

Housing for All
Meeting Minutes
December 9, 2022 at 10:00 AM

Present: Rosemary Fagrelus, Tim Hunter, Kalene Engel, Linda Soderstrom, Marie Kovecsi, Nancy Brown, Chris Meyer, Judy Gilow, Nick Larson

1. **Welcome**
2. **Recap of Housing Institute Programs:** Marie has transcribed the information from the large charts we completed at the Institute. Electronic versions of the powerpoints are located in the Institute Google Drive at https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1i3CHnB415gvzMeZv3_6WsX4dxdwZZJpu.
3. **Water's Edge Update:** No updates available.
4. **Legislative Forum Update:** The Elected Officials Forum is scheduled for January 14, 2023 from 9-11 am at the History Center. Invites have not yet been sent out, but should go out this weekend. The format of the forum does not lend itself to a formal presentation by our group. However, having concept papers available for distribution to attendees (including elected officials) is a good way to start getting the word out there about our work. Tim will update the supportive housing concept paper and Rosemary will update the housing trust fund concept paper. The papers will then be circulated to the rest of the group for review/comment. Marie will take care of making copies of the papers for the forum.
5. **ARPA Funding:** Tim met with Laura Petterson (ARPA Grant Administrator for the County) and he believes the transfer of funds from Catholic Charities to HVMHC is "good to go." Apparently, as long as the scope of the project remains the same, the funds can be switched over. HVMHC plans on posting for the Housing Resource Specialist position in January and will wait to post for the Housing Advocate until the Specialist is on board.
6. **Community Living Infrastructure (CLI) Grant:** The CLI grant has not yet appeared on the County Board Agenda for approval. This is the grant funding that would sustain the Housing Specialist position, once ARPA funding runs out. The County has to be the applicant, thus the County Board needs to give approval for the application so that there are no delays when the RFP is released. Noting that last year's RFP was released in March, Kalene offered to send a reminder email to Karin to get the item on an upcoming County Board Agenda.
7. **Organizational Structure:** Kalene suggested that the group consider forming two smaller groups, one for supportive housing and one for the HTF, so that some of the issues and homework could be completed in a smaller group setting in between the larger group monthly meetings. She offered to lead the HTF group and Nancy, Nick and Judy agreed to serve on that group.
8. **Housing Trust Fund:** Rosemary reviewed the methods by which a HTF could be created. One involves finding donors and creating a "donor-advised" type fund at Winona Community Foundation. The other involves having two governmental entities agree to enter into a joint powers agreement per the LHTF statute. If the latter is pursued, having support and buy-in from the cities and townships will be critical. Concerns were raised about the willingness of local governments to enter into a joint powers agreement or provide annual funding for a trust fund. Once a fund is established, donations could be received from anywhere and anyone.

9. **Housing Institute Homework:**

- a. Finish Concept Paper and Present: See above discussion under #4.
- b. Complete Action Plan with Goals:
 - i. Supportive Housing: Marie will update the Action Plan template with information from the last housing institute. The remainder of the action plan can be completed in January.
 - ii. Housing Trust Fund: A smaller group consisting of Kalene, Nancy, Nick and Judy will meet separately and work on the action plan for that project.
- c. Prepare 10 Questions Relevant to the Project:
 - i. Supportive Housing: Rosemary has already drafted some questions for the supportive housing project. Linda contributed additional questions in the Zoom chat. Kalene noted that the FAQ document she compiled had several questions.
 - ii. Housing Trust Fund: The concept paper that Rosemary drafted contains some questions. Others will be generated when the smaller HTF group meets to develop the action plan.

10. **New Name for the Group**: Due to the expanded scope of our work at the Housing Institute, it is necessary to re-label ourselves. After discussion, the name “Housing for All” was chosen. Nancy knows an individual who can work on a logo.

11. **Membership:**

- a. Institute attendees: The next Institute is on 2/1 and 2. The following plan to attend: Marie, Chris, Kalene, Linda, Nick and possibly Tim. Other people have agreed to be fill-ins so as soon as we know who can/will attend, we should reach out to the back-ups.
- b. Persons with lived experience: The HVMHC local advisory council is being restructured and one of the priorities is housing. NAMI is being pulled into the discussion. This will hopefully result in identifying more people who could serve on this committee so that it doesn't all fall on Linda's shoulders.

Next steps:

- Tim revise the scattered sites concept paper and distribute
- Rosemary revise the trust fund paper and distribute
- Marie work on action plan for scattered sites with Tim's input
- The smaller HTF group meet and work on the HTF action plan. This will include identifying people who need to be involved in this project.
- Nancy talk to Zoe Kwitek about creating a logo
- Rosemary and Marie will update the email distribution list
- Everyone send Rosemary questions for the “10 questions” homework assignment

Meeting adjourned: 11:26 p.m.

Minutes by Kalene Engel