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.

**Augusta:** Scott Tibbitts (MaineHousing), Alan Pelletier (Bread of Life), Melody Fitch (Family Violence Project), Josh D’Alessio (PCHC), Donna Kelley (KBH), Chet Barnes (DHHS-SAMHS), James Gagne (Preble Street- VHS)

**Portland:** Rob Parritt (City of Portland - OSS), Vickey Rand (CHOM), Cullen Ryan (CHOM), Rachel Boyce (Preble Street), Bill Higgins (HVJ), Adam Harr (City of Portland), Joanie Klayman (Preble Street) Ginny Dill (Shalom House), Rob Liscord (Preble Street), Laura Hebert (Westbrook Housing Authority), Lynn Peterson (Westbrook Housing Authority)

**Bangor:** Don Lynch (FACT), Marcie Dean (Next Step), Dan Fleming (Shaw House), Catherine Reed (Partners for Peace)

**Lewiston:** Chris Bicknell (New Beginnings), Mike Mooney (New Beginnings), Tristan Arey (Youth Advisory Board), Dimitrius Schneider (Youth Advisory Board)

**On the Phone:** Craig Phillips (Tedford Housing), Alley Smith Morrissey (Veterans Inc.), Awa Conteh (City of Bangor), Melanie Lamore Gagnon (Safe Voices), Kari Bradstreet (Hope & Justice Project), Emily Flinkstrom (Fair Tide), Heidi Bradley (CHCS), Jennifer Weatherbee (CHCS), Janice Lara-Hewey (Catholic Charities), Mike Tilton (EMS), Gail Garrow (OHI), Boyd Kronholm (BAHS), Mary Beth Paquette (RCAM), Bonnie Gagnon (Caring Unlimited), Gerald Botta (HOME, Inc.), Mary J Boylens (Emmaus), Kate Gordon (Emmaus), Amy Grommes Pulaski (Consultant), Mike Merrill (VOA), Melissa McEntee (RGH), Savanah Frost (Westerm Maine Homeless Outreach)

 [If I missed anyone or misspelled your name, please let me know]

**Maine**

**Continuum of Care**

**Meeting: Maine CoC**

**Date: May 17, 2018, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**Location: Tandberg Teleconferencing Sites**

**Review of Minutes**: Minutes from both March and April 2018 were APPROVED as submitted.

Reminder - we are asking one person at each location to email Scott a list of the attendees there, and for everyone calling in to individually email Scott to let him know (stibbitts@mainehousing.org ).

**Coordinated Entry:** CE Trainings have been conducted for all three RHC’s and for PATH. The final DRAFT of the CE Policies and Procedures was posted so folks could provide feedback. (Need to add New Beginnings Shelter on page 30 and fix typos on page 5.)

**MOTION** to adopt the CE P&P Document with the understanding that it will need to be reviewed again in 30 days (in case things come up that need immediate attention) and again in 6 months, OR 30 days after the NOFA submission. **PASSED**.

James is leaving :-( We will need a new CE Chair if the committee will be continuing, in some form or other, post implementation. The BOD officers – Cullen, Josh, and Adam, are currently the ‘go to people’ for any questions related to our CE process. What we have in place now developed with a primary focus on just the first phase – Access. Our Policies and Procedures do cover aspects of the broader system, but we may need to continue to refine and adapt as things evolve, with input from ‘front line’ folks as to what works best and what needs to be adjusted.

There was a **MOTION** that Shalom House, and any CoC funded entity that requests to, be made an access point for CE. **PASSED**. **MOTION:** Any non-funded agency may request to participate and be an access point, if they agree to all requirements, data sharing, MOU’s , HMIS licensing, Trainings, etc. (They may need to purchase HMIS Licenses). **PASSED.**

When will shelters be expected to start using CE? Last week. It’s up and running now. Oxford Street Shelter has been using it for a week now. They collect data on paper forms for next day HMIS entry. They have had a few minor issues but for the most part it has gone well so far.

**State and Federal Updates:** (see Policy Com notes on [www.mainehomelessplanning.org](http://www.mainehomelessplanning.org) for more details)

**Federal:**  The “Farm Bill” proposal would cut SNAP benefits and impose work requirements. The FY18 Budget Omnibus does have some improvements – sadly, bringing us back up to about 2009 levels. HUD Secretary Ben Carson’s proposal to increase tenant portions of rents and minimum tenant portions could destabilize many households, potentially doubling current levels of homelessness.

**State:** The Governor’s veto of LD1771 – An Act to Stabilize Vulnerable Families, LD 1892 – An Act to Clarify The Prescribing and Dispensing of Naloxone Hydrochloride by Pharmacists, and LD 1740 – An Act to Establish the Crimes of Criminal Forced Labor and Aggravated Criminal Forced Labor - were overridden, but the legislature adjourned, leaving some 100 bills on the table, many with bipartisan support.

