**Chatham Housing Coalition**

**Minutes**

**12-3-12**

**Present:** Nickie Siler, FVRC

Spencer Cook, Cardinal Innovations

Nora Esthimer, Empowerment and Chatham Affordable Housing Advisory Committee

Rosemarie Rovito, Chatham County Schools

Nikia Bland, Chatham County DSS

Clintess Barrett, Chatham County Housing Authority

Kathy Hodges, FVRC

**Welcome and Introduction**

We welcomed all of members.

**Approval of Minutes from last month’s meeting**

Minutes were approved.

**Chair/committee Nominations**

Faythe has asked to step down as Regional Chair for the committee. Nickie was elected chair of the regional committee. Nikia and Kathy will be the scribes, taking minutes

**NC Coalition on Homelessness Update**

Kathy has signed up for the project review committee.

Nikia has signed up for the scorecard committee.

Nickie is sitting in on the monthly meetings.

**New Business**

Nickie reported that she is ready to start taking referrals for the Rapid ReHousing program. She reviewed the guidelines and the process. Spencer referred Nickie to housing coordinators in Orange and Durham counties as possible support for getting our program up.

Nora reported that Empowerment has received funding for a housing counselor to serve Chatham County, with hiring projected for the first of the year.

Fundraiser Saturday, December 8, 7-11, at the Friday Center-- $35/person, food, dancing, silent auction.

Clintess reported that the Housing Authority has been working on purging their waiting list and pulling from that list for vouchers. They are still not taking applications.

Spencer reported that he would like to see someone from Cardinal Behavioral Health serve on the coalition.

Nora reported that the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee had been suspended in September due to the fact that they did not have a staff member to support it, they did not have a project to work on and they wanted the appointment times to not continue to count down. The Commissioners did agree to make housing a priority for the coming year. A core group from the committee has continued to meet and will continue to do it for the foreseeable future. They plan to approach the commissioners about filling the open staff position at the January meeting. They want to get the committee re-started.

Nickie announced that the Coalition for Family Peace’s 10th Annual Working Together to Families Safe Conference on Friday, December 7, 9-3 at Central Carolina Community College in Pittsboro. We need all registrations by the end of the day on Tuesday.

Nikia reported that DSS is taking applications for the energy assistance program. This year there has to be a 60+ year-old person in the home in order to be eligible.

**Next Meeting:** Nickie will send out a doodle.

**Adjourn**