**Randolph County Housing Coalition, Inc**

**March 14, 2014**

The meeting was held at 9:30 am at 108 W. Walker Ave. Donna McCormick called the meeting to order and introductions by everyone present were conducted. An attendance was passed around.

**Members Present:** Laura Chambers (Asheboro Family Counseling); Bob Lawler (Asheboro Housing Authority); Becky Buxton (Christians United Outreach Center); John Evans (City of Asheboro); Myra Gaddy (Community Representative); Wanda Pegg (Habitat for Humanity of Randolph County); Reesa Warren (Job Link); Jeanine Moran (Joy A. Shabazz Center); Jeigh Adams (Latino Coalition); Joy Ratcliff (Randolph County DSS); Sarah Hancock (Randolph County Family Crisis Center); Tamika Williams (Salisbury VA Medical Center); Donna McCormick; (Sandhills Center LME) and Brenda Goss (Therapeutic Alternatives).

**Excused Absences:** Mary Pat Buie & Phil Hewett (Sandhills Center LME) & Pura Lopez, (Family Services of the Piedmont);

**Unexcused Absences:**  Carmen Liberatore (East Side Homes); Audrey Trogdon & Bennie Jernigan (Goodwill-Asheboro) Gerri Brower, (Randolph County Senior Adult Assn.); Teresa Shackleford, (Randolph Family Health Care @ MERCE); Debbie Tolar, (Salvation Army); Jeff Looney & Angie Looney, (Asheboro Shelter of Hope); Steve Saunders, (Simple Our Savior) and Stephanie Pitts, (Building Futures).

**Minutes:**

In the absence of Debbie Cole, Bob Lawler agreed to take the meeting’s minutes.

Laura Chambers noted she had been marked as absence at the January 10, 2014 meeting but she had been present. On a motion by John Evans seconded Myra Gaddy the minutes of the January 10, 2014 meeting were unanimously adopted as amended.

**Old Business:**

***Senior Adult Center:*** The opening of the new center would be moved back due to recent bad weather causing a delay in construction.

**New Business:**

***Treasurer Report:*** Sarah Hancock reported there was $442.41 in the Coalition’s account.

***Presentation/Speaker:***

John Evans introduced Mr. Everett Stiles with the NC Foreclosure Prevention Fund of the North Carolina Housing Finance Agency. Mr. Stiles explained the Fund helps NC homeowners who are struggling to make their mortgage payments due to loss or temporary financial hardship, such as divorce, illness or death of a spouse. The Fund also assists returning veterans who are transiting to civilian jobs. For qualified homeowners, the Fund can provide an interest-free loan up to $36,000 to pay your mortgage and other related expenses for up to 36 months while you search or retrain for employment. In addition, if the homeowner is employed but has a second mortgage that is unaffordable because of a prior job loss, or reduced income, the Fund offers an interest-free loan up to $30,000 to pay off the second mortgage. Mr. Stiles said approximately 265 families in Randolph County have participated in the program and that it is important to make your application early in the foreclosure process. He also provided printed program material for the members.

***Unmet Issues:***

There were no unmet issues discussed.

**Other Issues/Concerns:**

***Public Awareness & Membership, (John Evans, Chair):*** John reported he had contacted several members who have missed meetings to increase participation and attendance. John will work with Sarah Hancock to update the membership list and follow up to encourage participation.

***Program Services & Goals (Brenda Goss, Chair):*** No report. Brenda asked if a new chair could be appointed. She agreed to remain on the committee but a new Chair is needed. The objective of the committee is to receive funding to hire a housing specialist to work for the Coalition.

***BOS-COC, (Debbie Cole, Chair):*** No report due to Debbie Cole’s absences.

***Housing Inventory Committee, (Jeigh Adams, Chair):*** It is time to update the Alternative Housing Inventory and Jeigh asked for volunteers. Several volunteered including Jeanine Moran (Joy A. Shabazz Center), Becky Buxton (Christians United Outreach Center) and Donna McCormick, (Sandhills Center LME).

***Home Repair/Neighbor Helping Neighbor, (Wanda Pegg, Chair):*** Neighbor Helping Neighbor program is going through restructuring and Habitat for Humanity has applied to the state for a $64,000 grant for critical home repairs.

***Hospitality Committee, (John Trotter & Debbie Tolar, Co-Chairs):*** John Evans said he had contacted Mr. Trotter about the committee but there was no report.

**Round Robin**

Sarah: Does anyone know of a resource for under garments for ladies. Some of clients need new clothing and these are items that are difficult to obtain. It was suggested they get in touch with the Girl Scout Council and/or local manufacturing companies for donation. Ralph Lauren’s public affairs office was suggested.

Reesa: Joblink is partnering with Goodwill to hold a Job Fair on 4/10/14 at the Church of God; RCC is having a Veterans Fair on 4/10/14 at RCC

Brenda: The Director of Crisis Services had changed to Shelia Williams and the number remains the same (877) 626-1772.

Tamika: The VA is planning several “Stand Downs” for Homeless Veterans. A Stand Down is a way to open services to homeless veterans including: legal services, medical & dental, and personal hygiene (haircuts, showers, clothing, etc.). These will be held in Winston-Salem, Greensboro, Randolph County, Hickory, Charlotte & Salisbury.

Bob: Working with RCC to hold a Certification course to certify workmen in the use of Freon in HVAC related occupations.

Brenda: Rapid Re-Housing grant was not renewed and Project Independence will be starting soon.

Wanda: University of Georgia students are in town working on building houses. This has been very successful and another college challenge will be starting soon.

Joy: Problems still persist with the State’s electronic program delivery system.

**Next meeting: April 11, 2014 at 9:30 am at the regular location Daymark, 110 Walker Ave. on second floor.**

Respectively submitted by: Bob Lawler.