



S3 Housing Connect Meeting Notes

November 12, 2020

Attendance: Kendra Martin, John Kirkman, Bill Carver, Hamer Carter, Betsy Jungkind, Tamara Brogan, Kym Smith, Marcia Johnson, Ruth Price, Paul Tate, Pat Hawes, Holly Marosites, Lesa Price, Cindy Hall, Heather Garrity, John Campbell, Johnnye Waller, Karin Duggan, Kerry Bashaw, Sofia Monge, Pamela Glover, Tami Carter, Dianna Andrews, Holly Hight, John Paschal, Denise Godley

Staff: Karen Kennedy, Stan Holt, Rachel Picard

- I. Welcome, Mission Statement**, Tamara Brogan, Chair
- II. Discussion about Veteran's Panel Recording**, Ruth Price

The veteran's panel session was enlightening. Veterans have a range of specific needs, which include things such as mental health assistance, pets, and military documentation. The veteran's panel discussion was comprised of Max Dolan, Tonia Burgess, and Marvin Tawney, along with Stan guiding the discussion and Rachel, Ruth and Cindy listening and asking questions. Rachel is looking into a website plugin so we can monitor how many views each of our videos get on the S3 website.

- III. Review of Fall Training and Next Steps**, Stan Holt

So far, the training sessions have focused on building capacity and strengthening boards. Each organization should contact Stan if they want a private training session. Stan has decided to offer a third session specifically focused on board development. Everyone thanked Stan and the City of Sanford for the training opportunities.

- IV. Palomino & Prince Motel Outreach Events**, Cindy Hall

H3 hosted an outreach event at the Palomino with free COVID-19 testing, medical care and flu shots. Representatives from the Salvation Army were in attendance, along with Max Dolan and Wayne Chew. Roughly 35 people came to the event. Because of the success of the event, we can now book a week stay at the Palomino for clients for \$226. The event at the Prince was postponed to Wednesday due to storms. This event will be the same format, and any agency is welcome to come! Cindy hopes that their next location will be the Sanford Inn, and they will then rotate locations.

- V. Civil Affairs Partnership Exercise**, Karen Kennedy

Last week, two men from the Civil Affairs battalion in the Army visited. They wanted to learn about S3 and homelessness because they are deploying, and want to take what they learned here and use it on their deployment. They were most impressed by the coordinated efforts within S3. We're hoping they provide a summary or feedback regarding their stay. During their visit, Karen and Rachel took them on a walking tour of Downtown Sanford to show the routes that those experiencing homelessness walk daily. Stan suggested that we condense the downtown walking tour and offer it as an educational walking tour for the community. Everyone agreed that that is a great idea! Stan said that local service providers could be stationed at their nonprofits, and could meet and greet the community. A table with literature could be set up outside of each agency. Kendra added that the walking could be important because it would show how hard it is for clients to access services. Tami suggested that we call it "Walk for Homelessness", and it could be an awareness campaign. Kendra recommended targeted tours for

different groups. The tours should be kept to an hour and a half, max. Community Engagement committee will begin to work on this project.

VI. Committee Reports:

1. Community Outreach and Engagement, Cindy Hall- This committee discussed the veteran's panel and other panel opportunities. They would like to continue to put educational videos online. This committee also plans to reach out to candidates who won the recent local election and congratulate them. H3 and other service providers recently visited the Palomino and Prince hotels to give out flu shots, COVID tests, and resources. Lastly, this committee discussed how the S3 network has been so beneficial during COVID. The PIT Count is the last Wednesday in January; Next month will begin the big push for donations.

2. Services, Tami Carter- S3 has accomplished so much in a short period of time. There were several new people at the last Services meeting. Their primary focus has recently been helping Marilyn Gilliam from Sandhills Center on creating a brochure with crisis intervention telephone numbers for first responders. Jeff let us know that money has come through to help more people with housing and hotels/motels through JLHCA.

HOPE Program Update (rental and utility assistance as a result of COVID. This is not mortgage assistance.)- There have been more than 37,000 applications. All of the money that was allocated is needed to fulfill applications that are already in process. 211 will continue to serve as the call center for this program. Intake is closed. JLHCA is the agency in this area that is processing those applications; they are doing it for all of Region 7. People who have already applied might have to wait for a while before they hear anything. It does not look like there will be an extension on this program because there is no more money. Please don't call 211 to check on the status of an application. The HOPE program is not administered through local 211 or United Way.

3. Housing, Karen Kennedy- Rachel sent out a summary from Bob Hughes of everything this committee has been discussing.

VII. Closing Remarks and Adjourn

Family Promise- Decided they want to do more for families who are on their wait list, so there is a special fund.

BOL- There will be a Thanksgiving meal at the BOL facility on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving.

Bill Carver- S3 is a model of how local government and community agencies should cooperate. Mr. Carver will carry an appreciation for S3 with him into all of his duties as county commissioner. It has been helpful to watch, learn, listen, and be a part of the group.

Betsy Jungkind- Lisa Bryant, LCSW, will be joining S3 and filling Betsy's role.