

Provisional Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2010 – Washington, DC

Housekeeping:

- Minutes from the business meeting held in conjunction with the 1st Annual Meeting in May have been drafted and will be emailed along with other handouts to the full National Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition (Coalition) later today.
- Meeting Materials included the draft business meeting minutes; notes on the three discussion salons (Creating Healthier Housing Through Standards, Integrating Energy Efficiency and Healthy Housing, and Financing Healthy Housing); as well as a document outlining Code Change Proposals to submit for the 2009-2010 Code Cycle, and a new legislative proposal that would enable DOE weatherization and HUD lead hazard control grants to have 15% flexibility to serve energy efficiency, and or health/safety purposes. Thanks to Dan Newman for his work on conceptualizing this important proposal!

Recap of 1st Annual Coalition Meeting, Rebecca Morley (NCHH) gave a brief summary of the Annual Coalition Meeting which took place on May 24-25, 2010 in Washington DC. There were about 90 people who participated. The Coalition was successful in meeting with members of Congress and staff to push the legislative agenda forward. Rebecca asked if there were any comments about the meeting in general, or if there were things participants liked or didn't like. Melanie Hudson raised a question of what participants thought of the salon discussions. Overall there was positive feedback. Dan Newman said that while he learned a lot and enjoyed the discussion, it felt like there wasn't enough time. One idea would be to "stage" the discussion – introduce the ideas in the morning and then have a more in-depth discussion later in the day. Patricia Adkins added that for someone outside of the housing world she found the discussions very engaging and helpful.

Recap of Annual Meeting Salons, Rebecca started with a summary of the Standards Salon, which she facilitated. There was broad support for the FY10 and FY11 Policy Agenda items related to codes. Eric Hornbuckle from HUD spoke about the British Home Health Rating System, which requires owners to evaluate properties annually based on issues present and likelihood of harm. The US may be able to adopt a similar system. FY2010 Coalition Priorities included amending the ICC model codes as well as supporting code adoption more broadly and enforcement at the local level. The Coalition should continue to advocate for the Code Administration Act, which has passed the House as part of the GREEN Act (Green Resources for Energy Efficient Neighborhoods Act of 2008) but needs to be added to a Senate bill. Dana Bourland (ECP) asked if anyone has talking points regarding the Code Administration Grant Act, since Enterprise will be testifying about the Senate version and would like to add the codes language. Sarah Yerkes (ICC) will pass on the specific language that was included in the House version of the Green Act. Patricia Adkins (HSC) added that another important codes issue is to encourage enactment of sprinkler provisions in residential codes. Sarah added that 34 states use the International Residential Code, however, in some localities legislation is being introduced to block inclusion of sprinkler provisions. Homebuilders have filed a law suit in PA. Patricia's colleagues at the National Fire Protection Association are working on this issue and

may want to meet with Jane and Sarah. Tracy Koilan said APHA would be interested in signing onto a letter if it was drafted. Sarah Yerkes will draft a sign-on letter.

John Giglio discussed the status of the Home Star Bill as reported at a meeting of the Alliance to Save Energy, which is coordinating efforts around the Home Star and energy bills. Harry Reid is looking to introduce an omnibus energy bill, based on the Senate version of other energy-related legislation, and Home Star might be added to that new bill. Tracy Kolian asked how APHA can support its adoption. John said that those interested should speak with Brad Perry, Director of Government Affairs at ASE.

Julie Hughes (DOE) then gave a summary of what was discussed in the Energy & Health Salon, since she had participated as a technical expert. One issue she raised was that some time was spent explaining what the Home Star legislation was, so it would have been helpful for participants to read a summary beforehand. Salon participants agreed there needs to be a standard for energy efficiency retrofits that addresses health, and standards that energy auditors can use to keep health in mind when conducting audits. John Giglio raised the question that there are non-profit groups like Habitat for Humanity and Rebuilding Together who are doing work on energy and health, but do not have access to the training and technical assistance that DOE provides for weatherization programs. Has DOE thought about how to leverage money for training for other non-profit groups? Julie mentioned that DOE is starting a national home energy rating program, which will establish protocols and standards like audit software tools and labels for homes, there may be flexibility for training, but hasn't taken shape yet. In response to the question of access to training or training funding typically allocated for weatherization for other organizations, Julie replied that funding and trainings must benefit the weatherization community, but that it is possible there will be some flexibility. Jane and John requested a follow-up with Julie. Public comment on the energy rating system will most likely happen in September. Carl Grimes (IAQA) expressed interest in this program and may follow up with Julie.

Finally, Jane Malone gave a summary of the Financing Salon, where she had served as a technical expert. Coalition participants agreed that more resources need to go to states to coordinate healthy housing work – the Coalition needs a long-term strategy to get dedicated funding for HH initiatives. The new health care bill provides a great opportunity for planning and for patient-centered medical homes (rolling out in 2014): these should include healthy homes interventions. Perhaps leverage some of the health insurance savings from health interventions for healthy homes. All federal funding for housing should have strings attached to include healthy homes provisions.

