**ROCKINGHAM COUNTY REGIONAL COMMITTEE BALANCE OF STATE CONTINUUM OF CARE**

**BOARD MINUTES FROM OCTOBER 10, 2013**

**(HELPING THE HOMELESS)**



**PRESENT:** Marlene Harrison, Randy Judkins, Faye Pierce, Ellery Blackstock, Dick Frohock, Sharon Neville

Ellery opened the meeting beginning with a word of prayer.

Dick Frohock made a motion to accept Sept 12, 2013 Board Meeting Minutes with noted revisions and Faye seconded this motion.

**DISCUSSION OF THE REGIONAL COMMITTEE’S PARTNERSHIP WITH THE COMMUNITY (PARALLEL APPROACH NEEDED):** Ellery stated that as a regional committee, we need to think of the parallel approach in working with the community. This would mean having or doing several different projects simultaneously. Ellery reports receiving a couple of phone calls after the Housing Subcommittee Meeting expressing a desire to support a shelter in the Reidsville area this winter. Dick Frohock, Housing Subcommittee Chair, reported that the first meeting was to organize, set a foundation and develop goals of the subcommittee. He added there is a process to making sure things are done right and wanted to make sure the subcommittee members understood things before going forward. Fourteen people attended the Housing subcommittee meeting. Dick, stated he advised the subcommittee that the regional committee has a 10 year plan and by-laws established which they would discuss at their next meeting and shelter development. Dick has asked the 14 participants to bring others who are interested in developing additional shelters in Rockingham County.

**DISCUSSION OF HOUSING COMMITTEE GOALS/OBJECTIVES/STRATEGIES:** Dick reports the identified goals of the Housing Subcommittee are: 1) To make the Housing Subcommittee more representative of the county as Western Rockingham people have not been present 2) Incorporate a Resource Center into the Homeless Shelter 3) Encourage churches to become more involved with Support Circles 4) Establish a Housing Coalition Dick also reports having the next Housing Meeting possibly at the Ag Bldg to make it more centrally located within the county. Faye suggested the Housing Committee members tour shelters in different areas to develop a better understanding on how to operate a shelter. Area churches are expressing interest in the shelters and are willing to contribute funds as well as volunteers for the project.

**DISCUSSION OF WINTER SHELTER IN REIDSVILLE:** Ellery has spoken with Melissa Galloway, Director of Home of Refugee Outreach Shelter and she is willing to assist with modeling a Homeless Winter Shelter in Reidsville like the one in Eden. The concerns would be finding a suitable building, get support from the municipality & community and coordinate supportive services. A lot would have to be done to get things up and running and is not easy. Dick reports that in meetings the need for a Resource Center has been mentioned several times and thinks this can be incorporated into a Homeless Shelter. Dick added that we have to make sure we have a good foundation to build upon because of lessons learned from past experiences with shelter ideas. Each subcommittee will need to stay focused, be active and not get side tracked from the 10 year plan. The Western part of the County, needs to be included in our efforts and have representation at the meetings, because they have the same homeless issues as the Eden and Reidsville areas.

**HOME OF REFUGE OUTREACH SHELTER IS OPENING IN EDEN DECEMBER 18, 2013**

**POINT IN TIME COUNT COMMITTEE WILL START PLANNING FOR NEXT YEAR’S POINT IN TIME COUNT:** Marlene reports she has started working on the PIT Count and there will be a meeting immediately following the Regional Committee meeting next Thursday.

**VETERAN’S STAND DOWN SUPPORT ON NOVEMBER 8, 2013:** Curtis Pierce is organizing this event and will occur at the Armory.

**MISCELLANEOUS:** Patricia Gilley will share a success story at the next Regional Meeting and 1 success story will be emailed to Sharon monthly to be distributed in the Minutes. Marlene reports just receiving word the ESG grant for $64, 135 has been awarded for Rockingham County.