

# A Home for Everyone (HFE) Coordinating Board

## Meeting Minutes – November 5, 2014

**Facilitated by: Co-Chairs, Marc Jolin & Alexa Mason**  
**Prepared by: Carrie Young; Reviewed by: Jurisdictional Staff Members**

**Members present:** Michael Anderson-Nathe, Raihana Ansary, Commissioner Jules Bailey, Ed Blackburn, Stacy Borke, Beth Burns, Shannon Callahan (Comm. Saltzman rep.), Mary Carroll (Chair Kafoury rep.), Susan Emmons, Rob Justus, Andrew McGough, Matt Morton, Michal Parkhurst, Art Rios Sr., Ian Slingerland, (Chair Widmark rep.), Nicole Stein, Cheryl Thompson, Derald Walker, Joe Walsh (Councilor Echols rep.), Marisa Zapata, Ph.D. **Staff:** Jennifer Chang, Ryan Deibert, Rachael Duke, Sally Erickson, Patrick Gihring, Liv Jenssen, Christine Lewis, Mary Li, Traci Manning, Shannon Singleton. **Guests:** Lynnae Berg, Tony Bernal, Doreen Binder, Michael Boyer, Anna Cale, Debbie Fox, Raphael Goodblatt, Shasta Leming, Susan Madar, Anna Plumb, Rachel Post, Samantha Ridderbusch, Bob Robison, Rob Smith, Mark Sturbois, Kate Whittson.

| Agenda Item  | Discussion Points   | Decision/Action   |
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| <p><b>Welcome, Introductions, and Review of Minutes</b><br/>           - Marc Jolin and Alexa Mason, Co-Chairs</p> | <p>Interim Co-Chairs welcomed everyone and introductions were made. Co-Chair Jolin noted that comment cards are available for members of the public who would like to share their comments with the board. The comment cards are to be submitted to the Co-Chairs or a jurisdictional staff member.</p> <p>Members reviewed the minutes. There were no changes. Since the meeting minutes are available and distributed prior to the meeting, Board members agreed that the minutes be a consent item in the future. Board members will review the minutes prior to the meeting and unless there are any questions or comments, they be automatically approved for future meetings. All members present agreed that there are no issues with getting access to minutes.</p>   | <p>Motion to approve meeting minutes from the October 8, 2014 Coordinating Board Meeting. All in favor.</p> <p>Board members agreed that future minutes will be a consent item.</p> |
| <p><b>Public Comment</b><br/>           - Alexa Mason, Co-Chair</p>  | <p>The Board greatly values hearing the input, perspectives and experiences from members of the public. At the same time, the board meets only once a month for two hours and has several specific items that need to be attended to, and may not have enough time to hear from everyone. In addition to the comment period set aside, there are several others ways for members of the community to participate. Community members can fill out a written comment card, talk to one of the jurisdictional staff members or reach out to one of the Co-Chairs before or after meetings.</p> <p>Raphael Goodblatt, Ah Ha Architecture, presented an affordable housing idea from Moe Farhoud, Stark Firs Management. The idea is to build one bedroom, one bathroom apartments, each with their own kitchens, from existing two bedroom units. However, there are some challenges regarding fees, codes and permits.</p> <p>No other comments.</p> |   |

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| <p><b>Commitment to Equity: Using an Equity Lens in Planning and Decision Making</b><br/>- Marc Jolin, Co-Chair</p> | <p>One of the principles of A Home for Everyone is a stated commitment to promoting racial and ethnic equity. The populations of people experiencing homelessness in the community are vastly diverse and have very different experiences and dissimilar levels of access and outcomes when it comes to housing. The Coordinating Board is committed to promoting and ensuring racially equitable access and outcomes in housing services. This includes using an equity lens, a set of questions, to inform and guide the Board’s planning, policies, programs and decisions. The equity lens will help the Board to align the intended goals and impacts with their decisions and actions. Board members were asked to review the Sample Equity Lens provided. The tools is</p> <p>A Home for Everyone emphasizes that housing and resources should be accessible to the most vulnerable people experiencing homelessness. Additionally, HUD requires all CoC communities to develop and implement a coordinated access system. Coordinated access is intended to provide several benefits to participants and our community, including; increased and quicker access to services for participants, simplified referral and assessment processes, and improved data collection and quality. In order to test out the equity lens tool, Co-Chair Jolin asked the Board members to break into groups of three and discuss the issue of implementing coordinated access using the equity lens.</p> <p>Co-Chair Jolin asked for the Board member’s feedback and comments on what they experienced while using the tool.</p> <p>Board members agreed that the equity lens is a good tool, and will help assess if the Board is taking in the perspectives of the diverse people and communities to be served, and whether the policies and programs are resulting in equitable or inequitable outcomes. It will also help shine light on where challenges and opportunities exist, so that the Board can make intentional steps to ensure more equitable outcomes. It was also mentioned that other community tools and resources could be used with together with this race and ethnic equity tool to also include other disparities in the community.</p> <p>If Board members have further questions or comments about the equity tool, members are encouraged to contact Jennifer Chang, Portland Housing Bureau or with the Co-chairs.</p> | <p>The Board will use the Race and Ethnic Equity Lens tool as the Board moves forward in discussions and decisions.</p> |
| <p><b>Safety off the Streets: Background and Community Perspectives</b><br/>- Marc Jolin, Co-Chair</p>              | <p><u>HFE Priority for Ensuring More Safety off the Streets:</u> While the community and the Board must be focused on long-term solutions to homelessness, the community must also respond to the immediate needs of the approximate 1,900 people that sleep outside each night. Their health, safety, and ability to work on ending their homelessness is improved if they have adequate basic</p>   | <p>*Circulate CCC and Bud Clark Commons studies (5\$ capture).</p>  |

