

***S3 Housing Connect Meeting Notes***  
**December 12, 2018**  
**Lee County Government Center, Gordon Wicker Room**

**Attendees:** Kendra Martin, Bob Hughes, John Kirkman, Marcia Johnson, Hamer Carter, Charles Taylor, Terry Allebaugh, Dick Poletti, Tamara Brogan, Rachel Picard, Brad Simon, Lesa Price, Gabby Murillo, Laura Spivey, Tami Carter, Cindy Hall, Pam Glover, Beth Kelly, Chris Kelley, Max Dolan, Adrienne Mullinax, Holly Marosites, Hal Hegwer and Karen Kennedy

**Welcome, Introductions, Mission Statement- Jeffrey Rawlings, Chair**

**Cow Patty Bingo Event Summary- Rachel Picard and Karen Kennedy**

Rachel P. said Cow Patty Bingo was a great event with roughly 25 people in attendance. The event raised over \$5,000. Our own Sherry Shudra won the \$500 prize. Karen K. recommended that proceeds be split between Outreach Mission, HAVEN, Family Promise and Bread of Life. Jeffrey R. made a motion, Tami C. seconded and the motion passed unanimously. The City of Sanford will prepare the checks as soon as the funds have been allocated to the *S3 Housing Connect* account.

**Point In Time Count 2019- Cindy Hall**

Cindy H. informed the group about the annual Point in Time Count to be held on January 30th. We will have hand warmers and other donated items to give out, but we need to collect more items such as backpacks. Tamara B. and Jeffrey R. will assist with operations at First Baptist Church on the night of the count. There will be two shifts for volunteers- one will start at dusk and one will be a late night shift. Also, there is an app for data entry on phones or tablets that must be utilized during the outreach.

**Non-profit Internship Program- Gabby Murillo**

Gabby M. presented a PowerPoint about a program to incorporate local high school students into *S3 Housing Connect* and assist local non-profits. The idea is to partner local students with local nonprofits to assist with social media. Kendra Martin asked if a contract would be created to keep the students accountable. Gabby M. said yes, and she believes the schools might already have a draft of a contract. Tamara B. said this would be a great way to increase involvement from young people, and it would be beneficial to both the students and nonprofits. There were many more positive comments from S3 members about the idea.

### **Comments from Public Officials- Mayor Mann, Councilman Charles Taylor and Councilman Byron Buckels**

Mayor Mann said that a lot has been done with this initiative since he and the councilmen first had the idea. However, some momentum has been lost. Our first initiative was the Bread of Life low barrier extreme weather shelter and we accomplished it quickly. We need to continue with that mindset, and we need to get previous members back or find new people to take their place. The Mayor continued by saying a new light has arisen and its Outreach Mission, Inc. currently, over 87% of residents there have found a job. We've achieved emergency shelter, and low barrier shelter but now we need expanded transitional shelter and a day shelter. Before Mayor Mann leaves office he wants *S3 Housing Connect* to achieve all of this. Charles Taylor said the diversity in S3 impresses him. Everyone checked their personal interests at the door. He ended by saying "if you can adapt to challenge you will be successful." Byron Buckels echoed that he is very impressed by the group and how everyone has risen to the challenge. He led a tug-of-war activity and handed out keys to the city to all S3 members. To end, the mayor reminded everyone that we need to recruit driven new members. This portion of the meeting was very motivating and inspiring!

### **Landlord Engagement Meet and Greet- Tami Carter**

Tami C. stated that at the Landlord Engagement Meet and Greet held on December 6 at the Enrichment Center there were at least 10 new people who had never heard of *S3 Housing Connect* but were very interested in becoming a part of it. There were also new people interested in becoming landlords. Jeffrey, Kendra, Cindy, Karen, David Nestor, and others spoke at the event. The Service Provision committee was very excited that they were able to achieve the event before the end of the year. Tami then gave updates on 211 upgrades, and said that it seems the partnership will start in late spring. There have been many conference calls and conversations about what it will look like.

Kendra added that United Way funding applications begin in early January, and any human service organization are eligible to apply for funding. However, funding is not guaranteed. Applications are reviewed by the United Way Board to determine awards.

### **Recognition of Terry and Rachel- Karen Kennedy, Jeffrey Rawlings and Others**

Karen K. began by stating her mixed emotions with Terry and Rachel leaving us at the same time. She feels certain this initiative wouldn't be where it is at without them leading and assisting the task force! Other members of S3 shared stories and memories from working with Terry and Rachel. All agreed their participation has been valuable and they will be missed!

Karen K. also asked members for a volunteer to assist with note taking for future S3 meetings.

### **Parting Comment Remarks from Rachel and Terry**

Rachel P. thanked everyone for the opportunity to intern with the City of Sanford and S3 Housing Connect. She explained that this experience has been life changing, and has led her to a career path that will allow her to continue working with homelessness. She has enjoyed working with everyone, and is excited to see what S3 accomplishes in the future.

Terry gave a three-part presentation. The first part was about the definition of change, and how different traditions and people have different definitions of what change is. Secondly, Terry said Sanford has been changing the way everyone looks at homelessness. This initiative has made us question things, such as if people choose to be homeless, what resources and help can we offer the homeless, what the role of government is in this situation, and how we can move from cooperating to collaborating on the issue. Lastly, Terry discussed sustaining change. There are a few ways to do this. First, we need to incorporate views from those experiencing homelessness. We could do this through a Champions for Change workshop recognizing formerly homeless persons who have succeeded in finding a home and improving their circumstances. We also need to have a vision and continue raising funds to assist that vision. We need to remember capacity for our services.

Lastly, we need to remember Terry's four C's:

Combative, Cooperating, Coordinating and Collaborating. We are combative in fighting homelessness, but not with each other. We are cooperating because we have different philosophies, but are working together to reach a goal. We are coordinating by scheduling and timing events based on each other's schedules and developing programs together. Lastly, we are collaborating in everything we do as a team. Collaboration is just like trust, and grows over time.

To end the presentation, Terry played Christmas Carols on his harmonica.

With no further business the meeting was adjourned and everyone enjoyed cupcakes in celebration of Terry and Rachel.