

Steering Committee
Concord's Plan to End Homelessness
June 21, 2016 2 pm-
49 South Main Street, Concord

Minutes
DRAFT

Call to Order: Ellen Groh called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM

Attendance: Peter Evers, Steve Duprey, Lew Feldstein, Bill Davis, Tim Sink, j st.hilaire, Ruth Perencevich, Jackie Whatmough, Byron Champlin

Absent: Nicole Schultz-Price, Claudia Walker, Rob Hirschfeld, Ron White, Pam Puleo

Facilitating: Ellen Groh, CCEH ED

Visitors: Ellen Fries, CCEH Board, Maggie Fogarty, CCEH Board

Discussion and Action Items

Approval of Minutes last meeting - Correction to our standard meeting date- it is the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Consent approval Moved, Seconded and Approved

Updates/Report from CCEH and Discussion

- CCEH now has 10 Units of rental assistance! Great news. Money flows through Crossroads House, Portsmouth. Aug. 1 it should become available.
- 2 clients in CH+R are doing okay
- Need for personal connections with landlords who will take the chance on someone with a poor rental history. Rental assistance and a caseworker are big positive factors. Need 1 Bedroom apt.
- Description of responsibility of landlord? Meeting with state to find out. Does not require strict codes of Sec. 8, but reasonable safety things and cleanliness. Accessory dwelling units okay.
- People Jackie has spoken with so far are saying - just bring me the specific person and I'll decide.
- Provide an outline on paper for seeking landlords in community.
- Exit strategy for landlord? How get out of lease? Very difficult for landlord to evict anyone.
- If going well at CH+R, have landlords check with them. Love having someone to call.
- Because of our being new to this, is it worth our while to get more expert counsel about eviction? Someone to help facilitate if run into a problem?
- Does our agreement with CH+R include the new properties of theirs that are single family with apartments in them? Will check with John Hoyt.

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- Do all we can to mitigate to keep program looking positive. Will look for ways going forward.
- KeyStone Management - Miles Tarbell - contact him (Steve Duprey)
- Hodges - Alan Johnson - Salisbury Green (Tim Sink)
- CATCH - check with them.

- Cold Weather Shelter (CWS)

History - nowhere to go, no safety net for people when CWS at churches closed.
CCEH decided we need to find a reliable space

Goal is to find a space where Resource Center could provide reliable space for a CWS in one building.

CCEH's model for shelter - minimum safety net to keep you from freezing. Not a "full service" shelter with caseworkers and meals.

Much discussion - we should aim for minimalist, winter only shelter. Otherwise we put all energy into shelter and lose focus on Housing First.

How pass zoning? Consult with Jonathan Halle, Richard Uchida,

Ideally, you need a full plan for operating a shelter, including the management agency, rules, funding, etc.

FIT not interested in managing a winter-only shelter, or in changing their typical shelter model.

Will ask Jerry Madden about continuing this.

CAN we get the work done without having a management plan in place? Get through City?

Concord has managed for so many years, hard to get permanent commitment to a shelter. Many in community have fear of becoming a "magnet".

Space - maybe hold 40, but publicize as 20 plus overflow space

If we have NO STATE FUNDING won't be on 211 - get City and County to pay for it.

If we have a small CWS, don't people to come to shelter instead of McKenna - easier to be at shelter. McKenna \$38 - 39 a day per person. 51 days average - \$2000.

A CWW would offer a safe place for those who cannot get into, or cannot manage McKenna. Low/no Barrier, seasonal, no frills

We (CCEH) want to provide the space, have someone else provide the management.

\$ for Operating Expenses? Can use Volunteers but need paid managers.

Last year: County, City, Donor from Charitable - get this again?

Try County - if got \$ from them, could help leverage City \$

When we meet with attorney, we must have the Mayor 100% on board. – that this is the solution we should be heading for.

MUST talk with abutters before they find out from anyone else - so talk with all abutters same day!

Every community needs to contribute, not just Concord - County assistance helps.

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Over the horizon is the Women's Prison ...

Housing First models, similar sized cities - id population, get vouchers, 5 year plan - see decline in number of chronically homeless. Give examples of where it worked and how. # of new homeless and the need for shelter declined.

4 Court St. (County Building) will be vacant when new Court Building is created.

Would be a possible location... would County donate or sell at reduced price? We would need to show that people using shelter/RC are from other towns in County. Would not be usable until winter 2018.

Salvation Army new program - Pathway of Hope for families. Assist families who are IN housing to remain housed.

Meeting adjourned at 3:30 pm