

YVCOG GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES
October 21, 2015

PRESENT:

Grandview: Norm Childress-M, Bill Moore-A,
Granger: Maria Gonzalez-M, Bruce Hall-PC
Harrah:
Mabton: Sophie Sotelo - M
Moxee:
Naches:
Selah: Jane Williams
Sunnyside: Jim Restucci -M
Tieton: Felisa Cox-M
Toppenish: Clara Jimenez -M, Lance Hoyt
Union Gap:
Wapato: Jim Gerred-PC
Yakima:
Yakima County: Mike Leita-M, Rand Elliott
Zillah: Janice Gonzales-M, Ardele Steele-PC/A

ABSENT:

Grandview: Don Olmstead-PC
Granger:
Harrah: Pat Krueger-M, Jack Wells-A
Mabton: Arturo DelaFuente-A Maria Rose-PC
Moxee: LeRoy Lenseigne-M, David Roy-A
Naches: Adam Kramer-A Vacant-PC
Selah: John Tierney-A, Willie Quinnell -PC
Sunnyside:, Spencer Martin-A, DeAnn Hochhalter-PC
Tieton: Stan Hall-A, Jenny Korens-PC
Toppenish: Derald Ortloff-A, Christina Kwan-PC
Union Gap: Roger Wentz-M, Mark Carney-A, Michael Moore-PC
Wapato: Santos Valdez-A, Jesse Farias-M
Yakima: Rick Ensey-M, Bill Lover-A, Vacant-PC
Yakima County: Kevin Bouchey-M
Zillah:

Note: M=Member; A=Alternate; PC=Planning Commission

Attendees: Grandview: Cus Arteaga, Santos Trevino, Jesse Palacios, Harv Rodriguez, Anita Palacios, Joan Souders, Mike Everett;
Granger: n/a; Harrah: n/a; Mabton: n/a; Moxee: n/a; Naches: n/a; Selah: Jane Williams; Sunnyside: n/a; Toppenish: Lance Hoyt;
Tieton: n/a; Union Gap: Dan Olson, David Spurlock, Greg Cobb, Rod Otterness, Dave Matson; Wapato: Peggie Gerred; Yakima: n/a;
Zillah: n/a; **Others:** Rep. Bruce Chandler, Annette Rodriguez, TJ Mattingly, Sophia Sanabria, Joe Willis, Connie Wells, Dan Olson,
Amy Flynn, Rhonda Hauff, Sen. Curtis King, Madelyn Carlson, Brian White (WSDOT), John Hodkinson, Sandee Hodkinson, Bruce
Williams, and Merry Daley; YVCOG Staff: Larry Mattson, Tim Sullivan, Jessica Hansen and Tami Hayward.

CALL TO ORDER
INTRODUCTIONS
ROLL CALL

Chairman Jim Restucci called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. (Dinner break from 7:05 – 7:35 p.m.) The meeting was hosted by the City of Grandview Community Center. A quorum was present.

PUBLIC COMMENT POLICY

It is the policy of the YVCOG General Membership to accept public comment on agenda items at the time the item is being discussed. Public comments regarding items not on the agenda will be heard at the end of the meeting.

WELCOMING REMARKS

Mayor Norm Childress welcomed everyone to the City of Grandview

BUSINESS

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Restucci entertained a motion to approve the Minutes of the September 16, 2015 General Membership Meeting. Mr. Elliot, Yakima County Commissioner, moved to approve the Minutes and Ms. Gonzales, Zillah, seconded.

The motion carried.

Approval of 2016 Budget

Mr. Restucci entertained a motion to table the Approval of the 2016 Budget, Resolution 2015-5. Ms. Jimenez, Toppenish moved to table the approval of the 2016 budget Resolution number 2015-5 and Ms. Williams, Selah, seconded.

The motion carried.

Executive Director Larry Mattson and Chairman Restucci will be visiting any cities with additional questions about the 2016 budget.

YVCOG NEWS &
ANNOUNCEMENTS

Executive Director's Message

Larry Mattson, YVCOG Executive Director, introduced Jessica Hansen as the newest employee to join the YVCOG staff. Ms. Hansen is a Grandview native that is the new Office and Communication Specialist. In addition, she will be

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helping with the Homeless Program.

Upcoming fall projects for the Homeless Program start on October 30, 2015. This event will be the first Homeless Policy Council meeting and will include about 20 different organizations including police, faith community leaders, providers, and homeless supporters.

