



Community Action Network Board of Directors 1/13/2012 Meeting Minutes

Present: Judge Sam Biscoe (Travis County), Sylvia Blanco (Vice-Chair, CAN Community Council), Cristina Bordin (St. Edward's University), Robiaun Charles (University of Texas), John-Michael Cortez (Capital Metro), Judge Elizabeth Earle (Community Justice Council), Commissioner Sarah Eckhardt (Travis County), David Evans (Executive Director, Austin Travis County Integral Care), Joene Grissom (Workforce Solutions Board Member), Mary Hensley (Austin Community College), Debbie Johnson (Austin Chamber), John McNabb (2012 Chair, One Voice Central Texas), Alan Miller (Executive Director of Workforce Solutions - Capital Area), Stefan Molina (Vice Chair, CAN Community Council), Councilmember Laura Morrison (City of Austin), Jim Reed (Past Chair, CAN Community Council), Dr. Matt Snapp (Chair of Austin Travis County Integral Care Board of Trustees), Tom Spencer (Executive Director, Interfaith Action of Central Texas), Councilmember Kathie Tovo (City of Austin)

Unable to Attend: Debbie Bresette (President, United Way Capital Area), Christine Brister (AISD Board Member), Ashton Cumberbatch (Vice President of Advocacy & Community Relations, Seton), Travis County Attorney David Escamilla (Travis County Community Justice Council), Mary Faria (Operations Chief, Seton), Tim Mahoney (ACC Board Member), Mark Williams (AISD Board President), Michael Wilson (St. David's Foundation), Trish Young-Brown (Central Health)

Staff: Chantel Bottoms, Mary Dodd, Cristell Laurel, and Vanessa Sarria

Call to Order and Announcements: Alan Miller, Chair, called the meeting to order at 1:09 p.m. Debbie Johnson announced that a press conference will be held at City Hall on Wednesday, January 18th on the Austin Chamber's *Austin Gives* program designed to encourage businesses to be philanthropic. More information is available here: http://www.austinchamber.com/monkeewrench/files/news_items/Austin_Gives.pdf. Laura Morrison announced that City Council will have a work session related to the rate case for Austin Energy on Tuesday, January 17th at 10:00. A second hearing on the rate case will be held on Thursday, February 2nd. The City is also considering a bond election in November of 2012. More information about the bond election advisory task force is available online here: <http://www.austintexas.gov/department/bond-development>.

Citizen's Communication: Steve Swanson, participant of the joint subcommittee of AISD, the City of Austin, and Travis County, spoke. Swanson stated that he is part of the subcommittee's workforce development task force. He asked that the CAN Board encourage the joint subcommittee to continue their work related to workforce development. He also encouraged board members to make calls to the judicial support task force members and ask how they are doing in meeting their goals. Swanson also announced that the Association of Texas Professional Educators will be holding a conference in Austin July 14th-16th. The event will include conversations on doing more with what we have in the classroom. More information is available online here: <http://www.atpe.org/>.

Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Approval of Minutes from December 9, 2011: Minutes were reviewed and approved as presented.

Chair's Report: Alan Miller thanked Sarah Eckhardt for her services as Chair of the CAN Board in 2011. He asked Mary Hensley to thank the culinary arts students at ACC who provided food at CAN's end of year event. Miller also asked all CAN partners to strengthen their involvement in CAN. In 2012, there will be time on each Board agenda for open forum discussions. Staff will send out meeting notices and agendas one week prior to meetings to give board members adequate time to prepare for meetings. Board members should pass on any events they would like to share to CAN staff so it may be posted on the CAN website. This year Debbie Johnson will chair CAN's Finance and Membership Committee and Sarah Eckhardt will chair the Policy Forum Committee. Sarah Eckhardt noted that the Policy Forum Committee currently only has two members, herself and Robiaun Charles. They are looking at hosting

the forum in June at the University of Texas. UT will be making an in-kind donation of space. The target audience for the forum will be policy-makers, service providers, governmental entities, and other stakeholders. The forum is expected to include a gap analysis of services across the region and a discussion on strategy. CAN's Mappers and Planners Group will provide some analysis for the event. A draft budget for the event will be presented at the next Board meeting.

Executive Director's Report:

2012 Committee/Work Group Assignments: Board members were provided with a handout listing the organizations that participate in each of the committees that CAN will convene in 2012. The document is available online here: http://www.caction.org/councils/Board_Of_Directors/presentations/2012CANTeams.pdf. Vanessa Sarria thanked Jim Reed and Sarah Eckhardt for their leadership as chairs of CAN committees in 2011. She also welcomed Cristina Bordin of St. Edward's University to the Board.

