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.

**Attending via GoToMeeting:** Scott Tibbitts (MaineHousing), Betty LaBua (MaineHousing), Norm Maze (Shalom House), Janice Daku (RCAM), Elaine Grade (KCHC), Vickey Merill (CHOM), Jerri Botta (HOME Inc.), Dan Hodgkins (Preble Street), Donna Kelley (WCAP), Donna Alger (BFAH), Rebekah Paredes (New Hope Midcoast), Beverly Hubbard (YAB), Theresa Dow (ACAP), Mike Tuller (BFAH), Lindsey Buetot (NL), Jennifer Weatherbee (Hub 7), Laura Briggs (BOL), Lisa McLaughlin (HAS), Sarah Wade (DHHS), Mike Merrill (VOANNE), Boyd Kronholm (BAHS), Kelly Watson (MSHA), Marcie Dean (Next Step), Kari Bradstreet (HJP), Amanda Roy (DSW Management), Melody Fitch (FVP), Rich Romero (OHI), Ray Michaud (Vet Inc.), Susan Giambalvo (Caring Unlimited), Abigail Smallwood (City of Biddeford), Britta McCollom (KCHC), Awa Conteh (City of Bangor), Jessica Chow (City of Lewiston) and Jill Grazia (Shalom House)

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and

Stephonie Gregg (YCSPI) and Kari Bradstreet (FVP).

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

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**Meeting Minutes: Maine CoC**

**Date: October 20, 2022, 1:00 – 3:00 PM**

**Location: Ring Central**

**Maine**

**Continuum of Care**

1. **Approval of Minutes and Moment of Silence:**

Norm welcomed all to today’s meeting. MCOC Minutes from the September meeting were posted on the Maine Homeless Planning website. *Jerry B. motioned to approve September’s minutes as written, Vickey M. seconded. No one opposed. Passed unanimously.* A moment of silence to honor the passing of people experiencing homelessness was observed.

1. **Big Thinking Topics:**

**SNOFO and NOFO:** Scott announced the NOFO was submitted to HUD on September 28th and the SNOFO was submitted on October 18th. The committee will meet one more time this year to debrief the process and discuss how best to be prepared for next year’s application.

**Tri Chair Resignation:** Norm announced his resignation as tri-chair of the Continuum. This means nominations will be taken for two tri-chair positions. Awa Conteh’s term is ending in December. Awa has already been nominated and has accepted the nomination for another three year term. The MCOC will also be accepting nominations for Norm’s position. The person who fills that seat will serve out the remainder of Norm’s term, which is for 2 more years, in order to keep the three year cycle on track. Nominations must be sent via email to Scott and Vickey no later than November 10th, 2022. If there are multiple nominations for a seat, we will ask that the candidates submit a brief written summary of their background, capacity, and interest in the position. These will be posted prior to the vote to give members a chance to learn a bit more about the candidates. Voting will be conducted electronically prior to the December 15th MCOC meeting so that the winners can be announced at that time. Only Eligible Voting Members may vote in the elections. Each agency may only cast one vote for each position.

1. **Maine Statewide Homeless Services Coordination Meeting Updates:**

There were no updates given during today’s meeting. This topic will remain a standing item on the agenda.

1. **Legislative Updates:**

**Federal:**  Vickey started today’s update by mentioning to the President Biden signed a stopgap funding measure on 9/30. The bill, which will fund the government until December 16, needed to pass before negotiations on final 2023 budget could continue.

Next attention was brought to the following three federal updates;

1. On 9/15 HUD announced the availability of up to $174.6 million in grant funding opportunities through a Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) to support the development of new affordable multifamily rental homes for low-income seniors along with ongoing project rental assistance and supportive services. HUD will award Section 202 grant funds to non-profit organizations in two forms: Capital Advances and Project Rental Assistance Contracts:

2. On 9/27 the Biden Administration announced its plan to end hunger in the US by 2030. Under the Plan, SNAP eligibility would be expanded, children would get better access to free meals, and summer benefits would be extended to more school-aged children. These changes would require congressional approval.

3. Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (RHYTPA) of 2022 – *New* – Senators Collins (R-ME) and Leahy (D-VT) and Representatives Yarmuth (D-KY) and Bacon (R-NE) introduced the bipartisan, bicameral Runaway and Homeless Youth and Trafficking Prevention Act (RHYTPA) of 2022. This legislation will fully reauthorize, update, and expand the vital Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (RHYA) programs. Vickey M. *motioned for the MCoC send a thank letter to Collins for co-introducing the Bill with an appeal for her enthusiastic support its passage. Awa seconded. In discussion Awa thanked Vickey and Cullen for keeping communication flowing to our State’s delegation. No one against. No abstentions. Motion passed.*

**State:** As of 5/9, The Legislature Adjourned Sine Die. Vickey reminded continuum that at least 1/3 of the Legislature will be turned over after November’s election.

1. **Hub Updates:**

Scott, on Tara’s behalf read the following update:

The HCs have begun work for the 2023 PIT count with the MCoC Resource Committee reps providing oversight.  The HCs are working together during the CE pilot to help frame up Case Conferencing and how that can work in the different Hubs and last week they all provided the current outreach inventory for the MCoC SNOFO application. The BfZ hubs will be doing a deep dive with Community Solutions over the next couple of months on their All Singles Scorecards

The State Strategy Team met on 9/20 and Action Teams did a break out to review goals and progress and there is a new 6 month Action cycle meeting being planned for January 2023.

1. **SHC Updates:**

There were no updates given today.

1. **Long Term Stayers Updates:**

Norm reported the Portland area continues making progress in housing LTS with a 93% success rate. 7 people were placed last month.

1. **COC Board Update:**

* **General Updates**: The main topics being addressed by the Board are:

1. The review of System Performance Measures.
2. The Board voted to approve the Maine Coordinated Entry System & Service Hub Case Conferencing Confidentiality Agency Agreement Form and the Hub Agency Participation Agreement.
3. CES marketing materials for the pilots running in Hub 5 and Hub 7 were approved. The SNOFO and NOFO.

* **CES:** Jenn W. mentioned the four parts of Coordinated Entry are currently being piloted in Hubs 5 and 7. The committee has started meeting on a biweekly schedule.

1. **Youth Action Board Update:**

The Youth Action Board has been busy making presentation in Bangor, Machias and Presque Isle on how best to engage youth and what’s vital to keeping youth safely housed. Bev asked if anyone is interested in having a presentation contact Matt and typed Matt’s contact information in the chat

1. **Standing Committee Updates:**

* **Resource Committee:** The committee completed and voted to approve updates on the Charter. The VAWA training held in September was well attended. A recording of the training was posted on the Maine Homeless Planning website. A training on Equal Access to Housing in HUD Programs Regardless of Sexual Orientation or Gender Identity & Introduction to Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity and Expression will be held on

Friday, November 4, 2022 from 9:00-11:00 am. Norm announced he has resigned from co-chair of the resource committee. Anyone interested in the co-chair position was asked to send nominations to Norm.

* **PWLE:** The next meeting will be held on Friday, October 28, 2022. Recruitment is under way for people with current lived experience however all are welcome to attend.

1. **New Agenda Items:**

* **Big Thinking Topics:** PIT and HIC
* Resource Charter Update

**Next MCOC meeting is scheduled for December 15, 2022 from 1:00-3:00 pm**