

| <b>Called to Order: 5:20 PM</b>   | <b>Via Zoom</b> |  |
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| <b>I. Roll Call and Introductions</b>   |                 |  |
| <b>Roll call:</b> Charley Martin-Berry, Ron King, Betsy Fitzgerald, Charles Rudelitch, Jonathan Thomas, Grant Lee, Dr. H. Lori Schnieders, Nicholas MacDonald, Ruth Sousa, Lisa Veazie, John Harris, Wayne Hanscom, Martha Beathem, Barbara Clark ( <b>Quorum present.</b> )<br><b>Staff Present:</b> Rebecca Palmer, Kate Pielmeier, Sharon Catus, Melissa Mattes, Donna Zdanis, Dale Basher, Cheryl Robbins, Rose Honders, Lee Hardison, Bobbi Harris,<br><b>Guests:</b> None                                   |                 |  |
| <b>II. Items for Board Action</b>   |                 |  |
| 1. Resolved, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from 5/31/2022.<br><br><b>Discussion:</b> N/A<br><b>Action:</b> Ron King put a motion on the floor to accept the minutes as is. Wayne Hanscom seconded. <b>Motion passed.</b><br><br>2. Resolved, to approve the Board Meeting Minutes from 4/26/2022 as well. (Quorum lacking at May BOD Meeting.)<br><br><b>Discussion:</b> N/A<br><b>Action:</b> Ron King put a motion on the floor to accept the minutes as is. Lisa Veazie seconded. <b>Motion passed.</b> |                 |  |
| <b>III. Policy for Review:</b>  |                 |  |
| 1. DCP Office Pet and Service Animal Policy – Donna Zdanis<br><br>Carried over from 5/31/2022 due to lacking quorum in May.<br><br><b>Motion:</b> Nicholas MacDonald made a motion, and Lisa Veazie seconded.<br><b>Action:</b> Approved.<br><br><b>Discussion:</b> N/A, see May BOD Minutes for the discussion.  |                 |  |
| <b>IV. Development Committee Report</b>   |                 |  |
| 1. Sharon Catus<br><br>There isn't anything to add beyond my written report and the Annual Report is attached. Next year we will reinvent the wheelhouse and revamp the Annual Report. Kate offered to assist with additional data from EmpowOR and we have a new program with better visual capabilities to make the report look even better.  |                 |  |

**Action: N/A.**

**Motion: N/A.**

**Discussion:** Charley asked about distribution – should the board members assist with passing out copies or posting the Annual Report anywhere specific? Sharon said that the Annual Report is always hosted in the DCP website where the public can easily access it and that is sufficient. We can always print a few hard copies if folks request it as well. Rebecca Palmer mentioned that we can post copies at our properties and give our Partners a copy to post in their buildings. Sharon noted that Rachel Decker did a lot of the heavy lifting with the formatting and graphics of the Annual Report.

Sharon also said we received \$1,000 from the Town of Ellsworth for the first time in at least ten years! This was a big win. Ellsworth hasn't given DCP SEED money in recent years so it was exciting to finally have some support. The \$1,000 was only roughly 0.05% of the actual value of the services provided to Ellsworth (and we usually only quote Towns at 1-2% of the value). Ron King mentioned that Everybody Eats has been getting \$500 a year since we started Everybody Eats.

#### V. Executive Director's Report

##### 1. Rebecca Palmer

More updates about Maine Housing and the ERA program – we have to pay back about \$7,000 because of one ERA application that did not actually comply with the regulations and was incorrectly certified. However, this was only one application among many. We did also receive another infusion of ERA funds (1 million) but it is still not clear how much longer this program will run.

Dale and Bobbi are working on the housing repair business opportunity. We were encouraged by Megan from MeCAP to launch this pilot! There is money on the table that we could use to create more money here. We have already checked some of the logistics regarding non-profit status and that was cleared; as long as we put the profit back into DCP and the non-profit mission, which is the goal anyway. We still have some details to work out regarding braiding the funds in. Is there anything to add? Bobbi, Dale?

Dale noted –

Cautiously we could start with the \$25K and a few homes just to see if it works, start at a smaller scale. That should be enough money and a “pilot” to see some real results and whether or not we should continue. The second piece of this is that 60million will have a shelf life of about 5 years... we need to make sure it is sustainable for longer than 5 years. Selling clean energy back to the grid is a good

way to continue this. We reached out to COA, A Climate to Thrive, and a few other groups to see how we can collaborate and boost funds. We don't just want to use the 60 million and then when it runs out in 5-6 years just hope another chunk of money falls into our laps to continue the work.

**Action: N/A.**

**Motion: N/A.**

**Discussion:** A few board members wanted clarification around how this helps our current clients directly. Dale explained that not only would this program allow us to reduce the cost for our clients but it also helps reduce energy burden and thus reduce the ongoing costs for folks in the household even after we have completed repairs. Removing the oil burden (especially with high costs currently) with biomass boilers and high efficiency heat pumps is a more sustainable option for many low income folks. The price of fuel is bad right now and people will need help this winter. We also want to lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

For DCP directly, hopefully the apprenticeships we create (which also creates new jobs!) will also get DCP's name out there more. There are even some farming-related opportunities that can help with water conservation. This could fit in well with a lot of the blueberry farms around here. Bringing COA and A Climate to Thrive in makes natural sense since Community Action Agencies are built on partnerships. Megan from MeCAP told us we should spend the money and think big!

Bobbi also clarified – The funds Efficiency Maine receives are not as limited as the ones we get. Many of our funds are limited such that our clients still need to pay 10% of the total cost of a repair or replacement project. A lot of projects are thousands of dollars, and the clients are still on the line for upwards of \$900 sometimes. They cannot afford that either! Dale's project will help further reduce the cost our low income clients have to be responsible for. We would be using the for-profit funds to further subsidize repairs for low income households in the community.

#### VI. Division Directors Reports (verbal and written reports – attached)

No verbal reports this month to allow time for Executive Session.

1. Finance Report – Rebecca Palmer

Briefly – Kevin is still doing up to 10 hours a week per diem for DCP to help finish the audit process. The Profit and Loss are listed in the BOD Packet. The current net deficit is 206K. Investments still remain horrible but we did have a small gain in May.

2. HR Report – Donna Zdanis

Downeast Community Partners (DCP)  
Meeting of the Board of Directors, June 28, 2022

3. Supportive Services – Ida Bagley
4. Transportation – Cheryl Robbins
5. Housing – Bobbi Harris
6. Friendship Cottage – Anne Ossanna
7. ECE/Headstart – Melissa Mattes
8. Parent Policy Report
9. Development Report and associated documents (above with Development Committee Report)
10. At Home Report – Rose Honders

VII. Adjourn business meeting and Board goes into Executive Session (no Minutes).

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| VIII. Business meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM | <b>Ruth Sousa</b> made the motion to adjourn and <b>Grant</b> seconded. |
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Respectfully submitted by Kate Pielmeier, Community Services Block Grant and Database Specialist on July 13, 2022.