

Hope for Homes Meeting Minutes
February 10, 2023 at 10:00 AM at Winona Community Foundation and online

Present: Judy Gilow, Rosemary Fagrelus, Linda Soderstrom, Justin Green, John Breske, Ann Gibson, Ruth Peterson, Anne Vandenberg, Maureen Holte, Chris Meyer, Marie Kovcesi, Kalene Engel, Ann McLaughlin, Nancy Brown, Kathy Sublett

1. **Welcome & Introductions**

2. **Community Living Infrastructure Grant:** Kalene corresponded with Karin last week on the status of County Board approval to apply for the grant, once it was released. Karin stated that preapproval wasn't an option, but was going to check with Maureen. Maureen had not yet heard from Karin, so Kalene agreed to send the grant and other information to Maureen and copy Karin.

3. **Update on hiring of staff person:** The Housing Resource Specialist position has been posted and is available at <https://hvmhc.bamboohr.com/careers/89>

4. **Hope for Homes Housing Trust Fund:**

- a. **Fund Agreement:** Nancy Brown drafted a fund agreement to establish the Hope for Homes Fund at Winona Community Foundation. The agreement was reviewed, revised and approved by the attendees. A separate agreement, such as bylaws, would need to be created to govern the work of the advisory board.
- b. **Advisory Board Structure:** Marie suggested that a smaller group be convened to discuss and identify possible members of an advisory board. Kathy, Kalene, Nancy and Marie volunteered to be on this group.
- c. **MHP Strengthening Rural Communities Grant:** Rosemary confirmed that the funds could be used for the trust fund, provided there was sufficient documentation to show how the money would be used. The grant is \$10,000 with a 1:1 match. Half of the match can be in-kind and the rest must be in cash. We will be able to use the HVMHC time on the supportive housing project as a match as well as our intern's time. Winona County must be the applicant. Rosemary will send a copy of the application to Kalene for forwarding to Maureen.
- d. **Winona Community Foundation Grant:** WCF is accepting applications for community grant applications of up to \$7,500. Our group could apply for funding for the match requirement of the MHP grant. The deadline is March 1st. It is questionable whether Hope for Homes could be the applicant. Kalene will ask Maureen if we could submit an applicant with the County as fiscal agent and, if so, will complete an application.

5. **Workshop Homework:**

- a. **Development Team Worksheet:** Rosemary discussed the worksheet, noting that it would need to be modified to fit our project. We will work on this at the next meeting.
- b. **10 Questions for Landlord and Funders:** These are complete and uploaded to our HI drive.
- c. **Team's Concept Paper:** Our concept papers are done but need to be carefully proofread.

6. **List of Potential Landlords:** At the last HI, the team generated a list of approximately 7 landlords. Crystal has the master list and volunteered to recruit more landlords.

7. **Potential Student Internship:** John Breske was introduced and welcomed as our new student intern. He is doing this as part of a class and will be able to spend 7-10 hours per week on Hope for Homes work for the rest of

the semester. John is a double major in Public Administration and Political Science and a double minor in Legal Studies and Economics.

8. **Next Meeting:** March 10, 2023 from 10-11:30 am

Meeting adjourned: 11:00 p.m.

Minutes by Kalene Engel