

**Thurston County HOME Consortium
Meeting Minutes
April 9, 2012 11:00AM-1:00PM
Thurston County Public Health & Social Services Department 107ABC
412 Lilly Rd NE, Olympia WA**

In Attendance: Consortium Members

Karen Valenzuela – Thurston County	X	Stephen Buxbaum – Olympia	X
Ron Lawson – Lacey	X	Dennis McVey– Rainier	X
Neil McClanahan – Tumwater	X	Bob Scribner– Tenino	X
Mike McGowan – Yelm	X	Andrea Fowler – Bucoda	

Other Attendees See Sign In Sheet

Curt Andino	Cindy Marchand-Cecil	Emmie San Nicolas *Minute Taker
Dwight Edwards	Maureen McLemore	Anna Schlecht
Mark Freedman	Jan Naughton	Karmel Sheilds
Bonnie Hill	Mary Pontarolo	
Paul Knox	Bob Ricks	

Welcome and Introductions

Co-chairman McClanahan called the meeting to order at 11:05AM. Introductions followed. Chairman McGowan facilitated the meeting upon his arrival.

Approval of Agenda

Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Lawson and seconded to approve the 04/09/12 Meeting Agenda as written. Motion passes unanimously.

Public Comments/Announcements

CAMP QUIOXTE: PANZA gave an update on their proposed project:

1. The Olympia Planning Commission is reviewing conditional use permit requirements.
2. There was a public hearing concerning the property site regarding *noise standards and traffic safety*.
3. Camp Quixote may be included as part of this year's state legislative capital budget.

STOP THURSTON COUNTY: Has turned their focus on the HOME Consortium in regard to a past project, "Hope House". The organization inaccurately reported during a BOCC meeting, that 50% of the Consortium's funding is spent on administrative overhead. The county will provide Stop Thurston County with factual information.

Approval of Minutes

Action: A motion was made by Councilmember McClanahan and seconded to approve the 03/12/12 Meeting Minutes as written. Motion passes unanimously.

Review of Financial Report

Mark Freedman provided updated financial activity reports for Administration, and the Affordable Housing and Homeless programs revenues, expenditures, and collections to date. HOME Funding identifies upcoming program year noting a reduction in revenues from the previous year. In addition, the recording fees financial report for program year September 2011-August 2012 activities were presented.

Review Calendar HOME Consortium Timeline calendar

Dwight Edwards reviewed the HOME Consortium timeline calendar for April through June. Upcoming tasks include the review of the housing data related to the Point-In-Time (PIT) Census and development of the HOME Action Plan. The Request for Proposals (RFPs) for HOME projects is due on April 16th and a summary analysis of the proposals will be provided to the consortium members on the 17th. The Consortium will make awards at the May meeting.

Review of 2012 Affordable & Homeless Housing Budget and Data Review (PIT)

Dwight Edwards reported on changes made to the Affordable & Homeless Housing Program 2012 Request for Proposals, explaining that the language used in previous years may no longer be relevant because housing needs data is old. Members briefly discussed the benefits of deciding what would be the most reasonable approach for determining current needs.

Anna Schlecht distributed the Point-In-Time (PIT) data and reported that over half are chronically homeless and that we are still exploring ways to lessen the numbers of homeless people by pinpointing where homelessness exists throughout Thurston County. In a related effort, Anna hopes to work with the HOME Citizen Advisory Committee members (HCAC) to get a more accurate PIT count report, by working closely with homeless parents and students participating in the reduced lunch program. There are many agencies that are in need of baseline data for homeless. More data will be shared when available.

Affordable and Homeless Housing RFP and Policies Consideration

Dwight Edwards briefly discussed the need to revise the draft 2012 Request for Proposals (RFP) to reflect a change in the amount of available funding, and changes to the selection criteria. The members agreed to substitute the existing priorities identified in the county's Ten-Year Homeless Housing Plan, with new goals and objectives that are more reflective of our current homeless needs. Members asked the HCAC to develop RFP criteria that reward leveraging, collaboration, program efficiencies, best practices, and innovative rental assistance programs.

Housing Citizen Advisory Committee (HCAC) Recommendation

HCAC recommended that a review team be appointed by the HOME Consortium to review and rate the county's RFP's. The team would be comprised of two members from the HCAC, two Consortium members, the Homeless Services Coordinator, and possibly others. The team would convene on April 30th to rate and rank the proposals and submit their recommendations for funding to the Home Consortium at next month's meeting. The HCAC is aware of the potential conflicts of interest involved and will assure that no members applying for funding will participate in the rating and scoring. The Consortium agreed to the creation of a review team and appointed Mike McGowan and Neil McClanahan as the Consortium representatives.

Additional Public Comments/Announcements

Media Concerns: Chairman McGowan asked how the HOME Consortium can provide consistent updated information to the media so that the public is knowledgeable about the Consortium's accomplishments. It was recommended to invite a reporter from the The Olympian to attend a Consortium meeting after awards are made. The intent is to ensure that facts published are correct. Mark Freedman asked if it would be helpful for John Tennis, Thurston County Public Information Officer, to attend prior to sending out press releases. It was decided that John Tennis would be invited to the June board meeting.

Habitat for Humanity: Curt Andino reported that on Saturday, June 16th a celebration will take place for the completion of Shepard's Grove. Five (5) families will be presented with keys to their homes.

Next Meeting

Monday, May 14, 2012 – 11:00AM-1:00PM – Thurston County PHSS Conference Room 107ABC

Agenda Topics: Review and selection of 2012 HOME proposals

Meeting Adjourned at 12:51PM