



Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time/Location: March 13, 2008 - 9:00 – 10:30 AM – Whatcom County Health Department, 509 Girard Street, Bellingham

WCHAC Members Present: Paul Schissler, , Michele Hall, John Harmon, Rebecca Johnson, Sue Parrott, Gail DeHoog, Regina Delahunt, Bill Henkel, Gary Tomsic, Dave Finet, Greg Winter, Tom Yost

WCHAC Members Absent: Ronald Buchinski, David Cahill, Laura DeRose,, Nancy Larsen, Carole Wells

Whatcom County Health Depart Staff/Guests: Gary Williams, Human Services Supervisor, Vicki McClure, Health Department Clerk, Mark Gardner, Consultant

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Who
Introductions	Committee members and guest introduced. Gary introduced Vicki McClure as HS clerk effective 3/24/08.	
1. Review the February 14, 2008 minutes.	The meeting was called to order at 9:00 AM. The February 14, 2008 Minutes were reviewed and approved as presented:	
2. Update on HGAP I & II Projects	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whatcom County-CTED HGAP I Update Bill Henkel announced as project manager for Homeless Service Center. Bill gave brief report of his background and current responsibilities. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ RFQ 08-08 Case Management – Due March 18, 2008 Application reviews are scheduled for March 24, with March 26 planned as back-up or additional time. Still need representation from city, and will put out call for other candidates for review committee. One or several agencies may do one or multiple contracts to address specific needs of pertinent demographic. 	ACTION: Gary to report results of application process at next meeting.

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<p>2. Update on HGAP I & II Projects (cont.)</p>	<p>Motions to be considered presented by Gary: Motion #03-03-08: to support establishing Homeless Housing Services Center sub-committee. Recommendation that sub-committee be independent of Opportunity Council and would act as advisory board. Further recommended that paragraph 2 of the motion be deleted and amendment made to “passed by a vote” line to delete “0” after nay vote count.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whatcom County-CTED HGAP II Update Motion #02-03-2008: to support establishment of a Housing Public Safety Committee presented and discussed. Committee participation, definition and context of committee need to be further defined. Ad hoc group will be reconvened to further define responsibilities, goals, work plan for Housing Public Safety Committee, and tasked with bringing back to group within 60 days. An organizational chart will also need to be developed indicating relationship Safety Committee to other committees. 	<p>ACTION: Motion to adopt action made, seconded and approved unanimously with indicated changes.</p> <p>ACTION: Motion to adopt action with sub-committee amendment made, seconded and approved unanimously.</p>
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<p>3. Whatcom County 10-Year Plan approved by County Council at February 26, 2008 meeting</p>	<p>Homeless Services Center presentation to be made to County Council. .</p>	<p>ACTION: Paul Schissler to follow-up</p>
<p>4. Project Homeless Connect Update</p>	<p>Bruce Johnson not available to provide presentation. Gary states that the work group continues looking at October</p>	
<p>5. 2008 Point in Time Count</p>	<p>Greg Winter gave presentation re: 2008 PIT count. The following comparison numbers were provided: 2008 – 1326 homeless counted; 2007 – 1255, and 1298 in 2006. Difference in profile mostly with re-entry and felony history. No numbers available on veterans; HIV/AIDS numbers will be included in report. Greg reports beg step forward in count of unaccompanied youth. Age of demographic appears slightly lower for 2008 count due to number of offenders. Anticipate multiplier of 2.5-3 to project annual homeless numbers. Individuals in shelters and transition</p>	

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5. 2008 Point in Time Count (Cont)	housing still counted as homeless. Reduction in numbers not anticipated until second year.	ACTION: Greg Winter to provide full report to Gary Williams for distribution to Committee.
6. March Presentation – Mental Health Housing Plan	Tom Yost presented information on NSMHA Mental Health Housing Plan. Plan, hoped to pass board approval this afternoon, delineates direct and indirect impact on housing. Plan allows for NSMHA to double number of ARTF beds, set aside leverage funds to attract grant to fund services, provide technical assistance and training, developing guidelines for providers, advocate that the 1/10 1% county sales tax be adopted, promote development of 70 more housing slots, work with contractors to provide landlord support, provide funds for damage/damage deposits, improve information management system. Challenge: meeting needs of those not meeting criteria for Medicaid eligibility or state-funded services. Plan: to develop action plan to identify where connections need to be made.	ACTION: Gary to forward approved plan to committee members
7. Motion regarding Employment Grant Effort	Greg Winter provided Employment Grant information. Homeless plan includes other community initiatives, and funding has been requested of Paul Allen. Effort asks for community support. Greg introduced Mark Gardner, consultant, who co-present funding request. Mark gave brief description of his background, and elaborated on rationale for funding included in grant proposal, as well as delineating positive aspects of influence of employment on housing and vice versa. Challenges include underdevelopment of housing and employment programs. Motion 01/03/2008: presented. Passed Homeless Coalition unanimously on Thurs., March 6.	ACTION: Rationale document to be sent to members form Greg via Gary. ACTION: Motion to adopt resolution seconded and passed unanimously. Mark and Greg to get documents to Building Changes.
8. 2008-09 ESG Application Stakeholders Meeting	Emergency Shelter Grant Public Meeting was held March 12, 2008. Federal requirements met for 08-09 and to be submitted by March 28, 2008, which is an annual process.	
9. April – Joe Bates Public Education on Risk Management	Not addressed	
9. Other	Association of Bellingham Neighborhoods/Mayor’s Neighborhood Advisory Board: _____, member of Alabama Hill representative to mayor’s Neighborhood Advisory	ACTION: Gary to address with re-entry program and follow up with Linda Stewart..

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8. Other (cont.)	<p>Board, reports discussion in some neighborhoods re: sober houses and federal housing programs. Linda Stewart will be doing presentation to Neighborhood Advisory Board about sober house programs.</p> <p>Dave Finet states that the Opportunity Council has been approached by Thad Allen and Re-Entry Coalition to administer \$15,000 funding provided by Bellingham Police Department.</p>	
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned at 10:32 AM	
Next Meeting	<p style="text-align: center;">9:00 - 10:30 AM 2nd Thursday—April 10, 2008 Whatcom County Health Department 509 Girard Street, Administrative Conference Room</p>	