**Attending via GoToMeeting:** Scott Tibbitts (MaineHousing), Betty LaBua (MaineHousing), Vickey Rand (CHOM), Melanie Bubar (Homeless Services of Aroostook), Norm Maze (Shalom House), Ginny Dill (Shalom House), Donna Kelley (Waldo CAP), Emily Flinkstrom (Fair Tide), Noelle Coyne (Safe Voice), Joe Locke (MaineHousing), Kate Easter (MCEDV), Bill Higgins (Homeless Advocacy for All), Kat Freeman (Home Fires Consulting), Rebecca Hobbs (Through These Doors), Chris Bicknell (New Beginnings), Alice Preble (DHHS), Sarah Wade (DHHS), Bridgette Sonler (YAB), Amanda Cost (Partners for Peace), Erin Kelly (Preble Street). Susan Randal (Homeless Advocacy for All), Tracy Allen (KBH), Leo (YAB), David McCluskey (Community Care/Shaw House), Cullen Ryan (CHOM), Ali Lovejoy, (Preble Street), Gerald Botta (Home Inc.), Joe McNally (Milestone), Dan Hodgkins (Preble Street), Boyd Kronholm,(Bangor Area Homeless Shelter), Janice Lara Hewey (Catholic Charities), Awa Conteh (City of Bangor), Rotta Knott (Tedford Housing), Chelsy Laverta (YAB), Meredith Smith (CHCS), Janice Daku (RCAM), Kelly Watson (Maine Housing), Mike Shaughnessy (MaineHousing), Marcie Dean (Next Step), Molly Sirois (Bread of Life), Melissa McEntee (RGH), Elaine Grade (Knox County), Noel Thibodeau (PCHC), Brian Townsend (Amistad), Heather Drost, (HJP),Leanne Pomroy (Preble Street) and Jade Johnson

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

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 email [blabua@mainehousing.org](mailto:blabua@mainehousing.org) to let Betty know and she will edit accordingly.

**Maine**

**Continuum of Care**

**Meeting: Maine CoC**

**Date: October 15, 2020, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**Location: GoToMeeting**

1. **Member Introductions:**

Norm welcomed all in attendance.

1. **Review & Approval of minutes:**

MCOC Minutes from the September meeting were posted on the Maine Homeless Planning website.

***Kate made a motion to approve September’s minutes, Gerald seconded. No discussion. No objections. Passed unanimously.***

1. **Big Thinking Topics:**

* **How to get GA to enter information into HMIS:** Tabled.
* **Point in Time:**

Janice reported HUD has not announced if there will be a required PIT count in January. The MCOC, PIT Crew and Board will need to weigh the pros and cons of conducting an unrequired PIT count before any decision encompassing the MCOC with the count is finalized. Janice mentioned a flyer has been created and will be ready for distribution once the new logo for the MCOC has been voted on.

* **COVID 19 Continued Discussion:**

Norm invited all attendees to share feedback on their current status of COVID-19 related issues. Joe announced Milestone’s Detox Unit is back open noting a COVID test is required for admission. Bangor will be opening a smaller peer center with the capacity of 20. Throughout the state, the increase in the numbers of unsheltered is alarming especially as the winter months are quickly approaching.

1. **CPD COVID-19 Waiver Updates:**

HUD has published a memorandum on the HUD Exchange explaining the availability of waivers of certain regulatory requirements associated with several Community Planning and Development grant programs to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and to facilitate assistance to eligible communities and households economically impacted by COVID-19. This memorandum covers program-specific waivers for COCs, YHDPs and ESGs.

1. **Legislative Updates:**

Cullen provided a summary of this month’s legislative packet.

* **Federal-**The 4th Stimulus package remains dormant in the Senate. President Trump signed a temporary, stop-gap funding measure which avoids a government shutdown and keeps agencies running through Dec. 11, 2020. The status of this year’s NOFA will likely remain on hold until after the election.
* **State-**In the event the Legislature is not called back into session, all legislative work not voted on will be essentially lost. Both the FUSE and Shelter Funding bills will need to be reintroduced to a Legislature experiencing a 1/3 percent turn-over.

1. **SHC Updates:**

Cullen updated the Board by highlighting the key points discussed at October’s council meeting. The focal points of the meeting entailed CSH updates and an unfinished debate over the number of regions and their role. An additional meeting will be scheduled in October dedicated to the topic of regions.

1. **Long Term Stayers:**

Difficulties in finding ways to house people continues to be a major hurdle. LTS numbers were not reported. Rapid Resolution is showing to be successful.

1. **COC Board Update**

* **Strategic Planning Update-** Cullen announced System Performance Measures will be utilized to gauge performance with an acknowledgement adding data during COVID is a challenge.
* **Coordinated Entry Committee-** Erin briefed the Board on CES. Prioritization has been voted on. Moving forward, the next steps are housing and referral. Ashley, the TA provider, has been introduced to CSH and both will be in communication.

1. **Brief Standing Committee Updates:**

* **NOFA-** Did not meet. Will meet again when NOFA’s status is formally announced.
* **Resource-** Norm mentioned the STEP Program training scheduled for December 11, 2020. Future trainings will be held on the Violence Against Women’s Act and The Equal Access Rule.
* **Project Monitoring Committee-** Due to no one in attendance, Mike canceled this month’s meeting. He will send reminders for next month’s meeting.

1. **Announcements:**

* Scott displayed the survey results for the new MCOC logo. Chris made a motion to accept. Janice seconded. No objections. No one abstained. Passed unanimously.
* Leo, a representative of YAB, invited stakeholders to the next YHDP meeting on October 16, 2020 @ 2:30.

1. **Next Meeting Agenda: November 19, 2020- 1:00-3:00**

* Big Thinking Topic: Steps and Strategies for addressing the growing numbers of unsheltered populations
* All are invited to email Betty, Scott or chairs agenda suggestions.