

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NEW RIVER VALLEY
MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 16, 2012

The Housing Partnership for the New River Valley met August 16, 2012 at 10 AM at the New River Valley Competitiveness Center, 6580 Valley Center Drive, Radford, VA 24141

Members in Attendance:

MEMBER	ORGANIZATION
Pat Brown	Women's Resource Center
Aline Brinkman	Project Hope
Angie R-Dobbins	Community Housing Partners
Jennifer Wilsie	PDC
Kelly McCoy	Women's Resource Center
Lori Trail	NRV Community Services
Teresa Walker	Virginia Community Capital
Lisa Yost	New River Community Action
Terry Smusz	New River Community Action

GREETINGS AND INTRODUCTIONS

- Pat Brown welcomed everyone to the regularly scheduled meeting.
- Pat announced that she had agreed to chair this, the first meeting since Nelda Pearson's resignation from the group.
- Attendees introduced themselves and their relationship to the HPNRV

AGENDA

1. REVIEW OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- No minutes were available

2. OLD BUSINESS

A. Yahoo Listserv

- Jennifer Wilsie provided a brief tutorial of the usage of the Housing Partnership for the New River Valley, hosted through Yahoo Groups.

3. NEW BUSINESS

A. Report of the Development Committee

- Development Committee Minutes provided from 6/21 and 7/20/2012
- Current Committees consist of
 - Bylaws
 - Point in Time Count
 - Centralized Intake
 - Food

B. Election of New Officers: President, Vice President, and Secretary

- A motion was moved and approved to elect Pat Brown, President

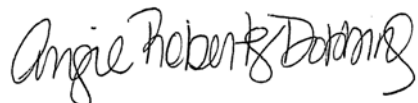
- A motion was moved and approved to elect Terry Smusz, Vice President
 - A motion was moved and approved to elect Angie Roberts-Dobbins, Secretary
- C. Future Meetings and Location
- Pat Brown offered the Women's Resource Center as the host site. Group agreed to this change in location.
 - Group agreed to continue the HPNRV meetings on the 3rd Thursday of the month but made the time change to 9am. The goal is to conduct an efficient meeting lasting approximately 1 hour.
 - Group decided on a spotlight program to present during every meeting
 - Person providing the spotlight presentation will be responsible for providing light snacks for the group.
 - WRC will provide coffee and water on an ongoing basis.
 - Terry Smusz and Carol Johnson met earlier in the month with Andy Kegley's group (HOPE Inc.) in regards to HOPE's model for Transition in Place and Centralized Intake. At the next meeting, Terry agreed to provide an overview of what they learned.

Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next regularly scheduled meeting is September 20, 2012 at 9 AM, Women's Resource Center Administrative Offices.

Minutes Recorded by:
Angie Roberts-Dobbins



HOUSING PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NEW RIVER VALLEY
MEETING MINUTES
OCTOBER 18, 2012

The Housing Partnership for the New River Valley met October 18, 2012 at 9 AM at the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley

Members in Attendance:

MEMBER	ORGANIZATION
Pat Brown	Women's Resource Center
Angie R-Dobbins	Community Housing Partners
Terry Smusz	New River Community Action
Carol Johnson	New River Family Shelter/ To Our House
Glenda Vest	New River Community Action
Aline Brinckman	HOPE
Krissie Thrasher	New River Community Action: Housing
Lori Trail	New River Valley Community Services
Linda Martin-Warner	DHCD, guest

Agenda:

- 1) Greetings/Introductions Highlights
 - Angie had no updates
 - Terry shared information regarding the NRV Livability Initiative and will provide full report via email
 - Krissie shared that they have assisted 35 individuals by preventing evictions or getting individuals into housing
 - Aline stated that she has seen an increase in referrals to her program
 - Lori shared that she works intensely with clients who have issues related to housing and is working with Drug Court in Montgomery County
 - Pat shared that the transitional facility has now lost all funding. WRC is committed to the current 8 families through June. WRC was able to retain the staff.

- 2) Welcome Linda Martin-Warner from VA DHCD, (Department of Housing and Community Development). Linda's highlights:
 - HUD has a new emphasis on funding through the CoCs. Linda wishes to come to 1-2 CoC meeting per year to answer questions and provide guidance as DHCD is interested in CoC's utilizing as much funding as possible.

