



Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time/Location: January 10, 2008 - 9:00 – 10:30 AM – Whatcom County Health Department, 509 Girard Street, Bellingham

WCHAC Members Present: Ronald Buchinski, David Cahill, John Harmon, , Paul Schissler, Laura DeRose, Michele Hall, Sue Parrott, Gail DeHoog, Nancy Larsen, Carole Wells

WCHAC Members Absent: Gary Tomsic, Regina Delahunt, Rebecca Johnson

Whatcom County Health Depart Staff/Guests: Gary Williams, Human Services Supervisor, Pat Fisher, Human Services Clerk, David Finet, Opportunity Council

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Who
1. Review the December 13, 2007 minutes.	The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. The December 13, 2007 Minutes were reviewed.	The December 13, 2007 minutes were approved as written.
2. Update on HGAP I & II Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Whatcom County-CTED HGAP I Update – Dave Finet, Opportunity Council (OC) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Project Manager selection – hire by 3/3/08 Dave Finet provided the Board with an administrative update as of 1/10/08 that included the job description and schedule for hiring the Whatcom County Homeless Service Center Director, a data systems update and WCHSC location. <p>There was discussion regarding the reporting relationship of the director and the timing of hiring additional support staff.</p>	
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2. Update on HGAP I & II Projects (cont.)	Also discussed was involvement of WCHAC regarding operational and policy recommendations. The	

	<p>administrative supervision will be provided by OC.</p> <p>There was consensus that the job description language would reflect that the WCHSC Director will follow guidance from WCHAC and the County Health Department regarding program policy changes, and that the WCHSC Director will be regularly attend WCHAC meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RFQ 08-08 Case Management – Feb. 08 release The RFQ will be posted 2/13/08. The applicant’s conference will be February 21. Applications are due by 3/18/08. Allocation recommendations from the Applicants Review Committee will be announced March 25, 2008. ● Whatcom County HGAP II Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ County Council Action - 1/15/08 – Approval by County Council to accept the CTED grant and authorization to commence with contract negotiations. ○ TSF due to CTED 1/29/08 – There is a tight timeline for the CTED contract to be executed. The Health Department staff is working closely with the County Finance Department to clarify contract requirements in order to avoid delays in contract execution. ○ Coordination Meeting – Sun Comm. Services. Approval has been received from the State to enter into a sole source contract with Sun Community Services ○ Sub-committee formed to incorporate risk mitigation into the development of the HGAP II RFQ. Meeting Scheduled for 1/23/08 at 3:00 PM The meeting topic will be the identification of risk factors that are associated with the master leasing portion of the contract. <p>Recommendations from the sub-committee will be considered into the development of the RFQ in order to.</p>	
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2. Update on HGAP I & II Projects (cont.)	inform potential applicants of the risk management concerns.	

	<p>Because there has been some public fallout regarding the re-entry program there was discussion that there is a need for public education regarding program information, the cost of homelessness and the savings this program will provide to public funds. Several suggestions to facilitate public education were discussed</p>	
<p>3. Whatcom County 10-Year Plan - Final review and approval</p>	<p>An electronic copy of the amended 10-Year Plan was sent to the Committee members for review. Discussion was called for. Gary requested approval by the Committee of the most recent updates.</p>	<p>Action: The Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee is asked to consider:</p> <p>Motion 1.1.08: To approve the amended Whatcom County 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness.</p> <p>Passed by a vote: (Yea 9) (Nay 0) (Absent 3) (Abstention 0)</p>
<p>4. Project Homeless Connect Update Scheduled – 4/8/08</p>	<p>Project coordinators continue to work out the details for this event. Updates will be shared with the Committee on a regular basis.</p>	
<p>5. 2008 Point in Time Count</p>	<p>The count will be conducted on January 24, 2008. Public announcements will be released in the very near future. There will be a pizza feed at the Rainbow Center to encourage homeless individuals to participate. City and County officials have been invited to participate.</p>	
<p>6. Other</p>	<p>The Meadow wood Townhouse grand opening was announced for January 29, 2008 12:00 – 2:00 PM. Committee members are invited to attend</p> <p>Gary requested an Agenda Item for February 14, 2008 meeting: Homeless Awareness Week – Discussion. The Committee agreed to the agenda item for February.</p> <p>A private citizen’s group is spearheading an effort to request approval from County Council to pass the Hargrove Bill. This bill will allow an increase of 1/10th of 1% on sales tax. Funds will support additional human services connections in the criminal justice system. Skagit, King and Island counties have passed this</p>	

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<p>6. Other (cont.)</p>	<p>bill and have received large public support.</p> <p>The Committee discussed supporting the request from Randy Carroll, Chief of the City of Bellingham Police Department to the City of Bellingham to allocate \$15,000 for short term rental assistance for offenders returning to the community. This request will collaborate with the Whatcom County CTED funds to provide for 15 master leased units for returning offenders.</p>	<p>ACTION: The Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee is asked to consider:</p> <p>Motion # 2/1/08: To draft a letter of support to Randy Carroll, Chief, City of Bellingham Police Department stating that the Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee members strongly support his recommendation that the City of Bellingham allocate \$15,000 for short term rental assistance for offenders returning to the community</p> <p>Passed by a vote: (Yea 9) (Nay 0) (Absent 3) (Abstention 0)</p> <p>ACTION: Gary Williams will write and send the letter of support.</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 10:36 AM</p>	
<p>Next Meeting</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">9:00 - 10:30 AM 2nd Thursday—February 7, 2008 Whatcom County Health Department 509 Girard Street, Administrative Conference Room</p>	