



**Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee  
MINUTES**

**REGULAR MEETING  
Wednesday, September 16, 2015**

**Board Members in Attendance:**

David Nash, <i>Chair</i>	Lance Edwards	Sabrahn n’hRaven
Brian Alexander	Dan Garret	Scott Rogers
Allison Bond	Jay Lively	Micheal Woods
Celeste Collins	Robin Merrell	

**Staff:**

Christiana Glenn Tugman  
Jonathon Jones

**Guests:**

April Burgess-Johnson	Sarah Lancaster	Mary Sczudlo
Sioux Free	Scott Parker	Amy Upham

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes from the 8/19/2015 meeting were approved on Brian Alexander’s motion and Celeste Collins’ second on an 11-0 vote.

**2. SUB-COMMITTEE UPDATES AND REVIEW**

- a. **Veteran Sub-Committee:** Allison Bond reported that the sub-committee would be working on adjustments to the Community Plan. There would be more discussion of the new Functional Zero definition at the next meeting later in the day.
- b. **Family and Homeless Youth Sub-Committee:** Christiana Glenn Tugman explained that things were still hectic with start of school, but that Youth Outright was interested in involvement.
- c. **Advocacy Sub-Committee:** Brian Alexander reported the sub-committee met earlier in the day to review the charter which was distributed. Sabrahn n’hRaven made a motion, with Brian Alexander’s second, to accept the charter as submitted with changes to reflect the original priority topics; affordable housing, transit, and economic improvement.

Micheal Woods stated that poverty should be addressed as an underlying issue of homelessness. Scott Rogers explained that Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministries would not be able to support advocacy efforts, but could assist with community education. April Burgess-Johnson suggested line 8 should change from “clients” to “people” as the HIAC has no clients.

The motion to accept the charter was approved on a 9-2 vote. Those members voting aye were: David Nash, Brian Alexander, Allison Bond, Celeste Collins, Lance Edwards, Dan Garret, Jay Lively, Robin Merrell and Sabrah n’hRaven. Those voting nay were: Scott Rogers and Micheal Woods.

- d. **Hard to House Sub-Committee:** Brian requested update on Oak Hill Commons due to possible delays. David Nash explained that project based voucher portion still needed approval before breaking ground, but that the tenant based voucher plans could continue.

## 5. PUBLIC TRANSIT ROUTE EXTENSION

David Nash reported that Mountain Housing Opportunities would be opening Villas at Fallen Spruce. Six to twelve units could be set aside for veterans. David contacted transit about extending the W-4 line that turns around at Land of Sky to the nearby Ingles. Scott Rogers made a motion, with Dan Garrett’s second, to make a recommendation at next month’s meeting in time for Transit Committee’s November meeting which passed on an 11-0 vote.

## 6. PLANNING RETREAT

Christiana Glenn Tugman updated the Committee on plans for a retreat on October 21<sup>st</sup> at the Edington Center from 11:00 – 3:00pm. The agenda would include an overview of the Strategic Plan process, Committee bylaws and CoC NOFA documents. The Strategic Plan would then become a 6-9 month process with a working draft for summer 2016. A facilitator would probably be involved at a later date. And workgroups could be formed to handle some of the process. The feedback from the Homeless Coalition regarding Strategic Plan priorities was distributed. Christiana would send out any additional information on the retreat process.

## 7. OTHER BUSINESS

**Committee Vacancies:** The Committee discussed the open seats available through the City and County. It was determined that most recent vacancy was likely a membership previous maintained by Smoky Mountain Center. There was general agreement that Sarah Lancaster would be a viable candidate from Smoky. April Burgess-Johnson requested that Helpmate would be considered for the next open seat. Christiana Glen Tugman would confirm the required application information with the City and County.

Micheal Woods stated that the HIAC bylaws requires officers. David Nash recommended that the next meeting would include votes for officers. Sabrah n’hRaven suggested a group of interested parties might review the bylaws. David Nash agreed that the bylaws could be reviewed, but that they would not be a significant part of the upcoming retreat.

## 8. AGENCY UPDATES

- a. Agency representatives announced a number of upcoming events.
- b. Scott Rogers announced the new partnership between Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministries and Western North Carolina Community Health Services that would increase primary healthcare services for homeless beginning Sept 1<sup>st</sup>. He also requested an update from the new Appalachian Mountain Community Health Center.

**9. NEXT MEETING**

Date: October 21, 2015

Time: 11:00am – 3:00pm

Location: Edington Center, 133 Livingston Street

**10. ADJOURN**

For more information on the Homeless Initiative Advisory Committee, please contact Christiana Glenn Tugman at [ctugman@ashevillenc.gov](mailto:ctugman@ashevillenc.gov).