



February 18, 2015 Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order at 2:15 PM by Secretary, Chris Brunell

Attendance: *Chris Brunell – Secretary, Kirsten Jewell, Carol Branscum, Monica Bernhard, Sandra Paulino-Winborn, Jackie Fojtik, Sherryl Hawes, Sarah Achaoui Walt LeCouteur, Denise Solada, Jackie Brown, Penny Lamping, Rae Rodriguez, Bev Kincaid, Trudy Stacy, Sabina Wagner-Lewis, Deborah Horn, Linda Hollingsworth, Angie Zimmerman, Ruth Westergaard, Laretta Gomez, Mary McKee, Annette Quimby, Patrick Steele, Clara Ann Ness, Terry Schroeder*

Introductions were made around the table.

Agenda Review: No changes were made to the agenda.

Minutes from December: Walt LeCouteur moved and Denise Solada seconded to approve the minutes as written. The motion passed.

Project Connect/PIT Count – Terry Schroeder: Terry provided information on the PIT count. Some of the stats that she has to date are:

- 181 persons unsheltered or staying with family/friends. Of those 69 were literally homeless. There are 43 in shelter and 143 in transitional.
- There were about 50 veterans identified so far.
- So far there are 233 males and 188 females.

There are still forms to be input, so figures will change. Terry reported she has some help and anticipates getting it done close to the end of February. Terry also reported on the progress of the HIC. She is working on getting the information and putting it into the master spreadsheet. There are a few agencies she still needs to receive information from a few agencies.

Bremerton Housing Authority Section 8 List: Sherryl Hawes gave a presentation about the Section 8 Wait List. Bremerton will be taking applications for their Section 8 list from March 2 through March 13 and must be completed online. An email address and social security number is required. If someone does not have a social security number or has concerns about using it for this purpose, they can contact Bremerton Housing. No matter how many people apply, 300 people will be selected randomly, by computer, to be placed on the list. The way they are selected is the way they will be placed on the list. There are currently 81 households on the wait list. The 300 new applications will be placed on the wait list after those. Those who are already on the list are asked not to apply; their names will be removed prior to the selection of the 300. This is for the Bremerton Housing Authority Section 8 list only. They do hope to open the Housing Kitsap Section 8 list in a couple months.

Tent City Update: This group continues to meet. Patti Peterson, Bremerton Foodline, put together a timeline for the group to follow to help stay on track. There is an organization that is considering becoming the lead agency. They are looking at it and considering if they would have the capacity to do so. Major Baker officially resigned as Chair, since he will be retiring in a couple of months, so the group is in need of a Chairperson.

Coordinator Report – Terry Schroeder: Terry stated that this month has been focused on completing the point in time data input as well as compiling information from agencies for the HIC. She still needs information from a few agencies. A couple of KCR staff are assisting with the PIT data input.

Tent City Update – Walt LeCouteur/Manny Cruz: Patti Peterson has put together a timeline for a tent city to happen by the goal date of June. Some representatives met with the Kitsap Interfaith Network, but no organization has come forward to take on the responsibility for a tent city.

Stakeholders Priority Setting – Kirsten Jewell: The meeting to look at and come up with recommendations for priorities for Affordable Housing Grant Program and Homeless Housing Grant Program will be on March 4 at 1:00 pm in the Norm Dicks Government Center, 4th Floor, WSU Conference Room. After the Stakeholders’ brainstorming session, the Housing Funders Leadership Group (HFLG) will use that input, as well as their knowledge and experience, to develop Homeless Housing Plan implementation priorities and current grant cycle funding priorities. This information will come back to the CoCC membership for concurrence and then on to the County Commissioners most likely. In early March, the grant cycle calendar will be published; there are no substantive changes in the application, but the Technical Assistance session will not be mandatory.

Convoy Hope – Michael O’Shaughnessy: Mike provided information about Convoy Hope, which is an event similar to Project Connect, but much larger. It is done through the Assembly of God National Outreach Program. It will be held in August in the old Bremerton K-Mart parking lot. There will be a “vision casting” meeting where organizations are invited to provide input into the planning process. The goal is to mobilize **hundreds** of area residents to serve and make a difference in their community. Strong participation by local businesses, churches, community service agencies and individuals is crucial to the success of this event. There will also be a follow-up to this event. Their hope is to serve more than 5,000 persons. Bringing together the community is the most important part of the event.

Agency Updates

Kitsap Community Foundation – Bev Kincaid: Their grant reviews are currently being done. The Great Give is coming up. There is some great training information and instructions for outreach on their website. Last year about 200 non-profit organizations raised over \$600,000 for their agencies and the hope is to raise more this year. The Kitsap Great Give is a 24 hour day of giving on May 5th. There will be matching money and special prizes and awards for the organizations. Registration for the Kitsap Great Give ends on March 15.

YWCA – Jackie Brown: Their new Executive Director, Denise Frey, is working on organizing. They may have a family room available soon. The Home Plus Program is currently on hold, but they are still working with the families that are currently in the program.

Housing and Essential Needs (HEN) and Benedict House – Chris Brunell: HEN Program is moving on March 1st to the old Kitsap Rescue Mission offices on 5th and Park. They will be painting there tomorrow. Benedict House is completely full with 24 single men and a father with two children.

Housing Solutions Center – Jackie Fojtik: Rental assistance is available at this time.

Georgia’s House – Carol Branscum: Carol reported Georgia’s House has a couple of beds available currently.

North Kitsap Fishline – Rae Rodriguez: They are currently in the process of branching out into providing supportive services and working with clients who have significant barriers.

HUD – Sarah Achaoui: HUD has been working with the City of Bremerton to establish Single Family Revitalization zones within the City limits. As part of the application process, our single Family Homeownership Center was looking for statistics for unsheltered and homeless children in the Bremerton School District. If anyone has information on how to find that information, let Sarah know.

Agape – Angie Zimmerman: They have two openings in their Tenant Based Sisyphus II housing. Must be homeless, chemically dependent and in treatment with 30 or more days of sobriety. Minimum income is \$800/month.

Kitsap Rescue Mission – Walt LeCouteur: Their day room is growing. They are now offering haircuts. Showers and meals are available on Wednesdays and Fridays. HEN will be moving into their old office on 5th Street in March.

Veteran’s Administration – Sabina Wagner-Lewis: Sabina is housed at Bremerton Housing Authority to assist veterans with housing. A veteran does not need to be eligible for VA care to receive housing through the VA. She stressed the importance of asking veterans if they have ever served in the military instead of asking if they are a veteran. Many veterans don’t think of themselves as veterans. She hopes to be able to help Kitsap County get more VASH (section 8 vouchers for veterans) vouchers. Sabina can be contacted at 253-254-4238 or Sabina Wagner-Lewis@va.gov

Kitsap Transit – Trudy Stacy: In March, King County Metro will be starting to honor Kitsap’s low-income bus pass on their transportation and vice versa. It is hoped that Pierce Transit will also do so in the near future.

Parent Child Assistance Program – Clara Ann Ness: Clara Ann passed out brochures for the PCAP. At this time, they are full, but hoping to get some more openings.

Kitsap Public Health District – Ruth Westergaard: Ruth reported there have been 104 confirmed cases of pertussis in Washington. There have been no confirmed cases of measles in Kitsap, but two in Clallam County. She provided information on vaccines and will send to Terry to include in the Thursday Journal.

Kitsap Community Resources – Monica Bernhard: Monica reported there is energy assistance available through LIHEAP. Clients can call 479-1507 or come into the Bremerton office. They are currently booking into April.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Chris Brunell, Secretary