

**Financial Stability Coalition Meeting**  
**August 11, 2017**

**PRESENT:** Burt Fenby, Jackie Bradley, Lynne Punnett, Beth Woods, Stephanie Dinius, Dave Brevoort, Misty Shulters

Meeting was called at 9:03 am by Burt Fenby.

**1. Welcome/Introduction**

**2. Note Taker of Meeting**

- Jackie Bradley

**3. Co-Chair rotation/transition**

- Jackie Bradley is now co-chair with Burt
- This item will be removed from next month's agenda

**4. Updates**

- United Way of Monroe/Lenawee
  - Day of Action: August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017
  - Currently accepting funding proposals, due by 5:00 pm, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2017
  - Emergency Food and Shelter funds were allocated, paperwork was accepted, and checks should be imminent
- Mini IDA Committee
  - 7 people have rolled the mini IDA into a full IDA
  - Sub-committee has 2 applications to review
  - There was discussion around current guidelines and whether they need to become more formalized; there was concern that over time, the standards would creep and eventually include too much. This discussion needs to be continued with Julie present and will be added to next month's agenda.
  - Michigan Works! has the ability to pay for certain expenses (such as car insurance or up to \$900 for repairs) for clients for whom this is a demonstrated barrier to employment.
    - Michigan Works! income guidelines: below poverty level or making <\$11.99/hour
- VITA
  - Appointments for those who do not owe are still ongoing
  - Training for next year can't start until word comes down from the Federal Government – probably in January
  - Completed approximately 6000 returns across 3 counties
- Classes
  - "R" Rules to start at Adrian High School in September
  - Getting Ahead to start two Adrian classes in September
    - Due to restructuring at CAA, there will probably only be 6 classes offered per year (down from 9)
    - Burt has a grant request out to Big Lots for sponsoring a class, hoping to get other community support
    - If support doesn't come in, Burt may request funds from this body in the future.
  - Pathways to Hope
    - Burt will reach out to Candace for an update on this program
  - Rent Smart
    - Next class: August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017

- 2 landlords from Lynne's Landlord Group have expressed interest in attending
- The Continuum of Care has restructured to include sub-committees. Burt, Lynne, and Jackie are on the Affordable Housing Sub-Committee and Terry's Rent Smart classes were discussed at the last meeting. The possibility of a rental voucher or credit for tenants was discussed as a potential incentive to improve attendance.
- **Motion made by Lynne and supported by Beth to set aside \$1000 out of the PIT fund to provide a \$50 dollar rental voucher for the next 20 households that attend Terry's Rent Smart class, beginning AFTER August 16<sup>th</sup>. Motion carried as presented.**
- If the incentive shows impact, we may be able to approve landlords through Lynne's Landlord Group to absorb the cost of future incentives (e.g., if a tenant shows they attended the class, the landlord will agree to remove \$50 from the security deposit)
- Financial Institutes/partnerships/opportunities – remove from next month's agenda
- Money Smart Week committee will begin meeting soon – contact Stephanie if you are interested
  - Money Smart Week will be in April 2018
- Lenawee County Community Landlord Group
  - This group meets the last Friday of every month at 8:15 am at the Family Kitchen Restaurant
  - Last month's speakers were Marilyn Woods, Lenawee County Treasurer, and Tim Robinson, Director of Operations at Lenawee Now.
    - Landlords discussed their need to be able to see the inside of properties before purchase through tax foreclosure sale. Lynne is hopeful that something will come out of this.
  - Future Speakers: August – Beth Wood, September – LCMHA, October – Representative Bronna Kahle and Senator Dale Zorn, November/December – Pest Patrol
  - Through this group, one landlord has become involved in lead issues in Lenawee County and has assisted with a recent grant opportunity
- Articles for Lenawee Great Start Blog should be sent to Lisa

## **5. Core and Community Collaborative meetings**

- There has been a lot of talk about keeping engaged with Trauma Informed Communities
  - Full-day Trauma Training on August 16<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- The Housing Study is completed, but the full report is not available yet. The PowerPoint that was presented to the County Commissioners is available on the county website (<http://www.lenawee.mi.us/DocumentCenter/View/2406>)

## **6. Data Collection for 2017 – Reminder**

- Reminder that we are keeping with current data collection methods through the end of the year and will re-evaluate for 2018.

## **7. Emerging Issues/Projects**

- Department on Aging has money available for individuals over 60 who are living with or providing care for children under 18. These funds must be spent on education/training (e.g., Love & Logic, CPR, etc.) and must be used by end of September.
- Goodwill is hiring
- Habitat for Humanity of Lenawee County is hiring

## **8. Future Meeting plans/Agenda items/Membership review**

- Next meeting is 9:00 AM on 9/8

**Meeting adjourned at 10:10 am**

