



Council on Housing Stability

Tuesday, June 22, 2021 from 2:30 PM – 4:00 PM

DHHS Auditorium, 129 Pleasant Street, Concord, NH 03301

MINUTES

Members present:

Eric Adams

Mayor Jim Bouley

Dean Christon

Richard Lavers (D)

Representative Tom Dolan

Christina Dotson

Nick Duffy

Anne Duncan Cooley

Katy Easterly Martey

Katja Fox

Sue Fulton

Senator James Gray

Mayor George Hansel

Kadyja Harris

Melissa Hatfield

Representative William Infantine

Erin Kelly

Ann Landry

Robert Mack

Elissa Margolin

Mayor Caroline McCarley (via Zoom)

Deputy Adjutant General Warren Perry

Maggie Pritchard

Robert Quinn

Joshua Reap

Dominique Rust

Chris Santaniello

Stephanie Savard

Deb Schachter (via Zoom)

Victoria Sheehan

Martha Stone

Alex Talcott

Andru Volinsky

11 members of the public attended

Welcome and review of June 9, 2021 minutes

- Joshua Reap motioned to accept minutes from the June 9, 2021 meeting
- Eric Adams seconded the motion
 - Vote unanimous – motion carried and minutes were accepted as written

Updates or Information for Discussion related to Housing and/or Homelessness in the State – Chris Santaniello

- Please spread the word that the mortgage relief program and mortgage forbearance program will be expiring soon, although there may be extensions of these programs. Unclear on the eviction moratorium, that is currently with the Supreme Court to review the final extension date of July 31, 2021.
- Developing a Homeownership Assistant Fund using grant money funded through the Governor's Office of Emergency Relief and Recovery (GOFERR)
- Through the New Hampshire Emergency Rental Assistance Program (NHERAP), assisted about 3000 households and continuing to accept applications (about 300 per week). There may be additional phases to this program.
- Senator Gray noted that the budget will be voted on next Thursday contains direct funding for assistance and housing, in addition, funding for people who are mentally ill, all needed by this program, please look at the budget and see if it meets your needs.

Presentation – Affordable Housing Incentive Program 2020 – Council Member Martha Stone

- See attached PowerPoint slides #5 – 14

New Hampshire Economic Recovery and Expansion Strategy- Taylor Caswell

- Tabled until next meeting

Year One Action Plan – Katy Easterly Martev and Workgroup Leads

- See attached PowerPoint slides #17 – 25
- Each Workgroup Lead gave a brief description of their one-year action plan goals

Plan Review and Approval – Chris Santaniello

- Draft plan was submitted to council members prior to the meeting to review
 - Various grammar corrections
 - The number of Emergency Housing Vouchers will be verified
 - SB126 is already heading to the Governor so suggest changing time goal from 2022 to 2021
 - American Rescue Plan resources, include discussion about allocating shelter operation plans
- Martha Stone motioned to accept the plan with the few minor edits discussed
- Dean Christon seconded the motion
 - Vote unanimous – motion carried and plan was accepted with minor changes
- Additional comments/discussion:
 - Representative William Infantine noted that as a Legislator it is difficult sometimes to pass items that may require what towns should do. Legislators do not want to infringe upon the city/towns. Suggest creating recommendations and incentives not directives
 - Mayor Jim Bouley would like to add that Counties are often a forgotten level. Suggest building better relationships between State/City/County governments.

Implementation – Katy Easterly Martev

- Expect final report to go to the Governor by June 30th. There will be a pause for the 4th of July holiday.
- Will continue to work through the summer to build informational kits for council members to distribute and ask each Council member to present to at least five (5) different groups over the summer months. Ex. Boards, Legislators, Rotary Clubs, Chambers etc.
 - Kit will include press release, final reports, and some informational slides.
 - 2 versions will be distributed, a public version and a version for the council members with talking points added to the slides)
 - Statewide distribution expected after press release.
 - Suggest adding presentation to the town websites, possibly a shortened version or a shortcut to the CHS website. Suggest create a video introduction that towns could use and get website metrics on how often it is being viewed.

- Will seek funding for consulting firm to continue to work with the council.
- Council members will be receiving an email summarizing next steps.

Public Comment – Chris Santaniello

- No public comments

Meeting Adjournment

- Rich Lavers motioned to adjourn the meeting
- Katy Easterly Martey seconded the motion
- Meeting adjourned