- All DHCD funding applications will need to come through the CoC or in this case the HPNRV. DHCD will still contract with individual agencies but application needs to come through the local planning group. Linda stated that this is related to the push that members of the local planning groups agree to what is best/best use of funds for the region.
- Child Services Coordination Grant funds will be out in January. Application should be out anytime. DHCD intends for a 2 month turn around. Linda believed that the pot of money per planning group was approximately \$30,000. Historically, the money has been used for shelters to hire a coordinator.
- Group agreed to watch for the CSCG RFP and then schedule a committee group to begin the application process.
- Linda clarified that the 10 year plan needs to be implemented for the CoC, Balance of State and NOT for the local planning groups.

3) Update from the Centralized Intake Committee: Carol Johnson

- Committee met on 10/17/20152.
- Committee members decided they needed to be educated more on the process. Ann Angert will share a webinar with committee and they will gather sample intake forms.
- Committee is scheduled to meet again on November 14.
- Lori will provide Carol with a contact for RAFT so that they can be included in the planning process.

4) Spotlight Organization Presentation: Carol Johnson, To Our House

- TOH is getting ready to begin its 3rd season. Will run from November 3 through March.
- History: TOH came about after a group of concerned citizens came together after the death of a Blacksburg homeless man approximately 5 years ago.
- Process: NRCA serves as the intake site. Men are picked up from the site and transported to the host church. Host church provides hot dinner, provides activities in the evenings, showers, facility for the night. Men are given light breakfast and a bag lunch and transported back to the intake site in the mornings.
- Carol reports that this is a huge volunteer effort and could not take place without the AmeriCorps grant and host sites. Last year TOH served 27 men. TOH has the capacity to serve 12 men per night. If a man stays the night he is guaranteed a bed the next night.

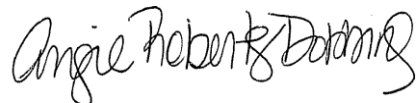
- TOH has never had to turn away a client.
- 5) Sign-Up for future Spotlight Presentation for November: Project HOPE: Aline Brinckman
 - 6) Group agreed that the November 15 Agenda should include the Point in Time Count. Terry agreed to chair the PIT Committee and will do some pre-work before the 11/15 meeting.
 - 7) Angie will send out a scheduler to pick a December Meeting date as the regularly scheduled meeting falls too close to the Christmas holiday.

Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next regularly scheduled meeting is November 15, 2012 at 9 AM, Women's Resource Center Administrative Offices.

Minutes Recorded by:
Angie Roberts-Dobbins

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Angie Roberts-Dobbins".

HOUSING PARTNERSHIP FOR THE NEW RIVER VALLEY
MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 13, 2012

The Housing Partnership for the New River Valley met December 13, 2012 at 9 AM at the Women's Resource Center of the New River Valley.

Members in Attendance:

MEMBER	ORGANIZATION
Pat Brown	Women's Resource Center
Angie R-Dobbins	Community Housing Partners
David Pynn	Habitat for Humanity NRV
Terry Smusz	New River Community Action
Vicky Collins	Radford City DSS
Aline Brinckman	HOPE
Bethany Panek	WRC
Lori Trail	New River Valley Community Services
Glenda Vest	New River Community Action
Ann Angert	New River Community Action

Agenda:

1) Greetings/Introductions/Updates

- Angie had no relevant regional updates.
- Aline stated that she is serving 125 homeless kids in Montgomery County since last march when she was serving 110. Other counties are seeing a higher rate of homeless children as well.
- Lori's struggles are her high risk families who have extreme difficulty finding housing.
- Pat shared that she is working on the WRC Annual Report. She reported that the number of shelter nights has dropped from 6000 to 4000 due to Rapid Re-housing.
- Vicky stated that there is a lot of energy around food, toys and donation this time of year at DSS.
- Bethany had no updates.
- Ann reported that she is attending the HPNRV meetings because of her role with the CoC Centralized Intake Committee.
- Terry is also working on an Annual Report.
- A very warm welcome to David Pynn with Habitat for Humanity! David we are happy to have you and so much appreciated the extensive update on HfH NRV.

