

Housing Task Force
July 24, 2007 Minutes

Attending: M. Waite, P. Hernandez, M. Foehr, S. Gloe, P. Gibson, S. Jaramis, W. Smith, H. Corbett.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as written.

Pamm Gibson outlined the City of Boulder and Boulder County Housing departments and what services they provide. The Longmont Housing Authority includes Michael Reise as the Director and Kathy Fedler, CDBG and Affordable Housing Programs Coordinator. They do have Opportunity Funds available upon application and approval. See attached chart.

Longs Peak Energy has rehabilitation funds available upon approval of the application.

Mary summarized the CLC meeting and advised the group that the CLC was going to be responsible for the work on the Project Indicators and if anyone had comments for to please get them to Mary. There was a sigh of relief as the group felt they had a lot of work to accomplish.

Mary announced that each quadrant has \$2,000 available to them to fund projects. Discussion on possible areas the groups was interested included: Stipend for Elizabeth Borden from the Highland Group to come and spend time with us discussion the issues; Giving the money to Longs Peak Energy to be pooled with their rehabilitation funds; Hire a PR person to create stories on housing and the elderly to educate the public – Pamm stated that her department did do this for their anniversary and used Eleanor Oleans of GoBoulder; Create a “Dear Abby” type column for the newspapers around health, housing issues, resources. Would hire a Student at CU to write the column. Michele stated that Jonny St. Vrain already does this for the Longmont paper and offered to take this idea to the One Call Advisory Group; Use funds as a stipend to do lobbying on accessible housing – questioned whether this would be legal. This discussion will continue as we progress with our work.

Special Populations Needs: Everyone did a great job collecting information. Sara B. sent in information from mental health . Mental health has not program and is not planning any for elderly clients with brain injuries/disorders. The also do not and are not planning to meet the housing needs of current clients as they age. They do several group homes that serve mainly young adults with the goal of recovery and moving them into independent living. They did feel it was critical to tie supportive services/home health care to mental ill adults living independently or in group homes. It was felt that some of the agencies serving special needs populations were actively working on housing issues and the needs of the elderly, these included Imagine, CPWD and the Innbetween.

Future Work: Discussion was focused on what further information was needed and the priority of gather data on planning and zoning and code enforcement was set. It was determined that we need information in the following areas:

1. Height restrictions on how many stories a building can have. Because of current limitations, builders cannot apply the economies of scale and end up either building multiple buildings or spreading the building out. This impacts to apartment buildings.
2. Number of unrelated adults sharing a dwelling. Each town has a different number with Longmont being 5, Boulder being 3. Research is need for the other towns – **Lafayette – Shelia, Louisville- Selena, Superior – Helen, Zoning issues related to this – Phil. Boulder revised code – Pamm.**
3. Adult Personal Care Homes: Mary discussed that there use to be Adult “foster”homes, which were an excellent alternative to assisted living facilities. Homes were licensed, usually for no more the 2 or 3 adults. There is no category of licensure for this level of care today. Assisted Residence Living is licensed for 6 or more, the license cost \$5,000 plus the cost of a sprinkler system, approx. \$20,000, and the State pays a monthly reimbursement rate of \$975.00. Because of the reimbursement rate, all the Assisted Residential Living Homes are private pay only. Mary presented the issue at the State APS managers meeting and the Director at the State level agreed to carry the issue “up the ladder” to see if the Adult Personal Care Homes can be reinstated.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 21, 1:00 –3:00, Social Services 529 Coffman, Longmont, St. Vrain Conference room. Please review all the previous months minutes, issues that have been identified, and material we have reviewed as we will begin building the structure for the end of year report.