In November the Extreme Winter Weather Shelters open in Yakima and hotel/motel vouchers will be offered throughout the Yakima Valley.

Leadership teams are being developed in Yakima and the Yakima Valley for the Project Homeless Connect event and 'time out of mind' event. Both events will take place at the end of January.

Because the Extreme Winter Weather Program was developed as a short term solution, a long term plan is being discussed with the Faith Community and the City of Yakima. Currently, the long term plan is to develop micro housing and hopefully have it completed by winter of 2016. Currently, the Extreme Winter Weather Program is in its 9th year and it is an extremely high risk endeavor for all parties involved so a permanent solution must be developed.

The Homeless program will be updating its 10 year plan to end Homelessness, replace it with a 5 year plan, and in April or May of 2016 RFP will be published for service providers and cities to compete for funding.

Chairman update

YVCOG Executive Committee Elections - Mr. Restucci announced that new communities members will be selected at the January 26th General Membership Meeting. These members will serve on the YVCOG Executive Committee and MPO/RTPO for a 2 year term. If anyone is interested in serving for their jurisdiction please let Mr. Mattson or Mr. Restucci know by sending an email of intent to get on the ballot. If a person would like to go for a seat that is controlled by a governing board then those City councils have to vote to put a person in that seat.

PROGRAM

Homeless Program Providers

Rhonda Hauff and Annette Rodriguez from Yakima Neighborhood Health Providers - Yakima Neighborhood Health Services has a special focus on the homeless population of Yakima County. An interdisciplinary team of professionals provide medical and dental care, counseling, case management, assistance with basic needs and hygiene items, respite care, WIC, immunizations, permanent and supportive housing and more to homeless individuals and families.

TJ Mattingly from Triumph Treatment Services

For more than 50 years, Triumph Treatment Services has been responsive to both Yakima's and the state of Washington's needs. They honor this culture of responsiveness by providing chemical dependency assessment and referral as well as outpatient and residential treatment for men and pregnant and/or parenting women.

Additionally, Triumph provides more than 130 beds of housing for women,

men, children and people experiencing homelessness. Their housing resources include 10 locations that provide both clean and sober and transitional housing, as well as a hygiene center that is open five days a week. These locations span from downtown Yakima to the Lower Valley.

Janice Gonzalez – City of Zillah and Northwest Community Action Center (Yakima Valley Farm Workers Clinic)

Working with school districts, businesses and agencies, Northwest Community Action Center provides a host of programs that address the needs of several communities. These services include employment and training programs for youths and adults, education to improve parenting skills, mentoring and tutoring programs, plus a variety of case management and referral services.

Northwest Community Action Center also has a rental assistance program, an energy assistance program, a home weatherization program, educational programs to promote energy conservation, and a program to help families locate qualified child care.

Joe Willis – Rod’s House

Located at 204 S. Naches Ave in Yakima, Washington, Rod’s House is a drop-in resource center that provides a facility for homeless youth that seek needed survival resources and support to remain in school, which will be free from drugs, violence and gang activity. As a drop-in center for homeless youth, Rod's House is a safe place off the streets. Food, clothing, showers, and laundry facilities as well as mentoring, tutoring, and computers are available there. It also offers access to health care along with education and employment opportunities.

Amy Flynn – YWCA

From providing an emergency shelter to a domestic violence victims and their children, to helping a young girl discover the exciting world of science, the YWCA intertwines these focuses to create experiences that help women grow. The YWCA provides an emergency shelter that has 15 rooms, a 16 room apartment complex, subsidized housing to women, and a 2 year program that includes budgeting and job finding. In addition, the YWCA provides women’s wardrobes. Domestic violence is the number one leader to homelessness and the YWCA focuses on solutions to this issue.

OTHER BUSINESS

2015 Outstanding Service Award nominations will be accepted by Mr. Restucci or Mr. Mattson.

LOCATION OF NEXT MEETING

The Hilton Garden Inn in Yakima, WA – December 9, 2015. The Program will be LEAD (Law Enforcement Against Drugs)

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Williams, City of Selah, announced that Allan Schmidt passed away Friday. Allan Schmidt was a very active member within the Yakima community.

ADJOURN

With no further business, Mr. Restucci adjourned the meeting at approximately 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



James A. Restucci, YVCOG Chairman

Date signed: 9 DEC 2015



Jessica Hansen, Office and Communication Specialist