Disclaimer: These notes are not intended to represent direct quotes, things may not be in chronological order, and ideas may not always be accurately attributed. If you have corrections or comments, please let Scott know and he will edit accordingly.

**Attending in Portland:** Vickey Rand (CHOM), Bill Higgins (Homeless Advocacy for All), Ginny Dill (Shalom House), Norm Maze (Shalom House), Cullen Ryan (CHOM), Rachel Boyce (Preble Street), Tyler Swift (Veterans, Inc.), Stacy Leet (Easter Seals), Chris Bicknell, New Beginnings)

**Attending in Augusta:** Scott Tibbitts (MaineHousing), Chet Barnes (DHHS), Leah Bruns (MaineHousing), Janice Daku (RCAM), Betty LaBua (MaineHousing), Lauren Bustard (MaineHousing), Ruth Lawson-Stopps (MaineHousing), Dave Sovetsky (MMHS)

**On the Phone:** Mike Mooney (New Beginnings), Mike Merrill (Volunteers for America), Heidi Bradley (CHCS), Sarah DeRosier (CHCS), Andy Parlin (Western Maine Homeless Outreach), Boyd Kronholm (BAHS), Craig Phillips (Tedford Housing), Mary Oplinger (Fair Tide), Kari Bradstreet (Hope and Justice Project), Joann Oliver-White (Homeless Services of Aroostook), Melody Fitch (Safe Voices), Michele Staples (York County Shelters), Rebecca Hobbs (Through These Doors), Gerald Botta (HOME, Inc.), Brendon Meattey (VA), Brenda Leavitt (OHI), Alice Preble (DHHS-OCSF), Keri Alley (Partners for Peace), John Persen (VA), Rita DeFio (Sweetser), Josh D’Alessio (PCHC

[Reminder – If you call in, please email [stibbitts@mainehousing.org](mailto:stibbitts@mainehousing.org) to let us know you were there!]

