

Membership & Training Committee
(Microsoft Teams Meeting)
December 18, 2020
10:00 am – 12:00pm
Meeting Summary/Minutes

Membership & Training Committee Members Present:	
Calvin Hillary Hylton	Jessie Saavedra
Stephen Jensen	Tyrie Stanley (co-chair)
James McMurray (co-chair)	Bill Tiedemann
Membership & Training Committee Members Absent:	
Loyal Brooks	
Hennepin County (Part A) Representative:	DHS (Part B) Representative:
Anika Kaleewoun	Amy Miller
MDH (Prevention) Representative:	MCHACP Staff:
None	Carissa Weisdorf, Council Coordinator

Quorum? YES

I. Interview new applicants: Members of the Membership and Training Committee along with council staff and government recipient staff conducted four interviews before the meeting and during the first hour of the meeting.

II. Welcome and introductions: Tyrie Stanley called the meeting to order at 10:45 a.m., and introductions were made.

III. Review, approval of November 20 meeting minutes and proposed agenda: After review, the proposed agenda and November meeting minutes were unanimously approved.

IV. Discuss interviews: Each interview team discussed their interview with their scheduled candidate.

1. Anika Kaleewoun and James McMurray discussed N.B's interview. Anika mentioned that he is a clinical researcher and an author. His research is focused on finding the origin of HIV so that he can help eradicate it around the world.
 - He represents the West African community and currently lives in Brooklyn Park.
 - As an instructor, he has vast experience working with people from all over the world with different views and opinions.
 - He understands that people will have different opinions and won't always agree, but it is important to discuss respectfully.
 - He has no scheduling conflicts that would affect attending council and committee meetings.
 - He questioned why the interview process was an hour long, and why pronouns were asked.
 - Overall, N.B would be a good candidate for membership, his experience in clinical research could be valuable to the council and brings a voice from the West African community to the council. Anika suggested he could benefit from training on gender and sexuality due to his unfamiliarity with asking a person's pronouns. The committee recognized that this issue is new for many people.

2. The committee was informed that one of the people scheduled to interview today withdrew his application.
3. Jessie Saavedra and Carissa Weisdorf discussed their interview with P.S.
 - P.S. lives in the TGA, but also has property in Greater Minnesota where he spends most of his time. He provides a viewpoint from the TGA and Greater Minnesota.
 - He has vast experience working in the community and has worked with the Positive Link program.
 - He felt that it's important to have HIV positive people represented on boards and committees.
 - He has previously participated in the Community Voices Committee (CVC) meetings.
 - When dealing with interpersonal conflict he may initially react like anyone would but would take time after the fact to reflect and sift through reasons and influences of his reaction.
 - Carissa and Jessie feel that P.S. would be a welcomed addition to the council and recommend him for membership.
4. Stephen Jensen, Amy Miller, and Calvin Hylton discussed their interview with A.R.
 - A.R. represents the TGA as well as the Black/African American community and was a former member of the previous HIV prevention council.
 - She is a proud advocate for the African born and African American community and the LGBT community.
 - There was concern with her hesitation regarding time commitment. She noted that since meetings were virtual this would be an opportunity for her to join the council but seemed to lack an overall excitement or enthusiasm to join the council.
 - A.R. was not recommended based on the concern of her committing to the time and work the council requires.
5. Bill Tiedemann and Tyrie Stanley discussed their interview with A.L.
 - A.L. is new to his position at Open Arms and HIV work. He is interested in joining the council because it aligns with his work and it involves community engagement.
 - He has experience working on volunteer boards and has been working in the non-profit world for nineteen years. He has staffed many different committees and volunteer groups.
 - He represents the LGBTQ community.
 - He is excited about diversity and is open to learning.
 - Seeks to find the common ground for understanding when dealing with interpersonal conflicts.
 - Time commitment is not an issue for him.
 - He was well prepared for the interview and did as much research about the council as he could beforehand.
 - A.L. was recommended for council membership.

V. Review new applications and membership needs:

Carissa Weisdorf presented and discussed the pending application grid with the committee and noted where we are deficient in membership applications. After review of the pending application grid, she presented one new application.

- The applicant resides in Greater Minnesota and works for Harm Reduction Sisters in Duluth. The organization is not funded through Ryan White.
- Applicant would fill a community-based organization slot for membership needs.
- Applicant was a former planning council member in the mid-nineties and in 2008.
- The committee agreed to schedule S.P. for an interview. Richard Puella will continue to work on scheduling.

Jonathan Hanft joined the meeting to discuss concerns with one applicant. He shared confidential information with the committee because Membership and Training Committee members are responsible for membership selection. After discussion, the committee decided to vote on whether or not they will interview the applicant.

- **MOTION:** Stephen Jensen moved to not interview the candidate at this time. The motion was seconded by James McMurray. **Vote:** Yes (1), No (0). The motion carried.

VI. Review attendance: Carissa Weisdorf noted that there are no issues with attendance at this time and no one needs to be contacted.

VII. Unfinished business/New business:

- Discussion continued regarding the committee co-chair selection process. The committee decided to remove this topic from unfinished business.
- Carissa Weisdorf provided an update regarding the state Medicaid position. She mentioned that the Health Resources & Services Administration (HRSA) project officer drafted a letter to DHS addressing the importance of filling this vacancy. DHS is currently making new connections with the Medicaid office and is hopeful this position will be filled soon.
- Carissa Weisdorf informed the committee that MDH asked to present the HIV cluster and outbreak detection and response plan to the council in the next few months. This is a requirement from CDC and they last presented in late 2019. The committee agreed to schedule Tara Carmean to present MDH's HIV cluster and outbreak detection and response plan at the January council meeting.

VIII. Agenda for the next meeting:

- Council co-chair election
- Membership nominations
- Committee Co-Chair Succession Planning

IX. Announcements: No announcements were made.

X. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:03 p.m.

Meeting Summary

- M&T recommended N.B., P.S. and A.L. for membership consideration.
- The committee reviewed new applications.
- The committee discussed attendance.
- The committee agreed to schedule Tara Carmean to present at the January council meeting.

Documents Distributed for the Meeting:

- 2020.12.18 M&T Agenda
- 2020.11.20 M&T Minutes
- MCHACP interview Guide
- FY 2020 M&T Workplan
- 2020 MCHACP postcard

RP/cw