

**MN HIV Services Planning Council Meeting**  
**January 10, 2012**  
**9:00 am – 12:00 noon**  
**Health Services Building, L15**  
**525 Portland Ave S, Minneapolis**  
**Minutes**

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**Council Members Present:**

Mike Behl (Council Co-Chair)	David Neller
Makeda Norris (Council Co-Chair)	Darin Rowles
Gwendolyn Velez	Kathryn Hansen
Al Fredrickson	Adam Fairbanks
Loyal Brooks	Ami Lazo
Shanasha Whitson	Keith Henry
Tom Bichanga	Kris Hammes
Hank Jensen	Karin Sabey
Peter Carr	Dave Rompa
Bob Hansen	Michael Hargrave

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**Council Members Absent:**

Joan Carchedi	Lee Hertel
Mary Gulley	Charles Koudou
Antonio Marante	Antonio Moreno
Monica Yugu	Tadese Negasa

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**Guests/Consultants:**

Lee Lewis -	Jared Erdman – City of Mpls
Peter O-Toole – City of Minneapolis	Eric Sealy - RAAN

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**G-HAT:**

Redwan Hamza – DHS	Sheila Murphy - Hennepin County
Jonathan Hanft - Hennepin County	Nick Metcalf - DHS
John Suhr – Hennepin County	

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**Planning Council Staff:**

Tim Sullivan	Cynthia Johnson (minutes)
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Quorum Present? **Yes**

**I. Welcome and Introductions**

Mike called the meeting to order at 9:02 am and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made.

**II. Lighting of the Candle – Hank Jensen**

Hank lit the candle in honor of everybody on the Council for the awesome job they did last year. He read a quote from Margaret Mead, "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has."

**III. Approval of December 13, 2011 Meeting Minutes and Proposed Agenda**

The minutes and agenda were approved by unanimous consent.

**IV. Open Forum**

Hank – Annual enrollment is due for Program HH; in completing his paperwork, he realized the barriers involved for those who don't have the same resources. Is there a way to make the application easier the second year, so people don't have to do all that again? Dave Rompa said it has just been streamlined again, and agencies will have 45 days to discontinue using the old version and move to the new one. They encourage clients to copy their first application to use as reference the second year, but the government is putting a lot of data requirements on the Ryan White program.

Peter O-Toole of the Minnesota Housing Coalition talked about HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with AIDS). They're attempting to continue a relationship with the Planning Council. They've been approved by Congress for one million dollars for housing for PLWH. They plan to provide tenant-based rental vouchers through MAP and another agency. The vouchers will be very flexible, and the information will be released Feb. 29. Rehab projects have to show that they've served PLWH for ten years and have to provide additional resources.

**V. Part A Update - Jonathan Hanft, Hennepin County**

Jonathan explained the Part A Grantee Proposal to Allocate Estimated Carryover Funds in 2012. At the end of the fiscal year they need to estimate unobligated balances and what they propose to do with any carryover funds. They won't know the actual amounts until their final report to HRSA; that's why this is an estimate. Because the deadline for submission of the estimate came before the meeting of the full Council, the proposal was presented to the Planning and Priorities Committee and approved by the Executive Committee. Formula funds represent about 70% of Ryan White funding for our area, and supplemental funds represent about 30%, and MAI is about 5% (MAI is considered separate, even though it's part of the formula funds). There's an estimated unobligated balance of \$86,000, and estimated unspent MAI funds of \$13,000. There are significant penalties for under-spending the award money, including a loss of future funding, so they don't want to under-spend. Last year they overestimated (\$102,000 and ended up with a carryover of \$78,000), so it may end up being less than this estimate. The white sheet shows unobligated balances. The proposal is at the bottom of the blue page; of the estimated carryover funds, 34% would go to Medical Case Management, 14% to Food Vouchers, 15% to Treatment Adherences Services and 37% to Early Intervention Services.

Jonathan said they are trying a new approach to early intervention through mobile clinics at a community health center.

Spring All Provider Meeting – The committee has chosen May 30 for the next All Provider Meeting at Snelling Office Park in St. Paul. The meeting is open to Council members, and it's a great way to learn about and interact with service providers.

**VI. Part B/ADAP Update – Redwan Hamza, DHS**

Forecast – The Budget Office has sent the forecast, but it has to be reviewed by their administration; they hope to have it for next month's meeting or to send it out via email. The program is OK until mid-2014.

The 2012 Part B application due date has been postponed to January 17.

They're working on the 2012 training calendar; Dave said they are looking for suggestions for training topics or expertise from Council members. Please get suggestions to Redwan so he can incorporate them into the calendar.