Other Reports:

Community Council: Sylvia Blanco, Chair of the Community Council, welcomed Stefan Molina of the Greater Austin Hispanic Chambers as Vice-Chair of the Community Council for 2012. She also thanked Jim Reed for his leadership in 2011. Eight new Community Council members were added to the roster in 2012 bringing the total membership to 24. Four existing members were renewed. A new member orientation was held in November. All new members signed a statement of understanding about their roles and responsibilities.

Dashboard Steering Committee (DSC): Mary Dodd stated that in 2012 the DSC will examine the goal areas and indicators on the dashboard to see if they are still the right ones. They will also spend time working on the strategic framework for action. The DSC would provide updates to the CAN Board throughout the year. The Dashboard Steering Committee report presented by Mary Dodd is linked here: http://www.caction.org/councils/Board_Of_Directors/presentations/Jan2012_DashboardSteeringCommittee.pdf.

Consider and Take Appropriate Action on Approval of Amendment to CAN Bylaws Related to Vendors: The Board was provided with a copy of the bylaws. The proposed change to the bylaws highlighted here (http://www.caction.org/councils/Board_Of_Directors/presentations/Dec2011_proposedAmend.pdf) were approved. The motion to approve the bylaws as amended was unanimously passed.

Consider and Take Appropriate Action on CAN Board Membership Recommendations: It was noted that the bylaw changes included changes related to Board voting an quorum as well as changes to the number of representatives on the CAN Board. The work of the Finance and Membership Committee will potentially require further changes to the bylaws in the future related to partners. Debbie Johnson encouraged Board members to consider participating in the Finance and Membership Committee. The Finance and Membership Committee will host a few meetings over the next couple of months. Interested Board members should contact Johnson or CAN staff.

Open Forum:

- Laura Morrison stated that one of the big issues with Austin Energy rates has been whether the AE organization has the right revenue requirements. Another issue is determining what the fair cost of service allocation is. Proposed increases to standard monthly fees could significantly impact low-income populations. Kathie Tovo stated that low-energy use customers would experience the largest percentage rate increase which is not conducive to promoting energy conservation. More information about the Austin Energy rate proposals is available online here: <https://my.austinenergy.com/wps/portal/rr>. Tovo also noted that recently the City lost weatherization dollars totaling \$600,000, but was able to negotiate with the State and will now receive \$900,000. It was suggested that recent findings of a City water study should be taken to the County and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) so a conversation can take place in regard to linking efforts.
- John-Michael Cortez stated that Capital Metro is one of several entities working on Project Connect. The purpose of the initiative is to collaborate to advance the high capacity transit element of CAMPO's 2035 plan. The initiative will consider how individual projects can be advanced as a system

to meet needs and how the region can organize for implementation. Project Connect is currently in the midst of a public input process. More information is available online here: www.connectcentraltexas.com. Cortez also announced that Capital Metro has some service changes that will be implemented beginning Sunday, January 15th. More information on the service changes is available on Capital Metro's website: <http://www.capmetro.org/>.

- David Evans stated that health care reform has resulted in new health care programs coming online through the State. Senator Watson recently unveiled a 10-point plan to strengthen health care and the economy in Austin. The Statesman article on the plan is online here: <http://www.statesman.com/news/local/watson-unveils-plan-for-medical-school-hospital-clinics-1867920.html>. The Center for Public Policy Priorities is working to keep organizations up to date on what all of the changes coming through health care reform mean. Some components of health care reform have already been implemented. Evans proposed that the Board should continue to consider how health care reform will continue to impact partners as a cross-cutting issue.

Cultural Competency: Changing the Way We Do Business to Adapt to Shifting Demographics:

Geronimo Rodriguez of Seton Healthcare Family spoke. He stated that diversity inclusion, and cultural competency efforts not only are the right thing for organizations to do, but they are also good for customer care (provides a strategic advantage, provides competent customer care, and enhances your brand) and for stakeholders (supports recruitment and retention, promotes teamwork and innovation, builds loyalty, and provides leadership support). Rodriguez recommended that diversity, inclusion, and cultural competence be added to the 2012 CAN work plan. This initiative could include the following components: identifying what community service organizations are already doing, sharing best practices, and drafting a community vision. It was proposed that this recommendation be considered by the Board over the next 30 days and that a discussion about this recommendation take place at the next Board meeting. Rodriguez's presentation on Diversity, Inclusion and Cultural Competence in Central Texas is linked here. http://www.caction.org/councils/Board_Of_Directors/presentations/CAN2012_Diversity.pdf

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 2:48 p.m. Board Meetings in 2012 will take place on the 2nd Friday of each month from 1:00-3:00 p.m. at City Hall. Scheduled meeting dates are as follows: February 10th, March 9th, April 13th, May 11th, June 8th, July 13th, August 10th, September 14th, October 12th, November 9th, and December 14th. Board agendas, minutes and presentations are available online at: http://www.caction.org/councils/Board_Of_Directors/index.php.