

Minutes

HUD Consolidated Plan Advisory Board

February 10, 2023

1:30 PM – 3:00 PM

DHCD, 1 National Life Dr
Dean Davis Bldg., 6th Floor Calvin Coolidge Mtg. Room, Montpelier VT
and by virtual Teams Meeting

Board members:

Virtual: Angus Chaney (Homeless prevention center in Rutland), Ron Rupp VHCB, Martin Hahn (VT Coalition to end homelessness), Sandrine Kibuey (CVOEO), David Riegel (AHS), Megan Roush (VHFA), Rachel Batterson (VT Legal Aid)

DHCD Staff: Shaun Gilpin (Housing Director), Nathan Cleveland (VCDP) virtual

Public: no one from the public attended in person or virtual/phone

1) Introductions

Shaun opened the meeting at 1:35 p.m. no public or Advisory board members were attending in person. David Riegel AHS a new member of the Advisory Board. Shaun provided the board with our other members that are not present.

2) Advisory Board overview

The Advisory Board assists the Department in getting input from a wide range of Vermonters to ensure that the views of low and moderate income people, people living in slum and blighted areas and in areas where CDBG, HOME and ESG funds are used have been included in the plan. Its members include representatives of affordable housing developers, agencies for the homeless and persons with disabilities, tenant rights groups, public housing agencies, faith-based groups, seniors, and regional planning and economic development organizations. Shaun noted the new HUD AFFH rule. The new process involves a lot of public engagement

and there are 2 fair housing surveys live on our website. Link to be provided to advisory board to help roll the surveys out. Outreach will include a couple of focus groups with potential to do community outreach meetings in hopefully all 14 counties. Jayme Bauer is our DHCD staff that is leading our efforts for our update of the AFFH plan which will inform future 5 year plans.

Rachel – asked to review the timeline for Con Plan updates. Shaun noted the action plan is for this year (2023) then the update of the 5 year Con Plan and AI/AFFH will be completed in 2024. This work is still in process, Shaun noted that the hope was to complete a full AI update from the recent, abbreviated update that was completed last year. With HUD rules now being released DHCD is working on understanding our requirements including the need for an equity plan. Public outreach will be more robust after we better understand our HUD requirements. Work is going on with the State Library association with a goal of beginning the outreach process in late spring 2023.

Rachel – CCRPC convened an equity advisory group and suggested that DHCD may want to include them in our outreach efforts. The Family Room in Burlington was also noted as a good organization for helping with outreach.

Sandrine - Martin Hahn land access and opportunity board"

3) Plan overview, review goals and objectives

Con plan overview: four main priorities and goals of the Plan which are affordable housing, job creation and retention, reducing homelessness, and creating strong communities through Public Facility and Service projects, and Planning Grants, and noted that this year's Annual Action Plan update is the fourth year of the 5-year Plan.

4) Program updates (DHCD, VHCB, OEO)

VCDP Program updates: Nathan Cleveland noted that VCDP is still working through internal review of our workflow and processes and are considering moving from 3 board meetings per year to only 2 (November and June) as well as requiring a letter of intent prior to the submission of an application. Invite our partners at VHCB, OEO to provide program updates .

Ron Rupp HOME (\$3million/yr) and Nation Housing Trust Fund (\$3million/yr) programs are focused at assisting very low income households with housing. Ron provided a summary of recent projects throughout the state that have been awarded HOME or NHT funding. No intentions to change the method of distribution. The Allocation plan from last year is available and no changes are proposed. Some consideration to allow HTF to pay for operational costs (10% can be used for homeownership assistance but restrictions of household income make it difficult to use for this type of activity.

Rachel – Asked what operating costs and if the need is due to rents needing to be maintained at affordable levels but operation cost (heating fuel etc) increase? Ron noted that this was correct.

David – OEO will follow up prior to our next meeting with program updates if there are any.

5) Advisory Board input

Public hearing is today at 3:30 p.m.

Megan – what is the process for this update. Schedule for Advisory Board and timeline to submit the action plan update to HUD is below

Sandrine – vulnerable populations to be supported there is a need for funding to be used as more of a preventative approach. The people currently served have AMI ranging from 50% - 80% and up to 120% AMI. She asked if there is data to show

where and how was the investment impactful/performed. She noted the big picture looking for outcomes from levels of investment since the last action year or last five year con plan period from 2020 – 2024.

Rachel – has HUD made any changes in the Con Plan prioritizing fair housing as a goal. Why doesn't Con Plan include a fair housing goal and action plan. DHCD reaching out to other rural states to understand the requirements from HUD for AFFH and AI. Shaun offered to reach back out to Rachel with our comments on the new rules.

6) Schedule

Feb. 10, 2023:	Advisory Board and Public Hearing
Mar. 14, 2023:	Finish Draft Action Plan
Mar. 17, 2023:	Legal Notice; publish Draft Plan for Comment
April 3, 2023:	Second Public Hearing and Advisory Board meeting
May 3, 2023:	End of 30-day Comment Period
May 17, 2023:	Submit Action Plan to HUD
July 1, 2023:	Program Year Start

Virtual Public Hearing starts at 3:30 PM on Go To Webinar (Registration required):

<https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/6600201596394037773>

Meeting adjourned at 2:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Nathan Cleveland, VCDP