**Wilson Greene Regional Housing Committee Minutes**

**Hope Station**

**309 Goldsboro St. East, Wilson**

**February 20, 2018**

See attendance sheet for those attending: partial list below

Tim Rogers, Amy High, Rev Marty Stebbins, Elizabeth Farnsworth, Tamey Knight Amy High, Tony Connor, Mary Mallory, Bettie Applewhite, Linda Walling, Shana Baum, Judith Melly, Brittney Holmes, and Lynne White (by telephone) etc.

Rev Marty Stebbins is taking minutes as Candice is out today.

Tim Rogers is chairing today’s meeting.

Minutes from January’s meeting were accepted as presented Linda Walling motioned and Elizabeth Farnsworth seconded.

**Reentry Council**:

Dr. Bettie Applewhite gave a presentation on the work of the Reentry Council ([www.ncreentry.org](http://www.ncreentry.org)) with those in the process of being released from prison. This is part of the N.C. Community Action Association. The biggest challenges include the lack of community/family support. They are limited in literacy, housing (especially for women) and transportation. If they are not successful in obtaining stable housing within 90 days, they are likely to re-offend. Discussion followed. Please add Dr. Bettie Applewhite to our distribution list bapplewhite001@nc.rr.com. OIC also work with 18-24 year old offenders.

**Balance of State**:

Our representative, LaTasha is absent today. There is new information that LaTasha distributed through an e-mail. The next educational webinar from Balance of State is on February 25th for Coordinated Assessment. The Balance of State has not allowed ESG monies for Coordinated assessment.

There are open slots for shelter+care through Eastpointe still.

U Care is holding quality referrals training for domestic violence and sexual assault on Wednesday, March 7th from 10am-3pm at Sampson Community College’s Occupational Building. The training is focused for health care and social service providers, advocates and community partners. A flyer was handed out.

**ESG**

All of Hope Station’s ESG has been reimbursed for all of 2017. Additional monies are available for ESG work. In the same categories that were already awarded for 2018 (no new categories). See attachment from Hope Station. The justification for the added monies was presented. Rev. Linda Walling proposed that Hope Station request an additional $51,972 in the areas of HMIS, Rapid Rehousing Services and Financial Assistance and Shelter Operations. Mary Mallory moved to approve this and Elizabeth Farnsworth seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

There was a discussion about the latest webinar about Coordinated Assessment.

**Wilson Housing**

They have over 400 people on the waiting list who have a verification of Homeless Admission Preference. There was discussion on the HUD guidelines and the likelihood of WHA getting the latest grant. The new verification form which is used for referral was distributed and is to be used starting today. WHA will not be able to do much internal case management support and will continue to depend on referring agencies who can do that or can verify that there will be case management from another agency so that the residents will be successful. The larger list that is for the whole community is not open for wait-listing. There was a discussion about how the VI-SPDAT (Vulnerability Index-Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool) will change the number of the 400 who have not yet been scored on their vulnerability. There was also a discussion from agencies which have worked on referrals but do not have the capacity for continuing case management.

Crisis Intervention Program and a list of shelters

**Veterans:**  They have limited funds for homeless prevention. They do have funds for rapid re-housing. WHA is awaiting to hear whether they will be getting VASH vouchers from the VA.

**Point-In-Time Count**

We do not have a final count to share as yet. The unsheltered count was up. Hope Station numbers were up. St. John’s did not report this year. Wesley Shelter numbers were down, possibly due to people getting tax refunds (creates a honeymoon period). The unsheltered needed food this year.

**Community Updates:**

**Wesley Shelter** March 20th will be a human trafficking workshop at the Surge. Wesley Shelter and Eastpointe will be hosting. There is a fundraiser on Thursday. Ground has been broken on housing improvements.

**Wilson County Schools** Looking at low 90s children at the moment. Have lost their secretary who tracks the children and numbers. Social worker with the school helps create fundraisers to help pay for two nights in a hotel in a crisis situation.

**Habitat for Humanity:** March 18th is next home dedication at 3:30pm. The Habitat roast is scheduled next month. SECU is doing the financing for one house per NC county. Board approved a new home repair program; funding for the program is planned. In the process of approving the next family.

**St. Timothy’s Episcopal Church** is the ongoing host for Resolve It Together.

**Veterans** no further updates from above.

**Wilson DSS** Crisis intervention funds are running low due to unusually cold weather. [Wilson Energy has $250 per customer that can help those who had a spike in their bills. Discussion about Wilson Energy, Salvation Army, Hope Station and DSS coordinating together to work with those who need help with the bills from the cold snap.]

**Hope Station**

There was a handout of the latest shelter numbers and the rough schematic for the new family shelter.