

Municipal Oversight Committee (MOC) Meeting Minutes - 10/16/2008

Voting Members:	Member present
Bridgton	
Cape Elizabeth	Mike McGovern
Chebeague Island	
Cumberland	
Falmouth	Nathan Poore
Freeport	Donna Larson
Gorham	Tom Ellsworth
Gray	George Thebarge
Harpswell	Carol Tukey
Harrison	
Long Island	
Naples	
New Gloucester	David Lunt
North Yarmouth	
Pownal	
Raymond	
Scarborough	Jay Chase
Sebago	Robert Nicholson
South Portland	Erik Carson
Standish	
Windham	Tony Plante
Yarmouth	
County Commissioner:	Richard Feeney
Ex-Officio Members:	Betsy Sawyer-Manter, Kaki Dimock, PROP
Staff:	Aaron Shapiro, Elizabeth Trice, County; Caroline Paras, GPCOG
Others:	Rosemary Kulow, GPCOG

Materials:

Handouts:

- 1) 2009 Application Review Team Proposal
- 2) Weatherization Program, Concept Paper
- 3) Homeless Case Management Program, Progress Report

1) Welcome and Introductions – Chairman Tony Plante

2) Potential Weatherization Program - Betsy Sawyer Manter, Aaron Shapiro

A “concept” paper, developed by Roger Bondeson of PROP outlining a potential 2009 application and program to weatherize homes was circulated and discussed. This followed on the discussion of weatherization needs in light of escalating heating costs at the Sept. 17th MOC meeting. A lively and informative discussion ensued.

Robert Nicholson: The program is targeted to individual households - concerned it does not address wider issues - will the homes deteriorate because folks don't have the income to keep them up; are they living in homes that are too large; will this really provide enough of a savings to allow the households to maintain their homes?

Mike McGovern: Likes the idea of “sharing the wealth” with individual households, giving an opportunity to get them up and out of poverty. Likes the idea of amplifying the DOE funds.

Erik Carson: Doing 80 homes is not a huge amount but it's a lot more than zero.

Elizabeth Trice: Weatherization is better than paying for heating oil. Describes a program to match individuals and households to share living space and more efficiently utilize the homes we have.

Nathan Poore: Likes the proposed weatherization program and believes it might relieve some pressure on local general assistance budgets.

Mike McGovern: Asks for some basic information. Will this be an application to the program for funds, what's the process? [This is simply a presentation of the concept and obtaining some feedback. PROP will develop the program, submit an application, application will be reviewed, recommended or not by MOC, and finally the County Commissioners].

Erik Carson: Describes South Portland weatherization/winterization program that is largely dependent on volunteer labor.

Robert Nicholson: Inquires and then suggests that the home sharing idea would make a good planning grant application and project.

3) Program Applications, Program Policies for 2009, Final Thoughts - Tony Plante

Tony inquires if any members have final thoughts on the upcoming 2009 program and applications. No comments.

4) 2009 Application Review Team - Aaron Shapiro

The proposed selection method and composition of the 2009 application review team is outlined. The MOC votes 12-0 to adopt the proposal.

5) Homeless Case Management Program - Betsy Sawyer Manter, Kaki Dimock

Kaki Dimock reviews the progress over the past year of the program. The attached hand-out contains much of the information. Kaki and Betsy answered questions about the program and progress that's been made.

6) Election of New Chair and Vice Chair - Nominating Committee, Mike McGovern, Dick Feeney, Tony Plante

Mike McGovern reports out for the nominating committee. The committee suggests Donna Larson, Freeport as the new MOC Chair and Dick Feeney continuing as Vice-Chair. Dick's continuation would be contingent on the outcome of the upcoming election November 4th.

MOC approves recommendation of nominating committee, 12-0. Donna Larson will serve as the new MOC Chair.

7) Potential Regional Projects and Program Applications for 2009 - Aaron Shapiro, Dick Feeney

The County is permitted four program applications and two planning grant applications each year. We want to inform the MOC our current thinking on region-wide programs

and applications. Aaron outlines three potential 2009 regional projects: PROP weatherization; PROP/Preble Street Homeless Case Management Services; Alpha One Critical Access Ramp program. Dick Feeney outlines the My Sister's Keeper program related to pre and post-jail release services for women. Elizabeth Trice says there may be some interest in a pre-release program from the jail or domestic violence services.

8) Other Business

George Theborge: Describes progress on the Gray Village Revitalization program. Three properties in the Clark Block will have new facades; public improvements (sidewalk, streetlights, relocated electric poles, pocket park improvements) will be completed in the spring). Could use an additional \$20,000.

Discussion of re-allocating some unallocated carry-over funds to the Gray Village project. Mike McGovern suggests this not be acted on until we inquire to all open, ongoing projects about their financial needs. Group agrees to this approach, without a formal vote.

Nathan Poore: Theo Holtwick, Director of Long Range Planning, will be Falmouth's representative on the MOC

Aaron Shapiro: Current carry-over funds = \$38,380. Three sources \$33,723 from 2007 administrative cost savings; \$3,657 from 2007 unexpended by Homeless Case Management grant; \$1,000 balance from cancelled South Windham Community Center project that has not been re-allocated.