|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Present: | **Voting Board Members:**  Craig Volwiler- Finance Sector  Mike Rizzitiello, City of College Place, Chair  Jay Potts, City of Prescott  Elizabeth Chamberlain, City of Walla Walla  Randy Hinchliffe, City of Waitsburg  TJ Espinoza, Realtor  Juli Reinholz  Kathy Covey | VETERANS VACANT-Dawn Avery  Renee Rooker, WWHA  Andrea Weckmueller-Behringer, Transportation  Norrie Gregoire, Corrections/Safety  Tyler Graber, Legal  Anne-Marie Zell-Schwerin, DV shelter  Tim Meliah, Youth Services  HOSPITAL VACANT  BOCC VACANT |
| **Non-Voting Participants:** Rachel Elfenbein, Catherine Veninga  DCH Staff: Sam Jackle | | |

**Quorum Present – Yes**

**Welcome:** Mike called the meeting to order at approximately 2:07 PM. Discussion and agreement to record meetings and post the link, along with minutes to the WWDCH website. Introductions followed.

**Approval of January 28, 2021 Minutes:** Andrea motioned to approve with the following corrections: mark Andrea and Tyler as present; Craig seconded; all were in favor.

**Legislative Update (Mike):** Mike provided updates on several housing and homeless related bills (SB 1128, HB 1189, SB 5211, SB 1220, SB 5390, SB 5269) that may impact the Walla Walla Valley area. Discussion around whether not the Council on Housing would engage in advocacy. Walla Walla County, City of College Place, and Waitsburg share a lobbyist with a coordination meeting each Friday. The Council could, as a body, make recommendations around areas of support for relevant advocacy matters. Anne-Marie motioned to approve support for advocacy for HB 1277 and additional support to the State of Washington Housing Trust Fund. Juli seconded, all were in favor.

**Community Land Trust/Common Roots (Rachel):** In the process of applying for a grant from the Sherwood Trust Foundation. Also working to identify and select founding board members – hoping to have a board within the next month or two to become an official nonprofit organization. Check out commonrootshousing.org for more information.

**ERAP and T-RAP Update:** Eviction Rent Assistance Program (State program) - $611,328 spent through December and an additional $277,872 to be spent by June 2021. Will subcontract with BMAC for those ERAP funds and potentially Walla Walla Immigration Rights Coalition again as well. Treasury Rent Assistance Program (T-RRAP) – still waiting to hear from the state regarding award charts and still awaiting final guidelines. Anticipate T-RAP contracts by March 8th.

**Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG-CV)**: Subcontract with the Walla Walla Alliance for the Homeless to support 24/7 shelter operations as part of the COVID public health response. Will also be using ESG-CV funds to support street outreach services, as well as rapid rehousing. ESG-CV workgroup will likely be reengaged towards the end of March or early April to reevaluate needs based on other relief funds, as well as to approve written standards.

**Other Business**: CDBG Public Services 2019-20 closeout hearing scheduled for March 8th, 11:15 a.m. See attached resolution. Sam will follow-up with Renee regarding her contact for the consultant that might be able to do the targeted study on subsidized housing, supportive housing, etc. Anne-Marie will share information about the YWCA’s 21-day challenge on racial and social justice taking place in March. If you are aware of locations in which folks 65+ and 50+ in multi-generational households are located and may be without internet, please email Sam for WWDCH outreach purposes.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 PM