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Disclaimer: These notes are not intended to represent direct quotes, things may not be in chronological order, and ideas may not always be accurately attributed. If you have corrections or comments, please email blabua@mainehousing.org to let Betty know and she will edit accordingly.

**Attending via GoToMeeting:** Scott Tibbitts (MaineHousing), Betty LaBua (MaineHousing), Norm Maze (Shalom House), Bill Higgins (Homeless Advocacy for All), Tara Hembree (MaineHousing), Janice Daku (RCAM Alice Preble (DHHS), Tracy Allan (KBH), Dave McClusKey (Shaw House), Jill Grazia (Shalom House), Joe McNally (Milestone), Jace Farris (Hub 8), Cullen Ryan (CHOM), Jessica Chow (Hub 4), Kate Easter (MCEDV), Elaine Grade (KCHC), Ginny Dill (DHHS), Mike Shaughnessy (MSHA), Rebecca Hobbs (TTD), Jennifer Weatherbee (Hub 7), Melanie Beaulieu (FVP), Rich Romero (OHI), Mary Wade (MSHA), Johnie Walker (PFP), Vickey Rand (CHOM), Jerri Botta (HOME Inc.), Kari Bradstreet (HJP), Julia Davidson (Caring Unlimited), Awa Conteh (City of Bangor), Dan Hodgkins (Preble Street), Donna Kelley (WCAP), Sara Wade (DHHS), Matt Jarrel (Hub2), Lauren Bustard (MSHA), Ann Martin (HUD), Wendy Leighton (BAHS), Katie Spencer White (MMHS), Alice Preble (DHHS), Victor Trepanier (FVP), Kobi Perry (WMCA), Sarah Derosier (CHCS), Aaron Geyer (COP), Kim McDonald, Katie Buckner (HUD), Rota Knott (Tedford), April Reed (MSHA), Kim McDonald, Noelle Coyne (Safe Voices), Hadley Freeman (Next Step), Emily Meade (Hub 5) and Sharon Jordan (WPHW)

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 and

Stephonie Gregg (YCSPI) and Kari Bradstreet (FVP).

[Reminder – If you call in, please email blabua@mainehousing.org to let us know you were there!]

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**Meeting Minutes: Maine CoC**

**Date: June 17, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**Location: Ring Central**

**Maine**

**Continuum of Care**

1. **Approval of Minutes and Moment of Silence**

Awa welcomed all to today’s meeting. MCOC Minutes from the May meeting were posted on the Maine Homeless Planning website. *Jerry Botta motioned to approve April’s minutes as written, Rich Romero seconded. No discussion. No one opposed. Passed unanimously.* A moment of silence to honor the passing of people experiencing homelessness was observed.

1. **Big Thinking Topics**
* **Review and Approve Revisions to the CoC Bylaws:** Norm gave an overview on the updated revisions to the Board Bylaws. The key changes mainly addressed required meeting attendance and membership parameters. All were in agreement to postpone the vote regarding approval of the revisions until after they have been posted on the Maine Homeless Planning Website. The vote will occur during the July meeting.
* **Open Discussion:** The need for increases in BIPOC involvement with the MCoC was brought forth as a topic of discussion. All in attendance agreed upon the importance of having representation from all populations including members of the refugee, asylum seekersand indigenous communities on the Board, committees and project review panels. It was asked for suggestions, thoughts on the topic and email contacts to be sent to Scott or the tri-chairs.
1. **Hub Updates:**

Tara started today’s update by mentioning all 9 Hub Coordinators have been hired. The Data Quality Cohort consisting of the 4 hubs (Hub 3, Hub 4, Hub 5, and Hub 8) who are not officially in the BfZ Collaborative met in Waterville in early June to work on a parallel track to achieving quality data for their hubs. The HCs are mapping out outreach capacity and identifying gaps in coverage as well as getting a handle on homeless services providers in their respective hubs with a lens on who currently enters data into HMIS. This all feeds into a data quality scorecard that Built for Zero uses to help establish and qualitative and quantitative marks for establishing a quality by name data set. The larger cohort of the 9 HCs meet biweekly for trainings and idea sharing. HCs also attend biweekly 1:1 coaching sessions. This month’s update ended by noting the State team also met and began work to establish realistic aims/goals for the next 6 months.

