

Connecticut Healthy Homes Inter-Organizational Partners Meeting

Lyceum, 227 Lawrence Street, Hartford

March 30, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Eileen Gunn provided a brief introduction regarding the meeting agenda and desired outcomes.

Eileen was joined by Fran Provenzano who discussed the process involved in establishing the three workgroup that were responsible for the development of the steps necessary for the subsequent implementation of the healthy homes action plan.

Members of each workgroup introduced themselves to the attendees. New partners who were attending their first meeting introduced themselves to the attendees. These new partners were Terri Trenholm, State Fire Marshal's Office and Mike Nintean, Town of Mansfield Building Official

Presentations were provided by a member of each of the three workgroups (Public Awareness, Workforce Development, and Policies, Guidelines & Practices). These presentations highlighted the process that each group went through in the developments of the action steps associated with corresponding goals and objectives.

1. Public Awareness: Presented by Joan Simpson, Facilitator
2. Workforce Development: Presented by Fran Provenzano, Facilitator
3. Policies, Guidelines & Practices: Presented by Mike Santoro, Co-facilitator

Judith Dicine provided an overview of the development of the proposed CT Property Maintenance Code. This document addresses existing construction and does not deal with new construction. It also intentionally does not address those items that are covered by the State Building Code or the State Fire Code.

Following a brief discussion of the information presented, "round robin" break out sessions took place to solicit comments concerning each workgroup's action plan.

The following summarizes the comments received:

Public Awareness:

- Who is the audience? (Earlier step in the process), then,
- Develop materials
- Work with community based organizations (program they can implement)
- What do we want to accomplish?
- Utilize social media-capture younger audiences
- Pro bono public relations group to help out?
- Include energy efficiency as principle in #8 (grid)
- Public service announcement/radio time

Workforce Development:

- Customize in CT/share with energy efficiency folks
- Audience:
 - Training to community based organizations in neighborhoods
 - Poverty
 - Public housing
 - Landlords
 - Case workers
 - Health

Policies, Guidelines & Practices:

- Add energy efficiency as an additional HH component
- Ensure the inclusion of “Fair Housing Act” design and construction requirements
- Consider reasonable accommodations
- Consider use of additional “standards” (best practices; non-regulatory)when developing such components (see Eileen’s list)
- Consider using DPH tool as a starting point (HUD developing a tool-watch for it!)

Tentative meeting dates were established for all Inter-Organizational Partners. These dates are June 9, September 8, and December 8, 2011. The individual work groups may schedule additional meetings to continue their progress in implementing the steps detailed within their action plans.

Note: The next meeting of the Policies, Guideline & Practices workgroup is scheduled for May 3rd.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Skomro & Mark Aschenbach