Communities of Opportunity Interim Governance Group Meeting Notes

November 30, 2015

Members Present: Michael Brown, Patty Hayes, Betsy Jones, Jeff Natter, Adrienne Quinn (joined by phone for first agenda item), Sili Savusa, Adam Taylor, Tony To, Michael Woo

Staff Present: Alice Ito, Kirsten Wysen, Cheryl Markham, AJ McClure, Nadine Chan (by phone), Holly Rohr Tran

Welcome
Alice Ito welcomed the group to the November Interim Governance Group meeting; Tony To welcomed them as they visited HomeSight’s offices (lead for Rainier Valley COO place-based site) for this meeting.

COO Governance

Best Starts for Kids
Adrienne Quinn explained that 10% of Best Starts for Kids (BSK) levy proceeds are dedicated to Communities of Opportunity (COO), which is expected to amount to roughly $6M/yr.

Ordinance requires that we submit a plan for what the COO Governance Group will look like in the future by 12/1, and include in implementation plan process for distributing funds. Tomorrow’s transmittal specifies that there will be one representative each from the King County Executive Branch, County Council and two representatives from The Seattle Foundation as members of the ongoing governance group; the IGG will determine the remaining members and membership parameters.

The following questions, clarifications and observations were covered by the IGG:

- Ordinance language re senior citizens – not a mandate to COO to provide services, but an amendment aimed at to limiting the escalator for BSK
- Governance Group remains decision-making body for COO overall. Important to maintain flexibility for COO Governance Group in relationship to County. Governance Group will be “advisory board for BSK levy proceeds.”
- Won’t specify where COO funds are going, but will outline process by which funding decisions will be made. No BSK funds will be released until County Council approves implementation plan (of which COO is a part).
- Need to maintain flexibility so that we are leveraging and maximizing philanthropic investments in COO. IGG should consider how to distribute public and philanthropic $ across the work of COO.
Governance Issues and questions
Alice Ito invited members to provide direction to inform planning and preparations for January IGG meeting. Handout “Communities of Opportunity Transition to On-Going Governance Group” was distributed, which outlines some categories identified for further discussion.

The following items were discussed:

- Stability of IGG is critical as this important work continues in early 2016
  - All members input is valued
  - Important to “get it right” with first 3 place-based sites
- Members should review the good work already done by this group
  - Roles and responsibilities
  - Guiding principles
  - Adaptive leadership challenge mapping
  - Lessons learned should be documented
- Strategic planning would be beneficial in early 2016
  - Revisit outcomes and strategies, using RBA framework
  - County’s Performance Strategy and Budget group can be a resource; www.kingcounty.gov/exec/PSB
  - Convene sub-group to frame up for January IGG meeting; volunteers include Jeff Natter, Adam Taylor, Michael Woo and Sili Savusa – staff will invite members not present at today’s meeting to participate as well.
  - Include community feedback via COO sites; provide this meeting’s summary and outlined agendas for January and February IGG meetings during co-design meetings to gather input and reactions.
- Recommendation to make Co-Design meetings more available to IGG members – staff noted that IGG members are welcome to attend/observe any time and that any gaps in communication around this have been due to staffing capacity challenges

Next steps: Members can contact staff with more ideas and questions as they arise. Staff will schedule more meetings around strategic planning process, and make co-design meeting dates and times available to IGG members. The January and February IGG meetings will be extended by one hour (1-4 p.m.), with compressed time for business items to maximize time for strategic conversation.

2015 Accomplishments and 2016 Priorities
A draft timeline with milestones was distributed for discussion.

2015 Accomplishments:
- PHPDA joined as funding partner in Q4. Things to start addressing –
Early 2016 scope of work includes:

- **Define ongoing Governance Group** – January meeting:
  - Roles and responsibilities, will guide the rest of the decisions
  - Member composition
  - Sector representation
  - Site representation
  - Areas of expertise
  - Conflicts of interest
  - Transition plan and timeline
  - Collective impact focused, with community as leading voice (opportunity for government to do business differently)
  - Driven more by members/chairs than staff-driven
  - Congruence with COO shared results and principles
  - Process for endorsement requests

- **Funding decisions**
  - Consider how to balance/distribute/leverage public and philanthropic investments
  - BSK funds process
  - Process/timeline for bringing in new sites
  - Process/timeline for existing sites

- **Measurement and data**
  - Community engagement (the “How”)  
    - Can be defined by the 3 C’s\(^1\)
    - How do we move the dial?
  - Place-based and Policy/Systems measurement (the “What”)
  - Evaluate COO’s collective impact approach (5 conditions of CI)
  - How have the County, philanthropic and institutional partners changed because of COO? Has it affected how they place funding?

- **Identify new and leveraged opportunities** - how are other initiatives are using COO to “strengthen the weave” of communities?
  - Proposed quarterly review of “big picture” to identify new/future opportunities

- **Develop communication strategy** – internal and external
  - What is our formula/process/strategy for sharing our learnings to governance group and others more broadly?

