HOUSING COMMITTEE

Tuesday, June 18, 2019

10:25 AM to 11:35 AM

Minutes

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AGENCY** | **GACDA MEMBER** | **PRESENT** | **PROXY** | **PROXY NAME** | **ABSENT** |
| GOHSEP | Amy Dawson | √ |  |  |  |
| OBH (LDH) | Ashley Jefferson | √ |  |  |  |
| LaCAN/Parent | Ashley McReynolds |  | √ | Karen Artus |  |
| DCFS | Christopher Kirby | √ |  |  |  |
| Fire Marshall | Cynthia Obier | √ |  |  |  |
| Provider/Parent | Donna Breaux | √ |  |  |  |
| Senator | Gerald Boudreaux |  |  |  | X |
| Advocate | Jamie Karam | √ |  |  |  |
| LDE | Jamie Wong | √ |  |  | X |
| DOTD | Joshua Hollins |  | √ | Vince Latino | X |
| OCDD (LDH) | Julie F. Hagan | √ |  |  |  |
| FHF/Parent | Katie Corkern |  | √ | Amy Donarski |  |
| Arc of LA | Kelly Monroe |  |  |  | X |
| Providers | Laura Brackin |  |  |  | X |
| LASEA | Laureen Mayfield | √ |  |  |  |
| LRC | Libby Murphy |  |  |  | X |
| Parent | Linda Kocher |  |  |  | X |
| LDVA | Linda Theriot |  |  |  | X |
| **Chair** / Advocate | Lynette Fontenot | √ |  |  |  |
| Representative | Malinda White |  |  |  | X |
| Higher Education | Mary Breaud | √ |  |  |  |
| LWC - LRS | Melissa Bayham | √ |  |  |  |
| GOEA | Michelle Guillory |  |  |  | X |
| Advocate | Pam Darby |  |  |  | X |
| Deaf/DB/HoH | Paula Rodriguez | √ |  |  |  |
| SILC | Roszella Viltz | √ |  |  |  |
| DD Council | Sandee Winchell | √ |  |  |  |
| People First | Sharon Hennessey | √ |  |  |  |
| Advocacy Center | Stephen Kauffman | √ |  |  |  |
| OAAS (LDH) | Tara Leblanc |  | √ | Allison Vuljoin |  |
| LATAN | Yakima Black |  |  |  | X |
| **ROLE** | **STAFF** |  |  |  |  |
| Exec Director | Bambi Polotzola | √ |  |  |  |
| Asst. Director | Jamar Ennis | √ |  |  |  |
| Coordinator | April Dunn | √ |  |  |  |
| SICC Director | Melanie Washington | √ |  |  |  |
| **AGENCY** | **GUESTS** |  |  |  |  |
| Lighthouse Louisiana | Meredith Bailey | √ |  |  |  |
| Lighthouse Louisiana | Anne Jayes | √ |  |  |  |
| Lighthouse Louisiana | Paul Winfree | √ |  |  |  |
| LWC | John Schweitzer | √ |  |  |  |
| DOTD | Jamie Ainsworth | √ |  |  |  |
| DOTD | Mike Miller | √ |  |  |  |
|  | Robin Wagner | √ |  |  |  |

1. Call to Order and Introductions 10:25 am

2. Update from Louisiana Housing Corp and/or 10:30 am

Office of Aging and Adult Services

The LHC spokesperson has stated that Nicole Swazy has resigned from the department and Deputy Wynona Connor is acting executive director; however, the Louisiana Housing Corporation (LHC) still has  a strong relationship with Nicole. The LHC stated that there is a big push around mental illness and nursing homes receiving housing now and this is now a priority on there agenda. In regards to housing development, the developers are obligated to produce 1000 disability units by end of the year but want to expand programs even further. Some progress has been made which includes 1 million dollars for rental assistance. The LHC spokesperson explained that 50% of vouchers from HUD has been successfully issued. Fortunately, HUD will have 2 more rounds of this funding. The LHC is about to release the qualified  allocation plan on housing programs as well as the timeline for 1000 accessible units  by end of the agreement  that  ends by  2023. The PSH person then described the different voucher program and he stated that they are currently serving 2800 persons as well as rental subsidy for 600 more people. Everything stated today is public knowledge. The LHC person stated that PSH is geared more to dual diagnosis  regarding behavior health persons to fill these units.

3. Update from Committee Members 10:40 am

* Qualifying Allocation Plan

Sharron Hennessey explained the QAP plan and how it’s the largest tool for public housing. Hennessey expressed excitement of the news regarding that universal design for new development has to be done  and what items that are required.  It was suggested to create a funding source to help the affordable accessible housing be successful, as well as it would make since to research what’s going on in other states before  the group require a legislative action. Also suggested, in order to advance housing maybe  the committee should  make a push for LHC to receive more  funding to renovate the housing that have already . Also suggested for the committee to meet more.

4. Legislative Update on Housing 10:50 am

5. Discussion on needs, priorities, and ideas 11:00 am

Suggest that individuals with disabilities go to public comment meeting and educate LHC more about the needs of this community.  The plan is a 5 year consolidated plan. It was suggested to put together a work group regarding housing and find who has expertise in this area. Suggestions of persons to bring to the table are  LHC, HUD, fire marshal, PSH, Office of Community Development, USDA,  and housing authority. When putting this group together, try to  develop a funding stream for individuals with disabilities . The group wants to meet consistently and  do  a follow up email to get a date maybe august 5-8th to meet again.

6. Discussion of GODA Conference 11:10 am

Bambi discussed the GODA conference and the people that should be involved are Local housing authority, rural housing development,  and USDA in Alexandra. Would like to see a panel with each give a description on program, Q&A and include what they are currently doing for individuals with disabilities. 10 MIN each. Along with some written synopsis.

7. Adjourn 11:35 am

A motion to adjourn was made by Donna Breaux, and was seconded by Rosella Viltz. The motion to adjourn was passed without any abstentions or objections.