term will be. Carissa explained the co-chairs are elected at the beginning of the fiscal year for the council, which starts March 1<sup>st</sup>, or when there is an opening that comes up. This position would go until February 28, 2021. In addition, she reviewed and explained what the roles and responsibilities along with criteria for the co-chair position.
- Andrew Bauman was nominated by Loyal Brooks to serve as a co-chair for CVC and accepted his nomination.
- With no other nominees, Andrew was elected co-chair of CVC through acclamation, and will be forwarded to the Council for approval.

**V. Broadening Our Reach:** James opened the floor for discussion and asked what can be done to reach more people who are living with or are affected by HIV/AIDS.

- Stephen Jensen suggested that CVC continue what it is doing.
- James mentioned that a survey has been developed that will be sent to those who have previously attended CVC asking current and former attendees what is and what didn't keep them engaged.
- Suggestions ranged from placing ads in the newspaper, radio, public television, and word of mouth. James suggested for all who attend a CVC meeting to please bring a plus one.
- Andrew Bauman mentioned that he liked the eight evaluation questions that were developed at the previous meeting but suggested adding, "what would make it easier to attend CVC meetings?"
- Carissa brought up the idea of creating a separate survey for those who may not want to be a council member, or committee member, asking how they would like to participate.
- Darin Rowles mentioned that DHS may be able to offer some technical assistance (TA) and provide some suggested questions for the survey.

**VI. New or Unfinished Business:** Belinda mentioned what CVC was going to do in terms of reevaluating the CVC's role and being ahead of the planning council. James noted that work will continue, and strive to bring CVC to the front of the Council.

- If the CVC would like to have additional meetings for the remainder of the year, council staff would need to ensure that representatives from the different government agencies would be able to support additional meetings in October and November.

**VII. SET AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING:**

- Planning for FY 2021
- Input into service standards
- Co-chair succession planning

**VIII. Open Forum:** Nothing was discussed.

**IX. Announcements and Adjourn:** Stephen Jensen complimented James on how well he facilitated this evening's meeting.

**Meeting summary:**

- The committee received a presentation on civic engagement and voting in the 2020 election.
- Andrew Bauman was nominated to serve as co-chair of CVC.
- The committee discussed a survey for people who were previously involved in CVC.

**Documents Distributed for the Meeting:**

- 2020.09.14 CVC agenda
- 2020.08.10 CVC minutes
- September 8, Committee Report Summaries
- Community Voices Committee Co-Chair Position Description
- 2020.09 CVC meetings flyer

RP/cw