

November 22, 2007

Present:

Ann Bromley
Bill Buckland
Claudia Jahn

Rebecca Koeller
Amy Moonshadow
Barb Nehiley
Patricia Richards

Ann Sinclair
Kasia Tota *(with Leif)*
Regrets:
Carol Tooton

1. Ann Bromley opened the meeting in the chair and welcomed all including newest board member Ann Sinclair.
2. **Agenda** with addition of follow up discussion on "Private Developers and Affordable Housing" May meeting 2006, approved M. Claudia J, and M. Bill B. **APPROVED.**
3. **Minutes September 6, 2007** approved M. Barb N, and S. Claudia J. **APPROVED**
4. **Election of Officers for 2007-2008**
 - a. President, Ann Bromley
 - b. Vice-President, Bill Buckland
 - c. Secretary, Kasia Tota
 - d. Treasurer, Barb Nehiley

M. Rebecca and S. Ann Sinclair **APPROVED**

5. Committee Selection

- a. **Social Marketing**
 - i. Claudia
 - ii. Amy,
 - iii. Rebecca,
 - iv. Kasia

*(Discussion and Direction: Terms of reference and list action plan should be sent to Ann Sinclair, if anyone else needs a copy see the Secretary). Specific areas of activity under this committee. Rebecca will focus on developing the web site. Focus will be on identifying best strategies to be developed to promote affordability. Need to find a good window to make announcements and release products and reports. It was agreed we need a major discussion to review our framework, vision for a renewed board and membership; ethics policy development; a members manual, governance model and board development plan.) The Social Marketing Committee is to take these issues and come back with recommendations on a new plan for social marketing that involves these issues- **deliverable date**: February board meeting. A future strategic Planning session needs to take place- **deliverable date** : March or April ?*

b. By-law and Policy

- i. Barb Nehiley
- ii. Patricia Richards
- iii. Bill Buckland

REPORTS**6. Finance**

- a. Rebecca reported that there was no real change since last report.
 - i. Receipts and expense cheques are in for Partnership accounts.
 - ii. Rebecca will clear up the books and pass over to Barb.

7. Round Table Update Report

- a) Kasia presented both Round table and Pomeroy report at the Prayer Breakfast at St. Matthews during National Housing Day. This is where we seem to be weak in getting the results of these works to the public.
- b) Bill sent copies to housing officials.
- c) We should distribute the report more widely (let's develop a list) to officials, politicians, and other stakeholders.
- d) **ACTION** What follow-up will we take? Agreed to refer it to the Social Marketing Committee for review and recommendation. M. Claudia and S. Bill B. **APPROVED**

8. CHRA East Coast Conference

- a) Claudia updated the board. Lori is working on the conference from this end .
- b) **ACTION** AHANS will sponsor 2 reps to attend the conference: Ann Sinclair, Amy Moonshadow at the early bird discount. M. Bill B, S. Kasia **APPROVED**
- c) It was suggested we ask for two free registrations as partners in the conference.
- d) Concerns were expressed about the conference, its timing, topics (no theme), high price.
- e) **ACTION** A letter of concern be sent to CHRA about the high price of the one day conference with no particular highlighted issues. M. Barb N, S. Claudia **APPROVED**.
- f) It was also agreed that AHANS needs to reconsider its membership with CHRA for future years. Look at benefits of membership and the effectiveness of CHRA as an organization and is it helping to develop local community organizations.

(Ann Bromley had to leave and Vice-Chair Bill Buckland took over as Chair.)

9. Energy Efficiency Proposal

- a) Proposal from Brendan Haley of , Affordable Energy Coalition was discussed. The coalition is negotiating with NS Power to put \$ 5 million dollars into a fund. Funds would be made available for low income households to off set power bill charges. An agency from within the community would be funded to administer the rebates.
- b) General agreement was that the administration of a rebate program would require an administrative and organization capacity that AHANS does not have. As well this type of activity is not a priority activity of AHANS which is a volunteer run organization promoting affordable housing for all.
- c) **ACTION** We respond with a letter thanking them for the proposal. However the scope of the work is well over our capacity, as well as outside of our mandate. M. Kasia S. Rebecca K **APPROVED.**

10. Poverty Reduction Strategy Symposium in Truro Nov. 2.

Claudia attended on behalf of AHANS. There was diverse group of people. There was some hostility at the beginning but once people got into discussion ideas and passions begun to gel.

Working in small groups priorities were set. The groups resisted this at first but again Coordinator was frank and indicated that if the groups do not want to set priorities someone else will do it. It has to be done. They groups were also informed there was no additional money to carry out new priorities. Something else will not be done. Policy person noted that we will have to look for a better strategy. The Province will follow up on the meeting and will work on the format. List of attendees sent out. Results will be circulated and ultimately to Minister and cabinet.

NEW BUSINESS

11. **Need for Strategic Planning** and a new action plan. Priorities should come from issues we have discussed. Social Marketing and Policy and By-law can bring back recommendations.
 - a. January Social Marketing will bring forward recommendations on action plans for rural follow up, and other emerging issues.
 - b. February meeting by-law and policy recommendations
 - c. March will be set aside for whole board exercise, facilitated strategic plan session goals to
 - i. set plan and
 - ii. action plan on how to get it done.

12. CORRESPONDENCE

An individual heard about us in Community Building newsletter . She lives in terrible housing situation. She called Claudia who was able to get her connected with Affirmative Industries and it looks like she may be eligible for a unit.

Komentarz [BN1]: Erica Lewis
Komentarz [BN2R1]:

13. **Christmas Dinner** December 10 . Kasia will check out place.

14. **REVIEW OF DEVELOPMENT MEETING LAST YEAR.** Ann Sinclair is our newest board member She has built affordable housing projects in Ontario and is an advocate and does work on affordable projects in her current practice, doing pro bono work. She is very interested in universal design. And the motto “do nothing for us without us”.

Discussion on follow-up indicated that we really did not do a successful follow up mostly because we took on the rural round tables and could not do both. Again this points to the need to focus on priorities and utilize resources better. We agreed we needed to get back to the development community and bring them into the debate. Proceedings are available from that meeting. Claudia can get them to Ann.

15. **NEXT MEETING** January 17, 2008

16. **Adjourned.**

Prepared by Barbara Nehiley
Secretary

Approved

Date	President	Secretary
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