Legislative Session – They're not expecting anything too exciting, but one never knows. There aren't a lot of initiatives from DHS, although they will be doing some cleanup from last session, which was a messy session resulting in a lot of last-minute activity. Lee Lewis said there may be some legislation that will address whether assisted living is an option for PLWH/A.

The ADAP earmark is 50/50 for drug treatment and insurance. At the last pay run, they were completely out and will be using the rebate for the next few months. They do this every year; they were out of the federal earmark funds by the end of October, and are now out of insurance funds. Dave said better deals are available through the drug companies and they're more aggressive in collecting them.

Kris asked if this is the normal time the expiration kicks in. Dave said the insurance money always runs out, and the medication money lasts about six months.

QM Planning – They were short on quality management staff, but as of November they have new staff (Nick Metcalf will be part of strategizing where to go with that). Nick will replace Redwan at the Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee meetings. They're coordinating their efforts with Hennepin County and will be putting a higher emphasis on this.

**VII. Staff Update**

The new calendar is out; please check meeting dates. Karin mentioned meeting in DC; may have to change some meeting dates.

## VIII. Co-Chairs Update

Makeda attended a conference to talk about hunger and nutrition in Minnesota at the Earle Brown Center last week; all of the issues about nutrition and food access related to HIV.

## IX. Committee Reports

A. Community Voice – No further updates.

B. Executive

Carryover Proposal Approval was already covered by Jonathan, but Makeda asked if there were any questions or concerns.

Dave asked if the Council co-chair position could be made for three years instead of one year, but Tim clarified that it is already a two-year appointment.

C. Needs Assessment & Evaluation

Action Item – Committee Co-Chairs Recommendation

Motion: Jared moved that the Council approve the election of Gary Novotny and Karin Sabey as co-chairs of Needs Assessment and Evaluation and members of the Executive Committee.

Vote: Yes – 17; No – 0; Abstain – 1.

D. Operations

Action Item – Planning Council Co-chairs Recommendation

Darin explained that Operations is charged with recommending Council co-chairs; Mike's term is expiring, and Makeda will continue until 2013. One of co-chairs must be living with and open about HIV, a position Mike has filled. They asked for interest from Council, and Hank Jensen and David Neller both volunteered; both have served as co-chair of their committee.

Motion: Darin forwarded the Operations Committee's recommendation that Hank and David be placed into nomination for Planning Council Co-chair.

Vote: Yes – 17; No – 0; Abstain – 1.

The ballots were distributed, and Darin and Sheila counted the ballots. The results were: Hank - 16, David – 2. Makeda extended congratulations to Hank and thanks to both David and Hank for coming forward and offering to serve.

Recruitment – Hank said we still need Council members; there is a strong need for consumers who are African American, African-born, Latino, Asian, and Asian-Pacific Islander. Tim said the Ryan White legislation requires 15-16 specific positions, 33% must be unaligned consumers (people impacted by the disease but not affiliated with an agency that received Ryan White funding). One of the mandated positions is for a formerly incarcerated person or someone who works with incarcerated PLWH. There is also a position for a person who is co-infected with Hepatitis A or B. Adam asked if partners of PLWH can serve on Council. Tim answered that they can serve as affected community but not unaligned consumers.

Next Council Meeting – Darin and Hank handed out reminders about the next Council meeting on February 14 (Valentine's Day), because it's the date of elections and the date the Council honors people who will be leaving the Council.

E. Planning & Priorities

Action Item – Committee Co-chairs Recommendation

Motion: Michael Hargrave moved the Planning and Priorities Committee's proposal from the Part A grantee to reallocate any unspent Fiscal Year 2011 funds to ADAP.

Discussion: Adam asked how the overcharging occurred. Jonathan said they were charged for some clients who had insurance, and as Ryan White is the payer of last resort, that money had to be returned.

Keith asked for clarification about ADAP expenditures; he was wondering about drug costs. Jonathan – They look at people in CAREWare who receive ADAP, not the actual cost of antiretrovirals per year, but just what is paid by ADAP. Redwan said the average 12 month cost is about \$12,000, but in Minnesota the average cost is \$15,000 to \$20,000 per year per uninsured client. Dave said the Rebate comes back in a clump check, so it's impossible to calculate the cost by individual. The State of Minnesota should be able to come up with an average cost in terms of public dollars that it costs to treat a PLWH per year. This will be important as they look forward to the next couple of years when

they will have to treat more people with the same amount of money. The state plan should be to have people go to pharmacies where they get the best service for the dollar. Dave said that's the reason for the need for a review, but if that's something the Council wants, they can certainly provide that.

Al suggested a clarification that 6390 is not the price, so that the public seeing this doesn't get as confused as we are.

Redwan – A couple of years ago they hired a consultant who determined they're better off going through the rebate process.

