Participants:
Keshia Meissner, Leslie VanDerMolen, Melissa O’Neil, Catherine Gerdes, Roberta Victor, Carolyn Gathright, Tim Shanahan, Lynn McCormick, Julie Sleeper, Kate Polush, Toby O’Berry, Mark Phillips, Margo Miller-Ramirez, Cindy Rybolt, Althea Holcomb, Carole Bodin

Call to Order:
Catherine called the meeting to order at 10:03 A.M.

Approval of Minutes of February 2017 meeting:
The February minutes were approved.

By-Laws:
The By-Laws with red-lined proposed amendments were sent out to the council membership on February 1st. Catherine asked if everyone had review the proposed changes and invited discussion. Tim moved for approval of the amended By-Laws and Althea seconded the motion. The amended By-Laws were approved.

Homeless Connect:
Homeless Connect will be on April 20th. Mark reported that volunteers are still needed as well as donations of sunscreen and insect repellant. He is hopeful that Walmart will make a donation. There is a google doc for volunteer sign-up. [http://www.polkcares.org/get-involved/homeless-connect-2017/](http://www.polkcares.org/get-involved/homeless-connect-2017/)

There will be a hair stylist, mobile dental clinic, multiple clinics from Broadlawns providing care, and an optometrist who is also bringing reading classes to distribute.

Day on the Hill:
Homeless Day on the Hill is March 15th. Ehren is putting a map together that will show how many homeless/near homeless people are from each legislator’s district based on last zip code.

Data:
Ehren reported that the Point in Time data will be on the ICA dashboard in two weeks and Mark indicated it would be on the polkcares.org website next week.

Performance Measures:
Mark, Jim and Julie met. Jim is working on the narrative and they plan to take a deeper look at the Chronic numbers.
Melissa reported that CISS has bittersweet news. The achievement of functional zero for homeless veterans has resulted in the loss of the veterans’ grant for designated units. CISS is looking at what to do with this space. Some options being considered include chronic homeless, crime victims, human trafficking victims, etc.

The Performance Measures Committee is analyzing community data. Is there more community data that would be helpful to the group? Performance Measures meets the 4th Thursday 10-11:30 at UW café.

Ehren reported that first-time homeless number has increased. Homelessness in general is not going down. While economic downturns are the leading cause of homelessness; an improving economy does not fix it.

COC had to report to HUD on what we are doing regarding the performance management plan. Mark sent the Performance Management Plan and Quality Improvement Plan in an email on February 23rd or 24th seeking comments through March 20th. The Grant Committee will review the comments, make revisions and then the revised plan will be sent out. The goal is for it to be approved at the April COCB meeting. One goal is to examine the data we are reporting and make sure people understand why we are reporting the data that we report. Letters of Intent will likely be due sometime in April. Drafts of all of these are also on the COCB website under NOFA 2017.

**Housing:**

Mark reported that a needs assessment and cost estimate will be conducted regarding Mainstream Living.

**Service Council:**

Roberta reported that there are three speakers lined up for the March meeting and the April meeting will be a mini-workshop on human trafficking.

**Coordinated Services:**

Centralized Intake is conducting a self-assessment utilizing a tool from HUD to ascertain and address any changes that need to be made to be in compliance with new HUD requirements by the January 2018 deadline. The quarterly report is also being cleaned up to reduce duplication and make it more understandable.

**Other:**

Julie S. reminded everyone about the Peer to Peer Symposium June 6th and 7th in Omaha. She also mentioned that Steve Eggleston is looking into the possibility of Secretary Carson visiting Viva East Bank.

Lynn announced that Becca Peterson has been named the new director of House of Mercy.

Melissa announced that CISS is partnering with the Boy Scouts and JOPPA to do a clean up on April 1st with lunch following at CISS. The area from 10th to 12th Streets and Mulberry to MLK will be cleaned up. Anyone is welcome to join the effort.

**The meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM**

Minutes submitted by Cindy Rybolt