- David has been with Habitat for 3 months now. The Board of Directors had been doing most of the work then hired David (who has a background as a CFO to rebuild the structure of Habitat. David currently has no staff.
- Habitat was founded in 1985 and was the first one founded in Virginia. They have built 39 houses in 27 years in the NRV. In 2009 something 'ran off track' and some bad decisions were made. They found themselves in 1.6 million dollars of debt and should have been bankrupt.
- The Board of Directors came back together 1 ½ years ago, settling a huge amount of debt. There are still some funds owed to the IRS and to a leasing company. However, there is some property that is owned and the Board is very interested in getting back to the mission.
- Through the HOME Consortium and CDBG with Blacksburg, Habitat is building 2 houses mostly through a blitz build with 500 volunteers in 2 days. There are 2 qualified families who volunteer every weekend. Adults who are going to be in the household must complete 200 hours of sweat equity while children in the household completes 25 hours of sweat equity. Ongoing there are approximately 15 volunteers every weekend. Houses should be finished by early March.
- David explains that to qualify, families must be in the 30-50% AMI range. This is considered a hand up not a hand out as the families have to be able to pay for the homes. The average price of a 3BR 1-2 BA home is \$40,000-\$50,000. The mortgage is 0% interest and payments range around the \$300 range which includes taxes and insurance.
- There was a press release in August where 25 families applied which was narrowed to 15 to 7 at which point home visits were conducted and 2 families were qualified.
- Concerning the Restore: It is open. Has moved from Pulaski to Northgate shopping plaza across from the Christiansburg Rec. Center. It is believed that when the store is to volume it will build 2-4 houses per year from the proceeds. The vision of the Board is to build 6 houses per year. Restore is having a soft opening on Saturday; 12/15. They will take gently used furniture, construction materials, appliances, TVs. All toys and clothes will be donated to the Goodwill.

- David Reports that the Board of Directors has good representation from localities. They are probably going to be looking for 2-3 more people to add to the 15 working member board. There are also possibilities for committee involvement.
- Additionally, the offices have moved from Fairlawn to inside the Restore.

2) Approval of Meeting Minutes of November 15, 2012

- Motion was moved by Vicky Collins to approve the minutes, seconded by Bethany Panek, all were in favor for approval of the minutes.

3) Point In time Count: Terry Smusz

- Point in Time count will be held on January 24, 2013
- PIT Webinar was helped yesterday, 12/12. PIT is required by HUD and is interested in getting shelter counts as well as outside counts if you can find them. Our area has 4 shelters, WRC, NR Family Shelter, Too Our House, and the Giles shelter. Aline proposed an addendum to count the unaccompanied youth. If youth are 'couch hopping' they are not counted unless they are physically on the street.
- Terry anticipates a short training for shelter providers regarding how to conduct the count.
- There was some discussion regarding where to find the un-sheltered homeless. Terry will lead the charge to attempt to find sites where we can attempt to count unsheltered homeless persons but can't start this until after January 7. Terry welcomes any help that agencies can provide.
- Multiple handouts were provided to participants from yesterday's webinar.

4) Update from the Centralized Intake Committee: Pat Brown

- Centralized Intake is required due to the DHCD grant requirements. Carol Johnson is the chair. Committee met Monday 12/10 and began discussing how to create a Centralized Intake without an office but with multiple locations. The idea is that the homeless call one number instead of multiple numbers.
- February is the next grant cycle and there will be 8 weeks to write the grant. ESG can only go to the CoC not individual agencies as in the past.
- Pat proposes that since the CoC has to apply that every agency who is interested in applying should come up with some funds to hire a grant writer to submit the application.

5) Spotlight Organization Presentation: Angie Roberts-Dobbins, Community Housing Partners

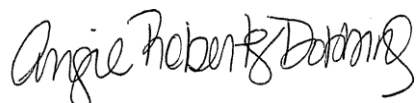
- CHP was established in the last 1970s as Project Home Repair. Has also been Virginia Mountain Housing and now CHP.
- There is some rebranding efforts going on and resulted from expansion and reorganization. There are 3 business segments: **Real Estate Development**, which includes Development, Architecture, and Construction, **Energy Solutions** which includes weatherization, energy audits and retrofits, and **Housing Services** which includes Property Management, Asset Management, Resident Services and Homeownership.
- As far as Housing Services goes, CHP owns and/or manages approximately 105 properties (approximately 5800 units of housing) across 4 states, Virginia, Kentucky, North Carolina and Florida. CHP is looking to grow in the South East.
- Angie provided an overview of her department, Resident Services, which is the Human Services arm of CHP providing onsite services staff at approximately 30% of CHP's more needy properties. The Resident Services Department is expecting an approximate 40% growth over the next year.

Happy Holidays Everyone! Meeting adjourned.

NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next regularly scheduled meeting is January 17, 2013 at 9 AM, Women's Resource Center Administrative Offices.

Minutes Recorded by:
Angie Roberts-Dobbins

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