**Maine**

**Continuum of Care**

**Meeting: Maine CoC**

**Date: April 18, 2019, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**Location: GoToMeeting**

* **Review & Approval of minutes**
* Bill H. moved to approve the March meeting minutes. Janet Daku noted she was in attendance in Augusta and not on the phone as stated in the March minutes. Scott Tibbitts duly noted and will amend. Seconded. Minutes were accepted as amended.
* **MCOC Chair Vacancy**
* Norm Mazes’ nomination was announced. It was the only nomination received. Vickey Rand motioned to close nominations and move to vote. Seconded and approved. Norm Maze was elected as our newest Tri-Chair without opposition (on the condition he also remain on the Resource Committee).
* **MCOC Big Think Topic: Move-On Strategies**
* MCOC needs to formalize the strategic ways in which we are addressing the action of moving people from permanent supportive housing to other forms of affordable housing. The following suggestions were offered as examples or areas to explore:
  + Public Housing Authorities welcoming people leaving transitional housing
  + Youth Funded Transitional Housing Programs that lead to PH
  + Department of Corrections new Blueprint could include “Move-On” strategies
  + Per diem programs for Vets are designed to move clients to PH
  + Moving off the STEP Program or other RRH who stay in their units – that’s PH
  + Lauren will look at MaineHousing’s HCV Admin Plan to see if this is or could be anything in there that addresses this.
  + Further work is essential in order to improve scoring on the NOFA application. Vickey recommended googling “Move On Strategies” by other CoCs. Discussion ended with the encouragement to send additional ideas to Scott and Vickey.
* **State & Federal Legislative Updates**
* The Policy Committee meets the first Friday of the month. Cullen cited no significant legislative changes at the Federal level. Concerns with limiting SNAP benefits will continue to be voiced by MCoC.
* At the State level, Cullen reported the following bills as being either dead or were voted in Committee Ought Not to Pass and will likely soon be dead - LD 447, LD 591, LD 683, LD 730, LD 808. Bills still ‘in play’ are LD 1318, LD 1407 and LD 1523. LD 1523 addressing rental subsidies with nontraditional leases for recovery residences will be heard Friday, April 26, 2019. Cullen stated the status of LD 1201 is in motion and will likely be morphed into a new bill taking a different path. Concerns with the impact of MaineCare rule changes to TCM requirements were raised, specifically the impact on shelters without electronic medical records, and how the 30 day billing window allows immediate care. Vickey asked that more information on the matter be sent to the chairs including links to webinars on TCM changes. One of the legislative proposals would radically change how a large number of BRAP Vouchers would be used, which lead to considerable discussion about the need to maintain the integrity of the program for the population it was designed to serve.
* **Statewide Homeless Council Update**
* The SHC met on April 9, 2019 at the Maine State Prison in Warren. Cullen highlighted the impressive vocational programs and level of mental health support witnessed during the prison tour. During the meeting, format changes to the Agendas, Minutes, and the Meeting itself were reviewed in order to provide more detailed information for each topic area in the materials provided, rather than spend lots of time at the meeting reviewing everything. Other topics included, Narcan dispensary projects by DHHS, OCFC prioritizing of caseload sizes, and the MaineHousing’s Gaps and Needs survey. Moving forward, meetings will be 3 hours. The next meeting will be on May 14, 2019 at the DOC Offices in Augusta.
* **Regional Homeless Council Updates**
* Region 3 concentrated on evaluating warming center needs.
* Region 2 addressed the increase in volume of guests with intellectual and/or developmental disabilities, chronic illnesses and the elderly. It was decided more trainings to understand and help connect these populations to available resources are imperative.
* Region 1 hosted a CDC discussion on how best to address the spread of communicable diseases in a shelter setting.
* **Long Term Stayers Updates**
* Portland, total of 234 LTS’s have been house since the initiative began. 94.3% success rate.
* Bangor, up to 19 or 20 LTS’s now – more than ever reported.
* Brunswick, no new report
* Ellsworth., no new report
* **Veteran By-Name-List**
* No new report
* **MCOC Board update**
* **MCOC NAEH Conference Scholarship** - So far we have received only two inquiries; one from an agency employee and one from a person with lived experience. The Conference Registration is now closed, though they are putting people on a waitlist. Folks who have already registered, or get on the waitlist, can still apply for the scholarship.
* Strategic Planning Update: A description of roles and responsibilities continues to be developed emphasizing goals accomplishments as opposed to “job descriptions”.
* **Coordinated Entry Update:** There is still an opening for the Chair. The Committee is working on “Dynamic Prioritization”. Ruth Lawson-Stopps would like to join committee.
* **Maine’s new HMIS Authorization to Disclose Information** was presented by Ruth. This form is a result of HUD’s standard data changes in HMIS. Leah Bruns motioned to accept. 17 yes votes, one no vote and zero abstain. Motion carries.
* **FY 2019 NOFA Competition Update**
* GIW: Almost done, just a few last minute changes. Lynn has given us till Monday to submit the final.
* LSA: The deadline date for the third extension has not yet been announced. This is a brand new report and there are a number of unanticipated system and vender reporting issues.
* PIT & HIC: Deadline is the end of April, but MCOC needs to approve before submission and will not be meeting again before the deadline. Scott pointed out changes from the last submission and will post the local deadline changes and edits. There was a Motion to authorize the NOFA Committee to approve the final versions for submission. Passed.
  + Totals: 2018=2,516, 2019=2,101
  + Transitional Housing: 2018=1,392, 2019=890 due to several TH programs closing or changing to PSH, but mostly because of 400 fewer BRAP beds.
  + Chronically homeless 2018=215, 2019=226
  + Vets: 2018=119, 2019=135
  + Youth: work in progress
  + HMIS ES bed coverage for families with children was 84.5% which is below the 85%, but the overall ES coverage was above the line.
* System Performance Measures Reports are due end of May.
* **Letters of Support**
* Veterans Inc. and Easterseals Maine have requested MCOC Letters of Support for their HVRP Applications. There was a Motion that MCOC provide such letters to these and any other agencies that apply. Passed.
* Similarly, the next round of FYSB (Family and youth Services Bureau) Applications for funding will be in the works soon. There was a Motion that MCOC also provide Letters of Support to any and all applicants for this resource. Passed.
* **Brief Standing Committee Updates:**
* We hope to have all committee charters at the next CoC meeting. Committees will now post meeting minutes on the website or email them to Scott. The time and location of the next meeting will be placed at the end of submitted minutes with an open invitation to others.
* Monitoring Committee has an active schedule and is getting caught up on visits and are developing a new scoring and ranking system.
* Resource Committee is working on their charter. Trainings are scheduled for Fair Housing (December 12), Equal Access Rules (September 13), Violence Against Women Act (TBA)
* **Other Business**
* None
* **Next Meeting: May 16, 2019 1 to 3pm via GoToMeeting (not Tandberg)**

**Submit agenda items for the April meeting to Scott, Awa, Norm or Vickey.**