COC Steering Committee |MINUTES

Meeting date | time February 25, 2015, | Meeting location Share Fromhold

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| |  |  | | --- | --- | |  |  | |  |  | | Facilitator | Amy Reynolds | | Note taker | Becky Morgan | |  |  | | |  | | --- | | **Attendees**  **Andy Silver, Amy Reynolds, Scott Conger, Debby Dover, Lydia Sanders, Kathy Neary, Sierk Braam, Peggy Sheehan, Pete Munroe** | |

# Agenda topics

**Agenda topic | Minutes/Welcome Pet Munroe | Presenter|** Amy Reynolds :  
  
Minutes approved. Welcome to Pete Munroe, Kate Budd has taken a position elsewhere Pete has stepped in while the County re-organizes responsibilities.

**Agenda topic |** **Action Plan**| Presenter |Andy Silver:

Andy presented on the Clark County Action Plan (CCAP). The focus has shifted on things that can be achieved in a 2 to 3 year time frame. Pete said we are going to add it to the larger plan within the County. Andy said they are trying to achievable goals and as these goals are accomplished recognize that achievement then move on to new goals. Andy said the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th sections, of the CCAP are action plans with specific strategies. The Coalition’s work with adapt to align with this new plan. Kathy asked about page 2 the most effective ways to end homeless section. Do we have a sub group dedicated to policy around affordable housing? Andy said no but the Council for the Homeless is dedicating some of their resources to specifically address affordable housing.

**Agenda topic |** **Affordable Housing**| Presenter | Sierk Braam:

The board for the Council for the Homeless put together an ad hoc committee for affordable housing. They have had 1 meeting so far. As a community we know that we do not have enough affordable housing and that this is a need that must be addressed. Rents in Clark County are some of the highest in the state. CFTH is spearheading a community wide conversation on affordable housing.. Sierk provided materials from the Washington State Department of Commerce about the state of affordable housing in Clark County and reported on the recent City of Vancouver Council Workshop on Affordable Housing. The recent press about Courtyard Village served as part of the impetus for the City Council Workshop’s sense of urgency. The City is currently looking at ways to address affordable housing. Some of the ideas are changes to No Cause evictions laws, a fund for relocation, changes to the property tax exemptions for affordable housing development, as well as looking at long term strategies such as inclusionary zoning, revenue streams for affordable housing development, and the possibility of a regional housing fund.. Peggy said that every council member expressed an interest in helping with this issue and moving forward. Amy asked if the Council for the Homeless would concentrate its affordable housing efforts on the city first. Sierk indicated they would indeed work with and focus on the City of Vancouver first since they seem to be in a position to show real leadership to the community at large. Sierk said they would also engage other municipalities in Clark County, and that they are in very preliminary conversations with the County.

Kathy asked if so much of the empty spaces out in Orchards could be re-zoned for homes instead of commercial properties. Kathy asked about how we could possibly get some of the bank owned properties that sit empty for so long to go to affordable housing? Peggy said we have to look for the largest impact to the most amounts of people. Sierk said that working on foreclosured homes is not a good use of our time; the entanglement of the secondary mortgage markets makes it extremely time consuming to determine the ownership entities of the foreclosed properties and the underlying mortgages. Lydia asked about a blight law for foreclosures.

Scott asked if the private sector is a way to access/create more affordable housing, and Sierk said private sector participation in unsubsidized affordable housing is critical. Lydia asked if the legalization of marijuana has anything to do with it and if we could possibly get some of that money? The consensus was no.

Sierk asked Peggy what will happen next from the City’s perspective. Peggy said they will work on a couple things that can happen quickly and then work over time on the bigger issues. Peggy also said that we need to focus on the county, talk to others make sure we work on Camas and Washougal. Andy said we will need 150 people to show up at all the future meetings. We also need stakeholder to show up. Amy asked to keep the group informed on future workshops.

**Agenda topic |** **Work Groups** **|** Presenter | Amy Reynolds:

We need to make sure that our current work groups are all relevant to the Clark County Action Plan. Discharge Planning had been disbanded when Kate Budd left. The youth work group needs a bit of a refocus on unaccompanied youth and homelessness; we could view it more as a task force and meet for 3 to 4 months and then be done. Andy said the youth work group should not stop, but the task force would have a different focus to get to what we need. The 10 year Planning work group will end with their work continued by the Steering Committee. Kathy asked if we will still be known for our coordinated care, and Amy said yes. Kathy moved to disband the prevention, 10 year and youth work groups, Sierk 2nd. Motion passed. Scott moved to create a youth task force, Lydia 2nd. Motion passed.

| Action items | Person responsible | Deadline |
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| Next meeting March 25, 2015 2:00-3:30 pm |  |  |
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