Michael asked if any patients were affected by overcharge; Jonathan said no.

Vote: Yes – David, Loyal, Al, Gwen, Ami, Karin, Kathryn, Michael, Mike, Peter, Darin, Tom, Adam, Hank, Bob, Kris, Shanasha, Keith; No – 0; Abstain – 1 (Dave).

Action Item – Co-chair Election

Motion: Michael Hargrave moved the Planning and Priorities Committee's election of Gwen Velez and Mike Behl as committee co-chairs and members of the Executive Committee, with Gwen starting immediately and serving until the end of her term, and Mike starting on March 1.

Vote: Yes – 18; No – 0; Abstain – 2.

## **X. Check Out**

This section of the agenda has been added at Makeda's request to give the Council a chance to make sure everyone's concerns were heard. She invited Council members to sum up the meeting in one word. Words that came out were efficiency, effective, accomplished, consensus, vote, presence, tasks, business, appreciative. From the gallery: Tired, observation, cool.

## **XI. Announcements from the Floor**

Dave Rompa - International AIDS Conference is coming up in mid- to late July, scholarships are available, and it's well worth the time and effort to attend. This will be the first time it has been hosted in the U.S. since 1990. Peter said scholarships are very, very competitive, but another opportunity is to volunteer – no travel expenses are paid for volunteers, but fees are waived for any days you volunteer.

Hmong-American Mutual Assistance Foundation

Circle of Love Support Group

Jared Erdmann talked about a project the City of Minneapolis will be working on over the next year; they have funding to do a health impact assessment above the falls. This will lead to discussion of how to redesign the banks of the Mississippi river above the falls. If you have concerns about the near north side or northeast side of the river, please contact Jared.

Adam – Red Door has two events coming up; a support group tonight here at the Health Services building and a Making Sure Workshop about the indicators of HIV care at Open Arms on January 24. Contact Adam for more info.

Keith wanted to plug their portfolio of "switch" studies. One study focuses on switching from several pills per day to a quad pill. Another study focuses on switching patients on Atripla to a quad pill. He predicts there will be several one-pill-a-day options. People don't have to be Hennepin County residents to participate, and interested parties can visit the HCMC website or contact Dr. Henry. Jonathan asked about the quad pill. Soon there will be more than one quad pill; the one they have now will probably be approved in the U.S. later this year. Adam asked if they've considered putting announcements in local publications like Lavender; Dr. Henry would like to work with community advocates to publish the need for study participants.

Darin made some MAP announcements. 2011 was a time of transition, and they have a new executive director, Bill Tiedemann, who came from the Ohio Department of Health. The HIV Action Network and Public Policy is having an open house soon; look up the HIV Action Network on the Web for more information. February 9 is AIDS Action Day at the Capitol. Hank asked what members are allowed to do on AIDS Action Day; Tim clarified that the Council cannot advocate, but everyone as individuals can be involved in the process.

Kathryn – RAAN had a Making Sure workshop last week and will have another in Mankato. Hank said it was very well organized. Jonathan said the Council started funding Making Sure workshops about six years ago, and they have tried to train more agencies to do it – he expressed kudos to the Council for providing the necessary funds. Kathryn asked if the training is to teach people how to put on the workshops.

## **XII. Adjourn**

Kris Hammes moved to adjourn the meeting; Mike seconded, and the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent.

### ***Meeting Adjourned at 10:48 am***

#### **Meeting Summary:**

- The Council approved the election of Karin Sabey and Gary Novotny as co-chairs of the Needs Assessment and Evaluation Committee and members of the Executive Committee.
- The Council approved the election of Gwendolyn Velez as temporary co-chair of the Planning and Priorities Committee and Mike Behl as future co-chair of the committee and members of the Executive Committee.
- The Council approved the nomination of Hank Jensen and David Neller for the position of Planning Council Co-chair and elected Hank.
- The Council approved the reallocation of any unspent Fiscal Year 2011 funds to ADAP.

#### **Documents Distributed Before the Meeting:**

- Agenda
- Minutes from December 13, 2011
- Action Item – Proposal to Reallocate FY 2011 Funds to ADAP
- Action Item – Needs Assessment & Evaluation Committee Co-Chair Election
- Action Item – Planning Council Co-Chair Election
- Action Item – Planning & Priorities Committee Co-Chair Election

#### **Documents Distributed At the Meeting:**

- Part B Update
- Part A Update
- Part A Grantee Proposal to Allocate Estimated Carryover Funds in 2012
- Planning Council Co-Chair Election Ballot
- Committee Reports Summary
- HAMAA Thrift Sale Flyer
- Circle of Love Dinner Flyer

**CJ/tds**