

MINUTES
HOUSING WORK GROUP
February 15, 2017

Vision: All persons in Morgan, Berkeley and Jefferson Counties have safe, appropriate and affordable housing.

Mission: To foster availability of housing through education and advocacy.

In attendance: Christopher Baker(Landlords), Mark Baker (Landlord and City Council), Jason Baker (Landlord), Kristen Gingery & Christin Rice (Family Resource Network of the Panhandle), Glenda Helman, (CNI, Inc.), Ellie Johnson & Jason Mansfield (WV Coalition to End Homelessness), Heather Hoelscher (Legal Aid of WV), Susan Kershner Jennifer Painter & LaDonna Weller (Telamon), Sam McGovern (Martinsburg P.D.), Penny Porter (United Way), and Nan Stevens (Partnership for Affordable Housing)

Facilitator: Nan Stevens

Recorder: Kristen Gingery

ITEM	DISCUSSION	ACTION STEPS/WHEN/WHO
Welcome/Introductions	See attendance list above.	
Minutes	Minutes from January HWG: Please note the edits were made	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minutes were approved
Reports/Updates	<p>Point in Time Survey Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jason: There were 42 surveys handed out in Berkeley County, 14 or 16 in Jefferson County, and 3 in Morgan County (1 sheltered and 2 unsheltered) • Morgan County had a number of volunteers that backed out of the vocal commitment. • Glenda complemented Jason for completing a successful Point In Time survey count. <p>Community Veterans Engagement Board</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LaDonna reported the CVEB’s sub-committees are working towards selecting 3 goals for each committee. • The Housing Sub-Committee is working towards locating more services for registered sex offenders and more housing opportunities for veterans. • The CVEB is working on participating in a “May Fest” that will be open to civilians and veterans. • The CVEB is currently scheduling Town Hall meetings. • The CVEB’s Veteran Survey results were handed out to the group for review. • The next meeting is on 2/24 at 10:30 at Hospice of the Panhandle. <p>Work Plan Discussion</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nan asked the group to review the Mission Statement and Vision for the workgroup. She asked the members to review the statements to determine if they were still applicable. • Glenda stated she thought both the vision and the mission were still applicable. • Heather stated she would like to see the Mission changed to following: To foster availability of housing for everyone through education and advocacy. • Nan handed out a blank Work Plan chart and the group made suggestions. • Under Challenges the group added: affordability, jobs that pay a living wage, major restrictions for individuals with federal convictions, lack of subsidized units, lack of family emergency shelters and lack of funding for repairs, lack of voucher programs for families living with a disabled family member, issues with tenants following a lease, lack 	

	<p>of accountability, behavior, lack of credit, lack of interest from business developers and banks and lack of community concern.</p> <p>Martinsburg Housing Commissioner Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martinsburg Housing Authority: no report <p>Berkeley County Cold Weather Shelter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report <p>Housing Prioritization Report</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No report <p>Martinsburg Property Owner Ordinance</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • no update to report 	<p>Action item 1: Make the Housing Authority Commission Meetings a regular Agenda item</p> <p>Have at least one member from the Housing Work Group Attend the Housing Authority meetings each time</p>
<p>Community Awareness – Housing Work Group Member Organizations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cathy Dodson presented at the Landlord Workshop in Martinsburg. • There is an opportunity to assist in the development of the Martinsburg City Council Comprehensive Plan. • Mark Baker stated he is requesting community input for the Comprehensive Plan. • Sam encouraged members to follow the Martinsburg City Police Updates for community information. • Glenda reported she was pleased to see the turnout of individuals testifying for the Community Block Grant. • Nan stated the big draw is politics and legal issues... Do we want to promote something like this to encourage landlords to be more willing to accept clients? • We need to change the Mission Statement so that it will state: the needs to be providing subsidized units or services to assist these individuals. • There is an opportunity to put individuals into Tiny Home units for less than they are paying for rent. Habitat for Humanity will provide these homes in the city of Martinsburg. 	
<p>January Calendar Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Housing Prioritization Meetings • Successful Renters Program • Money Matters • Homebuyer Education and Credit Counseling Classes • Other Important Dates and Events in the Eastern Panhandle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Successful Renters Program – will be held at Bethany House on 2/13. • Money Matters – Classes are held the 2nd Monday of every month from 5:30-7:30 pm, at Telamon Corporation, and the 3rd Tuesday of every month at Catholic Charities. Classes held previously held at the Library will now be held at Telamon. – PRIOR REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED <p>Homebuyer Education and Credit Counseling Classes –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Telamon Corporation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HBE is held the first Saturday of the month, from 9:00 am-4:30 pm, at Telamon Corporation. Please call or email Jennie Shriner, at Telamon (304.263.0916 or jshriner@telamon.org) to register. The cost is \$25.00 per household. Classes are offered in both English and Spanish. ○ Partnership for Affordable Housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ HBE is held the third Saturday of the month, at the Partnership for Affordable 	

	<p>Housing. Call Rosa Eggleton (787.298.3722) to register. Cost is \$25.00 per household. Bi-lingual class is available.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Telamon Corporation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scheduling now for budget and credit counseling, foreclosure intervention, post-purchase counseling, rental counseling, homeless counseling, and banking basics. Call Jennie to schedule an appointment. ○ Partnership for Affordable Housing: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Scheduling now for budget and credit counseling. Please call Rosa to set up a time. Bi-lingual counseling is available. 	
Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Rumsey and Habitat for Humanity have completed their second tiny home. Proctor and Gamble has provided \$75,000.00 for the building of these units that will be sent to families in the southern West Virginian area that were affected by the flood. Three recipient families have already been identified and 1 unit has already been delivered. ● Habitat for Humanity is having trouble getting families approved for housing loans. The organization is exploring the option of building Tiny Homes at the cost of \$20,000-\$30,000. These units would be 30 by 30 and contain two 1 bedroom units (450sq. ft. each) and look like a bungalow. 	
Adjourn	The Next Housing Workgroup will be held on Wednesday, March 15, 2017 at 2:00pm , in the conference room at Telamon, 67 Aikens Center.	