

WinnebagoLand Housing Coalition

December 7, 2016

Hooper Community Center Basement

36 Broad St

Oshkosh, WI 54901

Attendance: Kathy Thunes, Kay Hinton, Jordan Dvorak, Donn Lord, Jamie Kolpien, Mark Provencher Jr, Angela Kalsbeek, John Wiley and Amy Lang.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and carried to approve the November 2016 minutes with corrections under agency announcements as follows:

“ECWRP- ECWRP is working on an Oshkosh Comprehensive Plan which is on the City of Oshkosh Website. Neenah comprehensive plan is on the City of Neenah website. Please provide comments to Tom Baron at tbaron@ecwrpc.org for the city of Oshkosh’s plan and comments to Kathy Thunes at kthunes@ecwrpc.org for the city of Neenah’s plan.”

Special Presentations: Discussion of Evicted Part 3

1. **What challenges did Scott face while maintaining his sobriety? Do you think the process for Scott to get his nursing license back was reasonable? Why or why not? What relief did Scott receive after receiving subsidized housing and county-subsidized methadone treatment?** Scott faces a challenge to get sober and also to get a landlord to rent to him if he has eviction charge against him. Discussion on what would a landlord needs to give a person a break? A landlord would like to see a participant in a program and the agency vouching for this person. How do we help people before a crisis happens? Donn has a tenant who just got the 3rd OWI and he is concerned that he will lose a good tenant. Solutions Recovery will work with people on addiction but not on housing issues. Brainstorming: to give new tenants a Welcome packet with resources like 211 resource brochures. John is proposing to Appleton to take everyone engaged in POINT and have them spend one hour/week with each client. This would get people engaged in a program and would change things ie establish good relationships and get assistance. Maybe the community can make a difference in poverty and housing by at least 30%. Members agreed it is about the relationship between the tenant and the landlord that makes a difference. If you have a good relationship you can talk to your tenant and get them the help they need versus going through the eviction process. Donn showed members how to use CCAP to find how many evictions are in Winnebago County in November (53) and YTD (600).

Scott received county treatment to get on the right track and housing to afford rent. This helped him to maintain sobriety easier due to less stress/crisis. John Wiley got out of this book that people are decent. If all these people are good, why is society doing this? If we can give them the basis to help them, we could help most of the community. We also discussed how some people don’t fit in society and we have to look outside the box for them to succeed. Madison

and Racine are building small houses for those that can't live at a homeless shelter due to anxiety/stress of large crowds of people.

2. If you were unexpectedly evicted from your home, what would the fallout be? How would this impact your education, employment, and relationships? How might a sudden change like eviction affect your physical and mental well-being? Evictions would affect everything: physical health(no sleep, no eating, more sickness), Family relationships (family upset that you can't get it together, more stress leads to anger with your kids, family could disown you, may lose your kids), Basic Needs (may lose your belongings, no heat or water, not enough money for food), don't have an address to get mail which affects services, jeopardizes your job or school since in crisis. Mentally would affect your image of yourself, would not be thinking very clearly about other things that seems less important like kid's education, and could have a mental breakdown.

We discussed how the procedures for buying rental property affect the supply of rental properties in the area and the quality of them. To buy a rental property which is not owner occupied, you must have 30% down payment. Because of this huge investment, less rental properties are bought and therefore supply will continue to shrink in our area. In larger cities, landlords can buy cheap properties (\$5000) and rent out without repairs. These properties are substandard. Ultimately these properties then go to foreclosure and landlords make money with little investment. Donn suggested having tenants check potential landlords on ccap to see whether the landlords go to eviction easily or have multiple foreclosures.

Reports:

Shelter count numbers- For the Last Wednesday in November:

Father Carr's: 38 total people

Advocap Transitional: 9 people total (2 Families).

Day by Day: 23 people

Christine Ann Center: No report.

Case Managers Network- Next meeting is 12/14 at 9am Location: Salvation Army at 9am.

Bella Pregnancy Center will be presenting at the January Meeting.

Balance of State Update- No updates.

Point in Time: Next PIT is January 25th from 12 – 6am. Please contact Amy Lang if you would like to volunteer for the street count. January 26th from 9am to 11am Day by Day Warming Shelter will be hosting a PIT resource fair and breakfast. Anyone is welcome. Location: Most Blessed Sacrament Church Gym.

Agency Announcements:

Housing Authority- The December Family Self Sufficiency newsletter was handed out.

Cumberland Court's rehab of the first 3 buildings will be completed by early January 2017.

Rehab is ahead of schedule. Current and new tenants will move into these buildings which will allow for the next 5 buildings to be rehabbed. Housing Authority is interviewing for a new clerical position which will assist the scattered site manager and HCV program manager. A new

Pet supply and training business is going into the commercial space at Raulf Place. HA finished rehab of Menasha units and will now start on 40 Oshkosh scattered units. HA received a \$840,000 federal grant to rehab Waite Rug building. HA is interested in housing a 2nd shift daycare in the Waite Rug site.

Legal Action- Kristina Ebbott will be handling a new Elder Rights Project in the Oshkosh Office. Please call her at 233-6521 if you know of anyone needing their services.

ECWRP- No updates

We will not have a January meeting due to the holidays.

Adjourn: A motion made and carried to adjourn.

Next Meeting: Wednesday February 1st at 9 am at Hooper Community Center Basement.

Please contact Amy Lang at amyl@advocap.org if you are unable to attend. Please also submit future agenda items or ideas to Amy.

Mission – The Winnebagoland Housing Coalition will maximize resources to identify and address affordable housing needs in our community.

Kay Hinton

Winnebagoland Housing Coalition Secretary