1. **Maine Statewide Homeless Services Coordination Meeting Updates:** There were no updates given during today’s meeting. This topic will remain a standing item on the agenda.

1. **Legislative Updates:**

**Federal:**  Cullen started today’s update by mentioning on 5/16 the White House released a comprehensive plan for combatting one of the major causes of inflation: the rising cost of rent and the severe shortage of homes affordable and available to America’s lowest-income and most marginalized households. The “Housing Supply Action Plan” includes a series of measures designed to increase the supply of housing over the next five years. Thank you letters have been sent to Senators Collins and King for their sponsorship of the LIHTC Financing Enabling Long-term Investment in Neighborhood Excellence (LIFELINE) Act which will allow state, local, territorial, and tribal governments to use Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (FRF) to make long-term loans to Housing Credit developments.

**State:** As of 5/9 the Legislature Adjourned Sine Die. On 5/10 Governor Mills and MaineHousing announced the launch of a $20 million program supported by the Governor’s Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan to tackle Maine’s housing shortage by expanding the availability of affordable rental housing across rural Maine. The Rural Affordable Rental Housing Program will provide funding to build smaller affordable rental housing units. The program is funded with $10 million from the Maine Jobs & Recovery Plan, the plan proposed by Governor Mills and approved by the Legislature to invest nearly $1 billion in American Rescue Plan Act to support Maine’s economic recovery from the pandemic. It is also funded with $10 million from MaineHousing using money the agency gained last year by refinancing existing bonds and purchasing new bonds at lower interest rates or from the agency’s Housing Opportunities for Maine (HOME) fund.

1. **SHC Updates:** In addition to working with Community Solutions on the System Redesign and tackling ongoing pandemic related problems, an overview of the updates on policy service changes pertaining to Sections 65 and 17 were presented to the Council by Brie Masselli**.** A time slot for Brie will be a standing item on future meeting agendas.
2. **COC Board Update:**

**General Updates**: The main topics being addressed by the Board are:

1. 100% of the people effected by hotel closures were offered housing options.
2. The low outflow with increased inflow into the shelter system remains high but is lower than last year.
3. With lease ups mainly occurring is LITC housing, how to engage open market landlords hesitant to lease vouchers holders remains as a topic under discussion.

Keeping in alignment with nationwide best practices, the Board voted to have YHDP programs remain in tier one for two NOFO cycles which will allow ample time for programs to obtain the needed data for scoring.

1. **Youth Action Board Update:**

There was not a Youth Action Board update this month.

1. **Standing Committee Updates:**

**Resource Committee:** Norm screen shared the PIT 2023 proposal for the committee to read and vote upon. There were no changes in methodology. The only changes were in setting the following dates:

* Night of the Count- Tuesday, January 24th, 2023
* Service-based portion of the count
* Wednesday, January 25th, 2023;
* Thursday, January 26th, 2023; and
* Friday, January 27th, 2023.

## ***Mike S put forth a motion to accept the 2023 PIT proposal. Jerry B. seconded. Through discussion it was noted an AP may be utilized during the 2023 PIT Count*.** *No one opposed. No one abstained. Passed unanimously.*

**Monitoring:** Mike mentioned the monitoring is proceeding according to schedule and should be completed by early summer and in time for the next NOFO. The committee will meet on June 22nd at 1:00 pm.

1. **New Agenda Items:** There were not any items suggested for next month’s agenda. All were asked to send Betty, Scott or any of the tri-chairs suggestions for July’s Continuum Meeting.

**Next MCOC meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2022 from 1:00-3:00 pm**