

GIST Minutes

December 18, 2006 Meeting

Attending were Anna Riggs, Brenda Stinebuck, Charlie Green (Traci Harris), Dusty Maxwell, Herb Sanderson, Kim Arnold, Larry Brewster, Maria Diaz, Steve Wilson, and Sue Gaskin.

Absent were Billie Jeanne Dougherty, Billy Altom, David Sneed, Grover Evans, John Althoff, Joyce Soularie, Kenny Whitlock, Mike McCreight, Roger Isbell, and Roy Jeffus.

Minutes were corrected and approved.

Sara Braswell, AR Development Finance Authority (ADFA) Vice President for Housing presented information on ADFA's housing programs. She discussed the Single Family Homebuyer Program, Low-Income Housing Tax Credits and the HOME program. She explained the HOME program has several components: Single Family Projects, Multifamily/Rental Projects and Tenant-Based Rental Assistance.

Herb reported DHHS submitted the Money Follows the Person application to CMS and that CMS had called and asked for additional information. CMS is to announce which states will be awarded grants in January 2007.

Next discussed was the DHHS budget. Budget manuals have been produced that show "agency request" and "executive recommendations." That is, the manuals show what all agencies have requested and what the Governor recommended be funded in order to produce a balanced budget. The current executive recommendations are those of Governor Huckabee. Governor-elect Beebe may alter the executive recommendations after taking office. Ultimately the Legislature will adopt the state budget. The budget manuals and Governor's balance budget are available online: http://www.arkansas.gov/dfa/budget/budget_index.html

Anna announced she was stepping down as Chair. She appointed the following nominating committee: Maria Diaz, Chair; Dusty Maxwell and Joyce Soularie.

The GIST decided to meet quarterly in 2007 unless there was a need for the Chair to call a meeting.

The next meeting was scheduled for 11:00 am Monday, March 12, 2007 at AARP's conference room.