

Homelessness and Housing Alliance of Racine County

March 15, 2019

Present: Betty Brenneman (community), Chris Fuller (Bethany), Karen Harrison (Racine Cty Vet), Lynn Hegeman (WRC), Mary Beth Kallio (United Way), Jeff Knott (HALO), Kimberly Leslie (Ascension), Lori Life (RVM), Dadra Lockridge (RVM), Irma Love (HALO), Michelle Lussmyer (Bethany), Jessica McPhail (Racine Public Library), Scott Metel (HOPES), Randi Mundt (RVM), Frannie Murillo (LAW), Shelby Poole (Acelero), Liz Powell (RCF), Curt Pruitt (RCHSD), Seth Raymond (Hospitality), Teresa Reinders (HALO), Hale Sargent (HUD), Brendan Saunders (City of Racine), Vicky Selkove (City of Racine), Jane Skirven (VA), Mildred Spann (VA), Trisha Speers (Safe Families), Melissa Taggart (HALO), Ron Thomas (Community), Iraida Vazquez (ICA), Kierra Wester (Safe Families)

The meeting was called to order by President, Ron Thomas at 9:02 a.m. with welcome and introductions.

Agenda: M/S/C to receive and file agenda

Minutes: M/S/C to approve the minutes

Treasurer's report: Current balance was noted; membership dues will be discussed at a future meeting; M/S/C to accept report as provided

Old Business: Website and Logo Updates—Michelle did have a meeting with Gateway Technical College; currently exploring two different options—one option is to have a class or classes design logo and new website; the other option would be a paid work study 10/hours per week for a specified period of time

New Business:

1. Treasurer Position—Lynn Hegeman will be the new Treasurer for the remainder of this term on the executive committee
2. Steering Committee—the strategic planning committee and the executive committee will combine to form the steering committee; anyone who is interested in being a part of this group, please get your information to Michelle (michelle@bethanyapartments.org); Current meeting time is the Wednesday one week prior to the large group HHARC monthly meeting (generally the second Wednesday of the month) at 9am at Bethany Apartments
3. April Meeting—there was M/S/C to cancel the April meeting due to it falling on Good Friday—Thus, there will be no April meeting
4. May Meeting—there was a M/S/C to move the May 17th meeting to the Mount Pleasant Village Hall from 12pm to 2pm—this will be a lunch hosted by the Racine Public Library with networking to learn about what each organization of the HHARC group provides for services and to learn more about the services available via the library system; there will also be a guest speaker/presentation at 1pm

Executive Committee Report: The executive committee did meet last month and discussed May meeting proposal from Jessica McPhail (Racine Public Library), discussed the creation of a steering committee and topics needing to be discussed by a steering committee; and, reviewed proposed agenda items

Resource Development Committee Report: met this month; discussed the need to look at legal entity status of HHARC and where that needs to go; need to determine what role this group will play depending on what is decided; looking at bringing extra non-governmental funds to the alliance; state/federal/city funds sub grant committee does exist and is headed by Gai; more will come into focus as the group continues to move forward with the strategic plan; for anyone interested, the meetings are held the 1st Wednesday each month at 9am at HALO

Case Manager Meeting Report: Discussed diversity at this month's meeting; the group identified a gap in gender neutral bathrooms, shower facilities, etc. for transgender individuals; there were approximately 15 case managers present at

the last meeting; for all those interested the group will continue to meet the 2nd Thursday of each month at 9am at HALO

Strategic Initiative 1—breaking the cycle of evictions: currently working on putting together the most common questions and answers into a graphic handout; On March 21st the community development committee will have HHARC present the strategic plan to the community—Brendan would like to know who will be there and who will be presenting—the meeting will be at 6pm at 730 Washington Ave in room 205; EHH Grant allocation meeting had a discussion about whether or not some funds can be used to put towards strategic plan implementation

Strategic Initiative 2—overcoming stereotypes and misconceptions about homelessness: looking into soliciting to the community about what their questions are and what misconceptions exist; then, will create materials that meet what people are most commonly asking/have misconceptions about

Strategic Initiative 3—maximizing housing impact: no updates at this time

AGENCY UPDATES:

Racine County Human Services—there is now transportation available for individuals in all of Racine county who either do not live on a bus line or whom have a job not on the bus line—more information can be found on the county website; free legal services available via ELCA Urban Outreach center 262-652-5545

Fair Housing Month—The week of April 21st is Community Development Week; On April 24th at 6pm Reggie Jackson from the Black Holocaust Museum will be presenting at the library—there was a M/S/C for HHARC to be listed on a sign as a supporter of this event—Brendan will also be reaching out to other organization for support

Legal Action—just a reminder Legal Action of Wisconsin does offer legal services for free to anyone who qualifies—they specifically often assist with eviction and consumer actions

Ascension All Saints Hospital—will be hosting “Medical Mission at Home” event on May 11, 2019 from 9am to 2pm at Park High School; they will have medical evaluations, lab testing, x-ray, mammograms, ultrasounds, dental care, pharmacy/medications, spiritual services and community resources—no insurance needed, interpreter services available and all are welcome; for more information: www.medicalmissionathome.org

Affirmative Action Human Rights Group—looking to connect with local agencies to teach and support mothers interested in breast feeding

HUD Office—CoC Renewal Grants—Hale Sargent works out of the Milwaukee HUD office and is helping to process renewals; he has sent out emails to several HHARC members

M/S/C to adjourn at 10:26 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Lussmyer