RRP Updates - Federal Regulatory/Administrative Work Group - There was a set-back this week as EPA decided to postpone enforcement of the training and certification parts of the rule. Melanie requested a brief overview of what is happening with the RRP rule, since many Coalition members are not involved with this issue. Rebecca summarized that this past Friday EPA issued a memo delaying some aspects of the rule. Specifically, EPA's enforcement office will not enforce requirements that renovation firms must be certified until October 1, 2010. Renovators have until September 30 to sign up for training, and until December 31 to actually complete the class. However, renovators still have to follow the work practices as outlined in

the rule. Advocates are worried this partial delay will create confusion in the industry, or discredit the importance of the rule. Industry advocated for the policy, claiming there are not enough training providers. However, many training providers are saying their classes aren't filling up, or folks aren't showing up. John Giglio asked if there was a list of training providers and a schedule of trainings. Rebecca mentioned the EPA website has a list of providers by zip code (http://cfpub.epa.gov/flpp/searchrrp_training.htm), but not a comprehensive list of scheduled trainings. NCHH's website has a schedule of trainings (<http://www.nchh.org/training/calendar.aspx>). Rebecca also mentioned that currently RRP is not listed as a priority of the Coalition, since it is such a narrow focus, but we may want to add it. Brenda Reyes said that she thought it was an issue the Coalition should support, since it is very much tied to healthy homes. Greg Secord agreed, and seconded the idea to include RRP as a Coalition priority, and others indicated their support. Tracy Koilan asked if the Coalition's priorities are listed on the website. Rebecca responded that a policy agenda was developed for the Annual Meeting, but that it will be revised to reflect ideas that were raised at the meeting and re-distributed.

ICC Code Change Cycle, Jane reported on four proposals that the National Center for Healthy Housing has been working on for adoption in the International Property Maintenance Code.. The four current proposals are:

1. Requiring the use of licensed pest control firms
2. Defining infestation and sanitation in code
3. Requiring that interior surfaces be repaired in a way that corrects mold problems
4. Adding a chapter on health and sanitation to the code

NCHH will submit comments for these 4 issues for the current code change cycle Final Action Hearing (which will take place in Charlotte North Carolina in the fall). Information about the code change cycle is on ICC's website (<http://www.iccsafe.org/CS/CODES/Pages/default.aspx>).

National Collaboration/Partnership-Building Work Group, Patricia Adkins (Home Safety Council) reported on efforts to elect a final member to the Steering Committee. During the business portion of the Annual Meeting in May, members of the Coalition elected 14 members for the Steering Committee. Since Coalition Guidelines state that no less than 10 and no more than 15 members can serve on the Steering Committee, there is potentially one extra seat. Five organizations have expressed interest in being nominated for the final seat. Patricia will send instructions in the coming weeks for electing one more organization. Melanie Hudson reported on another aspect of the collaboration work-group, which was to approach different Congressional caucuses about supporting the Coalition's legislative priorities. Melanie has requested meetings with leaders of various caucuses and if any other Coalition members are interested in participating, they should contact Melanie. Patricia added that the Coalition may want to work with large employers, and engage them on healthy homes issues. The National Business Group on Health recognizes large employers for work they are doing on health and wellness. One group that is listed in their "platinum" rating is PitneyBowes. Rebecca mentioned that some type of recognition or "awards" might be something the Coalition could do for our next annual meeting. John Giglio raised the idea that we may want to work with the Association of Health Insurance Plans or the National Health Care Forum on a specific goal. Rebecca responded that we would ask – how do we get health insurers to pay for asthma interventions? Possible plans were discussed, such as asking Sara Rosenbaum from GWU to speak at a future

meeting (perhaps the next Steering Committee meeting in September) regarding Medicaid issues pertaining to asthma interventions, and holding a half-day forum for discussion of possible approaches to including safe and healthy homes assessments and interventions in medical coverage provided by major employers, insurers, and Medicaid. The Collaboration/Partnership Workgroup will pursue planning a meeting. Brenda Reyes expressed interest in this topic. Traci Kolian asked about engaging funders on the topic. Also Patricia has a report titled, "What employers want from health insurers in 2010." If any Coalition members are interested in seeing the report, they should contact Patricia.

Organizational Updates

-Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning held a successful meeting June 21st with the 14 pilot sites for the Green and Healthy Homes Initiative. Wes Stewart expressed hope that the GHHI will successfully demonstrate part of the Safe and Healthy Housing Coalition's collective agenda.

Next Steps:

- NCHH will send the minutes and other meeting handouts to the Coalition as well as post them on the website.
- Steering Committee will not hold a regular meeting in July and August due to summer vacation schedules, but will plan to hold the next meeting in September.

Steering Committee Attendees:

American Public Health Association – Tracy Kolian
Baltimore City Health Department – Genevieve Birkby
Children's Health Forum – Melanie Hudson & Gabrielle Szlenkier
Coalition to End Childhood Lead Poisoning – Wes Stewart
Home Safety Council – Patricia Adkins
Houston Department of Health and Human Services – Brenda Reyes
Indoor Air Quality Association – Carl Grimes & Farzana Shakir
International Code Council – Sarah Yerkes
National Center for Healthy Housing – Rebecca Morley & Jane Malone
NeighborWorks – Tom Deyo
Non-Profit Edge Consulting – John Giglio
Rebuilding Together – Greg Secord

Other Coalition Member Attendees:

Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America – Mike Tringale
Enterprise Community Partners – Dana Bourland
Livable Housing, Inc. – Armand Magnelli
National Association of Local Boards of Health – Carrie Hribar
National Center for Environmental Health Strategies – Mary Lamielle
Sustainable Resources Center – Dan Newman

Guests:

Julie Hughes, Department of Energy