

Nebraska Commission on Housing and Homelessness (NCHH)
Monday, August 6, 2012
Nebraska State Office Building
301 Centennial Mall South Lin, NE 68509
Conference Room LLF
Minutes

I. Roll Call

Sara Tichota called roll. Ten of fourteen Commissioners were present. Theresa Christensen, Melissa DeLaet, Rosalee Higgs, Ardith Hoins, Thomas Judds, DiAnn Kolkman, Kathy Mesner, Erin Porterfield, Brent Williams and John Turner. Absent Commissioners were: Ann Beseke-Rouch, Tom Huston, Ken Lyons, and Roger Nadrchal.

Guests present were: Cindy Kadavy, DHHS; Lois French, USDA; Roger Furrer, Community Action of Nebraska; Paula Rhian, Excel; Janet Latimer, Horizon Bank; Ann Burge, MHEG; Earl Redrick, HUD; Brian Gaskill, DED; Mikhaila Hosler, DED; Pat Compton, DED; Anissa Rasmussen, DED; Bob Doty, DED; Sara Tichota, DED.

II. Call meeting to order

Chairperson Kathy Mesner called the meeting to order at 1:34 p.m.

Chairperson Kathy Mesner declared a quorum at 1:35 p.m.

III. Public Comment

No comment.

IV. Approve April 12, 2012 meeting minutes.

Motion: DiAnn Kolkman moved that the April 12, 2012 meeting minutes be approved. Thomas Judds seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

V. Executive Committee

Did not report.

VI. Report from Standing and Ad Hoc Committees

1. Continuum of Care Committee

The Continuum of Care Committee has not met. Cindy Kadavy, DHHS, reported on the history of the Continuum of Care and Ad Hoc Committees. Cindy has discovered that the Ad Hoc committee is not statutorily required, does not have bylaws, and could be dissolved or absorbed in to the Continuum of Care Committee. Erin Porterfield recommended that the Continuum of Care and the Ad Hoc Committees meet to discuss merging the Ad Hoc into Continuum of Care and advise the NCHH regarding the merger.

2. Education and Awareness Committee

DiAnn reported and the committee met July 5, 2012 at 8:30 a.m. via conference call. The Education and Awareness Committee met with Bob Doty, DED, to assist with the implementation of the Analysis of Impediments to the 2011 Fair Housing Choice action plan. Education and Awareness Committee plans on meeting with NEOC, High Plains Community Development Corporation, and Family Housing Advisory Services regarding fair housing testing and education. Discussion occurred regarding the Hunger and Homelessness Awareness week and possibly making changes to the packet, if the packet should be sent out this year, and to

whom it shall be sent. Melissa DeLaet and John Turner updated the commission regarding upcoming Project Homeless Connect event dates and locations.

3. Policy and Issues Committee

Thomas Judds reported that the Policy and Issues Committee met via conference call on August 3, 2012 at 9:30am. Thomas reported that he met with Bob Doty, DED, to discuss the Annual Action Plan (AAP). The AAP is now being drafted and public hearings will occur at the end of October or early November. Bob Doty sought input from the committee regarding raising the AMI limit to 100% for rental housing. The committee supported increasing the limit up to 120%. Bob also asked the committee if they agreed with the amount of \$75,000 budgeted towards the Making Homes Accessible Program. The committee agreed with the budget amount.

Thomas also indicated that the committee discussed updating the current work plan. Thomas mentioned having met and discussed with Senators Harms and Conrad's office regarding the importance of affordable housing. Thomas also met with Doug Ewald, State Tax Commissioner regarding the concerns of increased assessment values for rent restricted properties. Kathy Mesner recommended that the Committee/commission arrange a meeting with Cathy Lang, Director of DED.

Thomas Judds has stepped down as Chairperson of the Policy and Issues Committee and Brent Williams accepted the position effective immediately.

Motion: Thomas Judds moved that NCHH recommend that the income limit for Trust Fund rental housing projects be increased to 100% of AMI with a maximum limit of 120% of AMI. Brent Williams seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

Motion: Thomas Judds moved that NCHH go on record to agree with the recommendation from DED to allocate \$75,000 to the Making Homes Accessible Program. DiAnn Kolkman seconded the motion. Motion carried with a unanimous vote.

4. Ad Hoc Committee on Ending Chronic Homelessness

Did not meet. The commission spoke about the possibility of merging the Ad Hoc and Continuum of Care Committees.

VII. Reports from Agencies and Organizations

Nebraska Department of Economic Development – Bob Doty and Pat Compton reported.

Department of Health and Human Services—Cindy Kadavy reported.

Midwest Housing Equity Group—Thomas Judds reported.

Nebraska Chapter of Association of Housing and Redevelopment Officials—Nancy Bentley reported.

U.S. Department of Agriculture RD – Lois French reported.

Nebraska Investment Finance Authority—Thomas Judds reported.

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development—Earl Redrick reported.

VIII. Adjourn

Chairperson Kathy Mesner adjourned the meeting on August 6, 2012 at 3:41 p.m.