

Interagency Council on Affordable Housing

Tuesday, November 13, 2012

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Lyceum

227 Lawrence Street

Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present: Anne Foley (Chair), Claudette Beaulieu(DSS) for Commissioner Roderick Bremby, Barbara Geller (DMHAS), Kim Somaroo-Rodriquez (DCF), Rebecca Fleming (DOC), Commissioner Catherine Smith (DECD), Howard Rifkin (Partnership for Strong Communities), Betsy Crum (Connecticut Housing Coalition), Carol Walter (Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness), Eric Chatman (Connecticut Housing Finance Authority), Joseph Martel (Council Appointee) and Sarah Ratchford (Council Appointee).

Additional Attendees: Neil Griffin (Conn-NAHRO), Cathy Stebbins (Conn-NAHRO), Dara Kovel (CHFA), John Dunne (CSH), Judy Dowd (OPM), Kate Robinson (Betty Gallo and Co.), Peg Fitzgerald (CHFA), Nick Lundgren (DECD), Christina Rubenstein (Partnership for Strong Communities), Mike Hanley (Partnership for Strong Communities), Mickey Regan (DOC), Hilary Felton-Reid (Robinson and Cole), Peter Palermino (DSS), Astread Ferron-Poole (DSS), Carolyn Treiss (DSS), Heather Rossi (DSS), Steve Dilella (DMHAS), and Pam Trotman (OPM).

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was convened at 10:10 a.m. by the Chair, Anne Foley. The Chair introduced Sarah Ratchford as the nominee for the Council's third statutorily required member, as a resident who is eligible to receive state housing assistance. Ms. Ratchford and members introduce themselves.

Barbara Geller's motion to approve the nomination of Sarah as a new Council member was seconded by Betsy Crum. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

II. Approval of the October 9th Meeting Minutes

Eric Chatman moved approval of the October 9th meeting minutes. The motion was seconded by Catherine Smith and approved on a voice vote with the following changes: (1) add Commissioner Catherine Smith to the list of members in attendance (2) move Nick Lundgren's name from the list of members in attendance to the list of additional attendees; and (3) change Kim Somaroo Rodriquez to Rodriguez.

III. Review Revised Vision, Mission and Roles

The Council reviewed and agreed on the draft outline of the January 2013 Report.

The Council reviewed the revised vision, mission, roles, principles and criteria for programs to be transferred to the Department of Housing. Members made additional recommendations for modification and additions including:

- Mission:
 - Emphasize collaboration between the new department and other agencies to improve the existing infrastructure of neighborhood and communities.
- Roles:
 - Stress the importance of pro-active policy planning and program development.
- Principles:
 - Consider moving the first bullet under principles to roles of the new department and revise the statement from enhance the effectiveness of the existing structure to improve the existing structure.
 - Ensure that the principles clearly articulate how the new department will do its work.
 - Remove assisted living as a specific priority for the new housing department.
- Criteria for Programs to be Transferred:
 - Remove assisted living as a criteria.
 - Consider moving data analysis capacity from criteria to roles of the new department.

- Delete community development as criteria for transfer.
- Replace the criteria “programs for homeownership” to “programs that promote opportunities for homeownership” and move under “roles” of the new department.

The Council discussed the development of the ConPlan Ten Year Plan and CHFA’s QAP. Based on the discussion, members agreed that the responsibility for the development of the ConPlan should be within the new department and the QAP currently developed and administered by CHFA should remain within CHFA. CHFA suggested that a housing committee with representation from various state agencies be established to review and advise CHFA on the QAP. The Council agreed to serve as the housing committee to review and advise CHFA on the development and implementation of the QAP.

Carol Walter reported on her discussion with the Advocates Against Domestic Violence regarding the transfer of these programs to the new department. She indicated that the advocacy and provider community did not foresee any issues if domestic violence programs were transferred to the new department.

IV. Review Programs to be Transferred to DOH

The Council reviewed the programs recommended for transfer to the new department. The Council members suggested modifications and additions to the document. The document will be revised and forwarded to members for review at the next meeting.

V. Review Rules of Voting

The Chair reviewed voting rules and reminded the Council that under current rules members may not delegate their voting power to other members or representatives to vote in their absence. Council members must attend in person to vote. Proxies are welcome to attend a meeting and participate in discussion, but are unable to vote.

VI. Next Steps

- A. A Public Hearing: the public hearing will be held on Tuesday, December 11th from 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. at the Lyceum in Hartford.
- B. A Council Meeting will immediately follow the public hearing
- C. Potential Council Meetings: members will be polled to determine the date for the January meeting.

VII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.