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| <p>- Sally Erickson, Portland Housing Bureau<br/>- Lynnae Berg, Clean &amp; Safe/Portland Business Alliance</p>  | <p>needs met, including a safe place to sleep, food, bathroom facilities, transportation, etc.</p> <p><u>Existing Shelter Capacity and Cost Estimates:</u> Sally Erickson provided the Board with a Background on Emergency Shelter in Portland/Multnomah County 2006-2014 handout. Sally reviewed the handout with the Board that summarizes the availability of emergency shelter, the role that shelters play in the community, as well as different interventions and cost estimates to support those experiencing homelessness.</p> <p><u>Presentation from Future of Shelter Taskforce:</u> Lynnae Berg, presented to the Board some perspectives from the Future of Shelter Taskforce, whose stated purpose is to develop policy recommendations for offering immediate safety off the streets for those experiencing homelessness in the community. There is and will not, in the near future, be enough housing or resources to end homelessness in Multnomah County and there's also a very low vacancy rate for all types of housing. The taskforce believes that it's unacceptable to force a choice between safety off the streets and ending homelessness. The taskforce also concluded that until there are enough resources [housing] to end homelessness, Portland and Multnomah County must have a separate and comprehensive plan for safety off the streets for all in need. The Future of Shelter Taskforce had three recommendations. (1) Gather the cost estimates and feasibility for options to increase emergency housing options, starting with single women and families, and people with disabilities; including assessing current capacity, looking at gaps and analyzing costs of existing winter and year-round shelters. The taskforce has begun this work and is willing to assist. (2) Extend winter shelter into year-long shelter. (3) Revise City code (Chapter 33.285 – Short Term Housing and Mass Shelters) to facilitate the siting and, potentially, the size of emergency housing options.</p> <p><u>Board Discussion:</u> Co-Chair Jolin asked the Board for their comments and perspectives. Board members discussed the need for new money and the challenges that would arise if current money was redirected to shelter from rent assistance/subsidies or other services. Board members also spoke about needing more data to make the hard, but informed decisions. The Board agreed that the Future of Shelter Taskforce should work with the Safety off the Street Action Plan Workgroup. The Co-Chairs opened the floor for public comment. Doreen Binder raised concerns about missed affordability goals in the River District and Pearl District. The Co-Chairs agreed to consider addressing the topic at a future meeting of the Board</p> |  |
| <p><b>HFE Action Plan Workgroups</b><br/>- Alexa Mason, Co-Chair<br/>- Sally Erickson, Portland Housing Bureau<br/>- Ryan Deibert, Portland Housing Bureau</p> | <p><u>Review HFE Action Plan Charge, Workgroups, and Staffing:</u> Co-Chair Mason reminded the Board that last month, Chair Kafoury and the HFE Executive Committee charged the Coordinating Board to develop action plans in four priority areas: Housing, Health, Safety off the Streets, and Veterans. Additionally, several Board members voiced the importance of having a specific group to focus on Workforce and Economic Opportunity. In the next several months, the Board will break into smaller workgroups to conduct this work, inviting broader participation from community members outside</p>  | <p>Staff to work with the Data and Evaluation Committee to provide Action Plan Workgroups with</p> |

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|  | <p>of the board. The action plans will contain specific recommendations for the Executive Committee, including cost estimates, financing strategies, scalability and timeline for implementation.</p> <p><u>Update from the Veterans Workgroup/Operation 424 Update:</u> The Board was provided an update from Operation 424. Operation 424 was formed with the goal to house all of Portland’s chronically homeless disabled Veterans by the end of 2015. It is facilitated by Portland Housing Bureau staff, together with colleagues from the Portland VAMC, Home Forward, Multnomah County, Transition Projects, as well as advocates and nonprofits that serve Veterans. Sally Erickson shared that the group measured the need by using available data, worked with community partners, and with innovation has been able to exceed their initial goal of housing 100 chronically homeless disabled Veterans by November 10, 2014. Through the VA and locally-funded housing programs, 139 chronically homeless disabled Veterans in Portland moved into permanent housing between April 1, 2014 and September 30, 2014 or exited a Veterans’ program for permanent housing.</p> <p><u>HFE Data and Evaluation Committee Update:</u> Ryan Deibert provided a brief update about the Data and Evaluation Committee that the Board approved to charter two months ago. The group is comprised of 8-9 individuals within the community that are evaluation/analysis professionals. The initial primary focus of the committee is work on the need and gap analysis to inform the scope and scale of each of the Action Plan workgroups. An example of that would be the data needed for the Housing Workgroup, which has been asked to look at what are the housing needs among the people that are homeless now and what would it take to decrease that housing need by 50% over the next two years. The committee will try to assess, with the data available, how many people are homeless right now, who they are, how are they being served now and where are they not being served. The Data and Evaluation Committee is currently working to provide some data to have available for the HFE Action Plan Workgroups.</p> <p><u>Action Plan Workgroups Breakout:</u> Co-Chair Mason asked members to break into workgroups to cover some pre-planning items before the first HFE Action Plan meeting. Board members were asked to share their thoughts on the group focus/purpose, Chair/Co-chairs and role of staff, meetings schedule, and what background data/information is needed for first meeting.</p> | <p>data/information needed as discussed in the breakouts.</p> |
| <p><b>Closing Comments/Next Meeting</b><br/>- Marc Jolin and Alexa Mason</p> | <p>Co-Chairs will work with staff on proposals for the next meeting.<br/><b>The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 3, 2014, from 3:00-5:00pm.</b><br/>Meeting is adjourned.</p>   |   |