**SHC:** (minutes will be posted on [www.mainehomelessplanning.org](http://www.mainehomelessplanning.org) once approved)

Discussed legislative updates, Coordinated Entry, SAMHS initiatives, the BRAP Freeze, PATH as a national Best Practice, new RFP from OCFS, new PNMI beds, finalized the Prioritization Chart, Lauren Bustard is the new Program Director at MaineHousing and Allison Gallagher is the new HCV Director, increases to FedHOME funding, applying for 811, PIT numbers, YHDP application submitted, SUD Subsidy group formed to meet with Dan B., CH/LTS numbers are down, Cabin in the Woods will be opening soon, Family numbers continue to rise, DV data base still in development, possible DV RRH funding in the CoC NOFA.

**RHC’S:** All about CE Trainings.

**LTS:** Portland housed 8 LTS’s last month and are on track to do the same this month. Lauren Bustard will be attending their LTS meeting next week. Bangor had just 2 on their list as of this morning. They are looking for ways to better track Length of Time Homeless for those not staying in shelters. Tedford has started a LTS list and has already housed several households. Should Lewiston/Auburn have a list? It would be up to the local providers there to initiate that.

**CoC Board Update:** Discussed the CE Policies and Procedures document. With James G. leaving, there is now another vacancy on the BOD – still have one from when Tom P. left. Also, some folks who are listed as members no longer attend. Current regularly attending members are: Cullen, Vickey, Awa, Rob P., Adam, Dave M., Josh, Joanie, Chet, Donna, Ginny and until next month, James. It was suggested we reach out to those who have not been attending to clarify their status, then work to fill vacancies. James says the Veterans Committee will put forth a nomination next month. We should look at how to ensure representation from specific populations and take geography into account as well. **MOTION** to open up nominations now for all vacant seats, and have BOD elections in June. 2nd and **PASSED**. Send any nominations to Adam, as BOD Secretary.

**NOFA Planning:** We should look at last year’s priorities and use those as a starting point. Typically we have prioritized by type of project and then by population served. There will be funding available specifically for DV projects – will we need to make that a priority in order to ensure we are able to take advantage of the opportunity? Much will depend on how this is written in the NOFA. If it is structured as a “Bonus”, and the money cannot be used for anything else, like HUD used to do for CH, then we can put it at the top without jeopardizing anything else. If it is set up to be ‘competitive’ then we will need to factor it into the scoring and ranking processes in a way that is fair to all projects. Were there any differences between PCOC and MCOC priorities that should be reexamined? These were both carefully looked over and combined last year – they were very close to start with so there was nothing totally left out. Prioritization is something that needs to be updated annually so if people want to add or change anything, there will be an opportunity to do that. SHC recently added Recovery Housing to the Prioritization Chart – MCOC should consider adding this ‘type’ of project as an option as well. PSH has always been listed as a top priority, but we know that there are other types of housing that work for other populations, for example, Transitional Housing has been shown to work well for Youth, DV, and Veterans. What we really need is thorough and meaningful gaps and needs analysis that shows what we, as a state, really need. While we want to be able to take advantage of new funding, we should not simply prioritize whatever HUD is making available whether we need it or not. **MOTION** that the first thing we do upon release of the NOFA is look at what we need to develop. 2nd and **PASSED**.

**RHYA Grant:** Preble Street has requested a Letter of Support from MCOC for their Runaway and Homeless Youth Act Grant Application. **MOTION** that MCOC provide a Letter of Support to any agency that wishes to apply for this. 2nd and **PASSED**.

**Youth Com:** New Beginnings requests that Planning funds be made available to provide a stipend for members of the newly formed Youth Advisory Board. Currently there are 3 YAB members, Chris, Demetrius, and Kyra, and they hope to have at least 3 more very soon. Further discussion on this was tabled until more details are available.

**Veterans Com:** The SSVF Community Planning Survey is out and has been posted on the [www.mainehomelessplanning.org](http://www.mainehomelessplanning.org) site. Everyone is encourage to complete the survey. **MOTION** that the MCOC BOD review the survey results and the Veterans Committee finalize and submit. **PASSED**.

**Project /Monitoring Com:** Has Monitored 35 out of 39 Projects so far and is meeting again next week to wrap up this phase.

**Data Com:** No new information

**Resource Com:** Next meeting will be a quarterly PIT process discussion.

**Other Business**: There is currently a NOFA out for PHA’s for Housing for Non-Elderly Disabled. MaineHousing in applying. Other Maine HA’s may also be applying. There are extra points for agencies that will provide supports for tenants who are Homeless and/or At Risk of Homelessness at application. The deadline is June 18th. PHA’s may request letters of support, but those should probably come from the specific local agencies they would be connecting with for providing the referrals and services, not from the CoC, unless the application specifies otherwise.

**Next Meeting: June 21 2018. The Summer Solstice!**

**Please see the next agenda for more details.**