

NHLWAA

Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom

10/21/21

Minutes

Board members in attendance: Dana Brien, Todd Marsh, BJ Parker, Charlene Michaud, Bob Mack, Pat Murphy and Natalie Darcy.

Minutes submitted by Natalie Darcy.

1. Call to order, 9:34 a.m.
2. A. Minutes of 5/20/21 reviewed. Bottom of page 1, Nomination Committee notes should be changed to “vacant positions that *could* be filled.” Todd motioned to accept the minutes with edit from Pat. Motion approved.
B. Minutes of 9/16/21 reviewed. Motion to approve from Pat with a 2nd from Denise. Minutes approved.
3. **Treasurer’s Report:** Charlene, the new treasurer stated that she has a new format to take effect this day forward. Charlene stated that the balances were different, she went through all the finances. Cornerstone continues to make the deposits. July reports did not reflect deposits made. When deposits in the amount of \$200.00 were added, the accounts balanced out. Charlene has set up online banking as well. Bob stated that he appreciated Charlene’s efforts. Todd thanked Charlene for her due diligence and attention to detail.
A. Reviewed edited version of treasurer’s report from 5/20/21. Dana motioned to accept, Karen 2nd the motion. Motion approved.
B. Reviewed edited treasurer’s report from 9/16/21. Dana motioned to accept, Natalie 2nd the motion. Motion approved.
4. **Executive board:**
 - A. Todd and Bob continue to attend the housing action meetings.
 - B. Governor’s Council – Housing & Homeless Workshops – Bob and Todd attended. Last meeting went well. Bob & Todd were able to direct the group in a different direction, with clarity of the role of local welfare. The council moved away from a revamp of local welfare. Todd stated that it is important to continue to clarify the role of local welfare.
 - C. November Conference – New Hampshire Housing Finance Authority
 - D. Keep education going and talk about improvements. Want more welfare officials to be a part of the process. Training Committee possibly. No specific dates of completion of the project.

E. **Statewide Veteran's SSVF Program** – Pat gave an approximate date of November 1st for the program to start. This will include at 35% rent subsidy for 2 years and is just for veterans. Veteran's must be homeless or at risk for homelessness. The criteria, which is 11/6/21 is not set in stone, as follows:

- a. Must be 55 years of age or older.
- b. Must not be eligible for other subsidy programs.
- c. Must not have a dishonorable discharge.
- d. Can be eligible with even 1 day of active service.
- e. Can call (603) 305-1122 for more information.

Question if committee would consider sending the criteria out to membership. It is a 2 year focus, once on the top of the list, they would move to subsidized Section 8 Voucher. Pat's impression is that this is a "fill in the GAP" measure. Easter Seals handles SSVF currently Dana will call to define more before sending this out to the membership.

F. **Homeowners COVID Relief Program** – Pat stated that many homeowners have called. Pat spoke to NHHFA Mary Ann Boisine, project manager with the Homeowners Assistance Fund. Mary Ann stated that the program is held up in the US Treasury plan. It is hoped that it will be ready in mid-end of November. There is a lot of money – info 2022. This program will be able to fund utilities, mortgage and property tax assistance, and includes mortgage arrearages. Pat stated that if you own a mobile home, you can apply for the Rental Assistance program because they pay park rent. This information should be sent out to the membership.

G. **New Hampshire Center for Non-Profits** – Our membership lapsed. Pat did not receive an email. The contact for this organization needs to be changed to Todd's email address if the committee decides to renew the membership. Cost of renewal was \$92.00 last year. This organization assisted with preparing the bi-laws. Denise stated that there is a variety of information on board activity. It provides information on how to have a well-functioning board and a way to gather new ideas. This is a resource for membership committee. Pat called a motion to renew for another year with updates to Todd's email address. Denise will stay on the email and will re-evaluate next year if the fee is under \$120.00. Denise 2nd the motion.

5. **Committee Reports**

A. Legislative Affairs Committee – Nothing to report.

B. Training Committee – Dana discussed the November conference. Approved for "Welfare 202". We will plan to continue with a Welfare 202 workshop. November's Welfare 202 topics will include: Maintaining Relationships, Welfare Department's income and reimbursements, tax returns, work programs (Pat will discuss Workfare), safety and prevention, de-escalation protocols, Ryan Dowd homeless training, dealing with

Selectman (confidentiality), budget season, no such thing as running out of money and a Q&A session.

- C. BJ thought of “**Green Cards**” as a topic for Welfare 202. Pat stated that she does not ask about citizenship. Clients can show Green Cards. Pat also stated that a person could lose their green card status if they are receiving benefits. Once a child is born, the entire family has legal rights to benefits. It is thought that we could spend an entire class discussing this topic. Should look for legal advice when addressing this topic for training. Will not discuss in this year’s Welfare 202.
- D. Todd stated that **APTD should be reviewed** in what a welfare director can but shouldn’t do, and reasons why.
- E. Charlene reported that because of the **Ryan Dowd** training, 10 people signed up following the workshop.
- F. **Nomination Committee** – The committee met on October 7 & 14th and has more information for possible recommendations.
 - a. **Murial from Pembroke**: She will be retiring after the holidays at 75 years old. She is not interested in a nomination. She served as hospitality for 20 years. Pat motioned that the committee should send a card and a gift recognizing her 20+ years of service. Gift should not exceed \$110.00.
 - b. **Kathy Raymond, Laconia**. Kathy became a member last year 2021. She is a member for 2022 and is listed as City of Laconia Welfare Technician. FY 18/19 the town had 3 people in membership and Kathy was not one of them.
 - c. Recommendation from Pat that we wait until next year to make new recommendations for board members. No new nominations brought forward for this year.
- G. There will be no board meeting on the day of the conference, 11/28/21. Meeting moved to January 20, 2022 from 9:30 – 11:00 a.m. Pat motioned to hold the Virtual Annual Meeting to be held February 17, 2022 in conjunction with the board meeting. Natalie 2nd the motion. Pat requested that we let the membership know that we are moving the meetings.

6. Other

- A. **Homeless Encampments** – Todd reports that they are working on the homeless encampments as a region. There are 50-60 people living in the woods and in cars. It has created a bio mess. The homeless individuals are on private property and the owners want them gone. Rochester and Dover are taking responsibility with Sommersworth on the issue. Where will the homeless go?
- B. **September Conference** consideration brought up by Pat. Training Committee should be thinking about this and for the General Session in February.
- C. **Motion to Adjourn** by Pat at 11:07 a.m. Motion 2nd by Dana.