- **Place capital** in partnership with Living Cities
  - LC contributing 3 years of grant funding and partnering on capital plan to provide additional funding (in form of low-interest loans)

\(^1\) COO’s 3 C’s are Cross-sector collaborations at the local and county levels, with philanthropy, government, non-profits and business participants with a shared agenda; Community ownership of co-designed and co-implemented strategies developed from context and content experts working together; and Catalyzing additional resources to the 20% of the county that suffer from today’s greatest inequities and where 54% of King County people of color live today.
Next progress report due in Feb./March about data and baseline – good timing with COO IGG meeting sequence.

**Timeline of Next Steps:**

- **Dec. 1, 2015:** Transmit ordinance to Metropolitan King County Council committing to 1). include one representative each from the King County Executive Branch, County Council and two representatives from The Seattle Foundation as members of the ongoing governance group for COO; 2) detail of COO process for BSK fund distribution to be submitted as part of BSK Implementation Plan by June 1, 2016.
- **December and early January:**
  - Small group work to frame up COO strategic planning;
  - Staff start drafting BSK fund distribution process and connect with IGG members not present at Nov. meeting;
  - gather input from COO sites
- **January 22, 2016:** IGG meeting (extended) with main focus of strategic planning
- **Feb. 19, 2016:** IGG Meeting to finalize IGG input around BSK fund distribution process for BSK Implementation Plan
- **March 2016:** Community engagement around COO BSK fund distribution process
- **Q2, 2016:** Transition to ongoing Governance Group
- **Apr. 1, 2016:** King County Dept. of Community and Human Services and Public Health-Seattle & King County submit draft BSK Implementation Plan to King County Executive
- **June 1, 2016:** BSK Implementation Plan submitted to Metropolitan King County Council
- **Q3, 2016:** Release of BSK funds

**Other items**

**Equity Manifesto**

Many representatives from the Puget Sound region attended the October PolicyLink Equity Summit in Los Angeles. This Equity Manifesto was shared there:

The Equity Manifesto

It begins by joining together, believing in the potency of inclusion, and building from a common bond.

It embraces complexity as cause for collaboration, accepting that our fates are inextricable.

It recognizes local leaders as national leaders, nurturing the wisdom and creativity within every community as essential to solving the nation’s problems.

It demands honesty and forthrightness, calling out racism and oppression, both overt and systemic.
It strives for the power to realize our goals while summoning the grace to sustain them.

It requires that we understand the past, without being trapped in it; embrace the present, without being constrained by it; and look to the future, guided by the hopes and courage of those who have fought before and beside us.

**This is equity:** just and fair inclusion into a society in which all can participate, prosper, and reach their full potential. Unlocking the promise of the nation by unleashing the promise in us all.

*from* [http://www.policylink.org/about/equity-manifesto](http://www.policylink.org/about/equity-manifesto).

This language is welcoming and inclusive, and a good resource for Communities of Opportunity.

**Policy/Systems RFP process update**

Proposals for the next round of policy/systems funding are due Dec. 10. The process has been going well to-date; staff have been receiving lots of questions. COO staff hosted 3 information sessions across south King County, with 15-20 attendees at each.

Selection process and award announcements will take place in early 2016.

**COO logo options available**

A recent Rainier Valley community session generated some proposals for a Rainier Valley COO logo – logo options are available for broader COO use and for other COO sites. Cheryl Markham will send proposed options to IGG for consideration.

Staff mentioned that the National Center for Healthy Housing has offered an opportunity for COO to add a logo/endorsement on some upcoming presentation materials. IGG members agreed to pass on this opportunity at this time (and many members’ organizations had already endorsed this work independently); a policy or process for COO endorsements should be in place to guide these decisions.

**Next meetings, upcoming events and deadlines:**

- Jan. 22, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- Feb. 19, 2016; 2-4 p.m.—third Friday of the month
- Mar. 18, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- March 22-23, Living Cities Learning Community, Washington, DC
- Apr. 15, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- May 20, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- June 1, 2016 implementation due date for King County Council
- June 17, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- July 15, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- Aug. 19, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- Sept 16, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- October TBD, Living Cities Learning Community, West Coast location
- Oct. 21, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
- Nov. 18, 2016; 2-4 p.m.
Dec. 16, 2016; 2-4 p.m.

**Interim Governance Group Members:**
1. Michael Brown, The Seattle Foundation
2. Deanna Dawson, Sound Cities Association
3. David Fleming, PATH
4. Hilary Franz, Futurewise
5. Patty Hayes, Public Health-Seattle & King County
6. Betsy Jones, Executive’s Office, King County
7. Paola Maranan, The Children’s Alliance
8. Gordon McHenry, Jr, Solid Ground
9. Jeff Natter, Pacific Hospital PDA
10. Adrienne Quinn, King County Department of Community and Human Services
11. Sili Savusa, White Center CDA
12. Adam Taylor, Global to Local
13. Tony To, HomeSight
14. Michael Woo, volunteer

**COO Staff:**
Alice Ito, Seattle Foundation (TSF)
Kirsten Wysen, King County, PHSKC
Cheryl Markham, Department of Community and Human Services (DCHS)
Aaron Robertson, TSF
Nadine Chan, Evaluation, PHSKC
AJ McClure, DCHS and PHSKC
Sharon Bogan, Communications, PHSKC
Bao-Tram Do, TSF
Holly Rohr Tran, PHSKC