



HOUSING TASK FORCE Draft Meeting Minutes October 12, 2010

Present:

Bill Merry, Homestretch
Carol Brito, MSHDA
Carol Moorman, Foundation for Mental Health
Cheryl Naperala, GT Continuum of Care
Ilah Honson, Traverse City Housing Commission
Jim Carruthers, City of Traverse City
Kim Pontius, TAAR
Mary Ann Macy, CLMC
Pam Doty-Nation, Habitat for Humanity
Ron Crummel, Leelanau County Planning & Community Development
Shauna Fite, Michigan Land Use Institute
Virginia Coulter, Traverse City Housing Commission

Staff:

Sarah Lucas, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments
Matt McCauley, Northwest Michigan Council of Governments

A. Welcome and Introductions

B. Consideration of Agenda

The agenda was accepted as presented.

C. Consideration of August 10, 2010 Meeting Minutes

The minutes were accepted as presented.

D. Traverse City Housing Commission

Ilah Honson, Director of the Traverse City Housing Commission, provided an overview of Housing Commission programs and answered questions from Task Force members. The Housing Commission administers housing choice vouchers, project-based vouchers, and two rental housing developments, Riverview Terrace and Orchardview Townhomes that include a total of 135 rental units. 198 rental assistance vouchers are available for use within Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, Kalkaska, Leelanau, and Wexford Counties; up to 20% of vouchers may be assigned to specific rental units or projects. There are about 270 applicants on the waiting list; the list may reopen in spring of 2011. She explained that the Housing Commission is working through Rural Development towards a rehab of the Boadman Lake Apartments, which will provide an additional 112 rental units.

Virginia Coulter explained the Grand Traverse County programs administered through the Housing Commission, including the homebuyer purchase and repair program and rehabilitation program. She noted that the Housing Commission was awarded \$243,000 from MSHDA for a homebuyer purchase and repair program specific to the Neighborhood Enterprise Zone in Traverse City.

E. Grand Traverse Continuum of Care HUD Grant

Cheryl Naperala discussed the annual Continuum of Care grant application and review process. The HUD grant application for the Continuum of Care is due November 18th.

F. Grand Vision 3-Year Strategic initiative

Matt McCauley updated the group on Grand Vision implementation structure and the new strategic initiative that was developed by stakeholders and conveners (see attached). The intent of the initiative is to identify priorities and establish a collaborative leadership structure for the next three years. Priorities have been identified as education and communication, civic engagement, and resources. He noted that advocacy will not be an activity to be conducted under the auspices of the Grand Vision, though individuals and groups are encouraged to advocate their own views on policy and specific projects.

M. McCauley explained that the strategic initiative creates a structure for moving forward over the next three years, and clarifies roles of the various Grand Vision networks, including the Regional Networks/Working Groups; County Teams; Core Group; Core Support Team and Champions.

G. Updates

a. Housing Trust Fund

S. Lucas updated that the Grand Traverse County will be acting on a Housing Trust Fund proposal within the next month or so.

b. Advocacy/Civic Engagement

S. Lucas noted that NorthSky Nonprofit Network is planning an advocacy training this winter for nonprofits, with a speaker from the Michigan Nonprofit Association. They're also offering a grassroots advocacy training this week. She added that interviews are being scheduled for the housing video as discussed at previous meetings.

H. Roundtable Discussion and Announcements

C. Brito updated the group on the Michigan Hardest Hit Program that helps homeowners stay in their homes. The program includes an unemployment mortgage subsidy program, a loan rescue program and a principal curtailment program..

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.