



Whatcom County Housing Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date/Time/Location: April 8, 2010 – 8:40-9:56 a.m. – Whatcom County Health Department, 509 Girard Street, Bellingham

WCHAC Members Present: David Cahill, Laura DeRose Harker, Rebecca Johnson; Nancy Larsen; Kathleen McNaughton; Sue Parrott, Paul Schissler, Gary Tomsic; Gary Williams

WCHAC Members Absent: Andrew Accimus, Regina Delahunt, Dave Finet; John Harmon; Steve Powers

Whatcom County Health Depart Staff/Guests: Greg Winter, Homeless Service Center; Alex Cleanthous, Planning Development Services; Vicki McClure, Health Department Human Services Clerk

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action/Who
Call to order	The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by Paul Schissler. Quorum was present.	
1. Review January 14, 2010 and February 11, 2010 minutes.	Minutes of January 14, 2010 were reviewed. A motion was put forth to approve the minutes as presented and seconded. Minutes of February 11, 2010 were reviewed. A motion was put forth to approve the minutes as presented and seconded.	Motion: To accept the minutes of January 14, 2010 as presented. Yea: 9, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: Andrew Accimus, Regina Delahunt, Dave Finet, John Harmon, Steve Powers. Motion: To accept the minutes of February 11, 2010 as presented. Yea: 9, Nay: 0, Abstain: 0, Absent: Andrew Accimus, Regina Delahunt, Dave Finet, John Harmon, Steve Powers
2. Old Business: • PIT count update	Greg reported that the Executive Summary is complete on the Point In Time Count, held on January 28, 2010. He stated that Gail did a fantastic job in organizing field efforts, and that more Lummi and youth (some unaccompanied, but none	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="280 204 568 268">• PIT count update (con't) <li data-bbox="280 564 568 628">• Project Homeless Connect <li data-bbox="280 1126 517 1158">• Ten Year Plan 	<p data-bbox="600 204 1449 528">unaccompanied/unsheltered) were counted. The numbers are up by two people this year. The good news is that chronically homeless numbers are down. We are now using all the Shelter Plus Care funding, so the results were expected. The number of families homeless and doubled up are up, but unsheltered homeless family numbers are down by one half. Top reasons cited were inability to pay rent/mortgage and loss of job. The final report should be out within the next two weeks, but before the next WCHAC meeting. Greg anticipates media coverage of the PIT results.</p> <p data-bbox="600 564 1449 1091">It was reported that over 600 guests, including elders and youth, participated in Project Homeless Connect this year, held on March 4, 2010. Five sites were utilized, the event took nine months' of planning, and involved 325 volunteers. Approximately 100 more were seen this year than last. Outreach was very extensive and productive. This year, with the addition of a women's clinic, and youth, child and family services, 30-40 organizations were involved. There were no means of determining if participants were truly homeless, and it is expected there were more served this year who weren't homeless. Big needs this year included dental services (doubled over last year), pharmacy, hair cuts (200+ haircuts were provided), and state IDs/birth certificates. One third of the volunteers returned from last year. An evaluation report will be available in May. An attitude of treating participants as guests was important. Kathy reported, "there was bounty on that day," regarding food, books and clothing.</p> <p data-bbox="600 1126 1449 1422">Gail was unavailable to report on the Ten Year Plan, but Greg reported that Gail has been working on the Plan, and he has seen a fleshed out outline. There is no "due date" for the plan, as this is a revision, but it is anticipated that the committee will receive an update in June. Most items in the original plan have been accomplished, and the revision will include a funders' round table, number and types of units, and the document will address transitional needs, as well as the needs of youth and those needing behavioral health and health-related support.</p>	<p data-bbox="1467 1126 2036 1190">Gail will provide an update on the Ten Year Plan at the June 10, 2010 meeting.</p>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Committee Membership 	<p>Attempts to reach Andy have been unsuccessful. The by-laws require a homeless/formerly homeless member.</p>	<p>Committee membership will be addressed at the next meeting, on June 10, 2010.</p>
<p>3. Charter/By-Laws Revisions</p>	<p>A draft of the revised By-Laws, in “tracked changes” format, was provided for review by members. The document will reflect the board as taking more of a policy role. Attendees were asked to review the document, in preparation for additional discussion and a vote at the next meeting of the Committee.</p>	<p>Members are asked to review the By-Laws in preparation for additional discussion and a vote at the June 10, 2010 meeting.</p>
<p>4. Planning Department Update</p>	<p>Alex Cleanthous of the county Planning Department sent a Comprehensive Plan Housing Chapter Update to the membership prior to the meeting. A hard copy was provided at this meeting. Alex presented the timeline for deadlines, included the WAC and RCW guidelines, stated that the HAC is being allowed “first crack” at reviewing the plan and addressing needs. The Planning Department intends to make the CHP Chapter relevant, intends to include CHAT for input as well. A chart (3rd page from the back) indicates projected number of households and income projections for 2029. All charts and tables in the document reflect 2007 numbers, and will be updated. Immediate comments/observations by the committee include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 3-11, “Incentives for Affordability: Doesn’t address providing subsidies • Page 3-13, #11: is the suggested committee redundancy with the CHAT group? Is the group to which is referred CHAT? • Page 3-13, #4 the wisdom of allowing conditional occupancy during construction was questioned. • Need to look at the change in the economic environment between the height in 2007 to now. • Is there some way to use the median in projections? • Fast tracking is important as delays cost .money. A process for getting building permits for house plans meeting criteria for pre-approved building plans was suggested. • What is the difference between “median household income” and “median family income?” A definition of each was requested. • Please add common definitions to the document and reference pertinent regulations for those wanting further information. <p>Use specific dates instead of “currently” as it provides no frame of reference.</p>	<p>The committee will read and provide feedback to Alex by April 22, 2010. Alex will send a reminder to members in approximately one week.</p> <p>Alex will send updated household information/projections to members.</p>

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4. Planning Department Update (con't)	The committee was asked to read the document and provide feedback to Alex by April 22, 2010. Alex will send the revisions to the committee prior to the June 10, 2010 meeting.	
5. On the horizon <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="280 359 560 454">• Trends, predictions, budgets <li data-bbox="280 486 560 518">• Farewell to Dave 	<p>The HUD budget wish list is out for 2011. Significant formula reductions are reported by Dave, and some initiatives are being run.</p> <p>Dave Cahill is retiring effective April 30, 2010. He is looking forward to retirement and the ability to spend time on his sailboat. The community has benefitted from Dave's involvement and advocacy, and congratulations were extended. Dave's position is being advertised, so it looks like a replacement for Dave's seat on the committee will be available. In the meantime, Caroline Flickinger, Grants & Budget Manager for Planning and Community Development, will provide updates to the committee.</p>	
Adjourn	The meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 9:35 AM	
Next Meeting	June 10, 2010 8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Whatcom County Health Department Administrative Conference Room 509 Girard Street,	