

Interagency Council on Affordable Housing

Tuesday, July 15, 2014

1:00 p.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Lyceum

227 Lawrence Street

Hartford, Connecticut

Members Present: Anne Foley (Chair), Brian Roccapirore for Lisa Tepper Bates (Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness), Eric Chatman (Connecticut Housing Finance Authority), Betsy Crum (Connecticut Housing Coalition), Neil Griffin for Kate Forcier (Connecticut Chapter of the National Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials), Steve Dilella for Barbara Geller (Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services), Acting Commissioner Margy Gerundo-Murkette (Department on Aging), Commissioner Terrence Macy (Department of Developmental Services), Sarah Ratchford (Council Appointee), Michael Regan (Department of Correction), Deputy Commissioner Raymond Singleton (Department of Social Services), Kim Somaroo-Rodriquez (Department of Children and Families), and Alicia Woodsby (Partnership for Strong Communities)

Additional Participants: Commissioner Evonne Klein (Department of Housing) and Kelly Sinko (Office of Policy and Management).

I. Welcome and Introductions

The meeting was convened at 1:05 p.m. The Chair, Anne Foley, introduced Acting Commissioner Margy Gerundo-Murkette as the new representative from the Department on Aging.

II. Approval of the April 8, 2014 Meeting Minutes

The Chair announced that the draft [minutes](#) from the April 8, 2014 meeting were emailed to the Council and that a copy of the minutes was located in their meeting packet. The minutes were appropriately moved by Eric Chatman and seconded by Betsy Crum. The Council approved the minutes unanimously on a voice vote.

III. Department of Housing Update – Commissioner Klein

Commissioner Evonne Klein gave a brief update on the Department of Housing's (DOH) work since the last meeting. She noted that DOH had received 36 applications

asking for a total of \$46 million for the last \$15 million Special Round and 26 applications asking for a total of \$100 million for the \$25 million CHAMP 5 round. Commissioner Klein also gave some highlights of the new FY 2015 funding schedule, including the addition of a new “small projects” round and a Just-in-Time funding round. She described DOH’s efforts to include more rolling acceptance of applications into the funding schedule in order to increase the predictability of funding availability and allow the department more flexibility. She also notified the Council of the coordinated access network that was launched in the New Britain area to serve the city and the surrounding towns of Berlin, Plainville, Southington, and Bristol.

IV. 2015 Point-In-Time Count – Homeless Youth Count

Brian Roccapirore (Connecticut Coalition to End Homelessness - CCEH) provided the Council with an [overview](#) of the 2015 Point-in-Time (PIT) count, which will include an unsheltered count. He also explained CCEH’s proposed Youth Homeless Count, which will use a new methodology to count the homeless youth population based on emerging best practices and lessons learned from other communities. Connecticut would be the first state to engage in such a statewide effort to count homeless youth.

In response to clarifying questions from Council members, Mr. Roccapirore explained that for the purposes of the count, youth up to the age of 24 are included. He also clarified that providers will, in addition to deploying a survey in a wide variety of service setting used by youth, also use peer-based estimated projects in local high schools. Unlike the annual PIT count which occurs on one night, Mr. Roccapirore also explained that the youth homeless count would occur over the course of two weeks.

V. 2014 Legislative Overview

Kelly Sinko (Office of Policy and Management) gave a brief [overview of the housing legislation and budget initiatives](#) that were passed during the 2014 session.

VI. Status Update on 2014 Council Recommendations

Kelly Sinko (Office of Policy and Management) gave an [overview on the progress of the Council in meeting its January 2014 recommendations](#) addressing local, financing, systems/administrative, industry capacity, and individual and family economic

security barriers to effective housing delivery systems. Council members were invited to suggest additions to ensure that all ongoing efforts were being depicted.

VII. 2014 Council Workplan – Effectiveness of Housing Programs

The Chair explained that after the meeting of the small workgroup, it was determined that the best strategy for examining the effectiveness of state housing programs was to group related programs and assess them together. The first group of programs to be analyzed are the individual and family support programs. Housing development programs, housing affordability initiatives, and community development programs are the other anticipated groupings that will be examined in the future.

Steve Dilella (Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services and Department of Housing) presented the [DOH proposal](#) to evaluate the effectiveness of DOH's individual and family support programs.

VIII. Next Steps

The Chair reminded Council members of the next upcoming scheduled meeting on Tuesday, October 14th from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. at the Lyceum.

IX. Adjournment

The Council adjourned at 2:30 p.m.