HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes Basement Conference Room City Hall September 16, 2009 12:00 pm

Members: Staff:

Charlie Armstrong, Co-Chair Melissa Celii

Art Lichtenberger, Co-Chair

Chris Murray
Richard Spurzem
Peter Loach
Karen Waters
Joy Johnson
Vicki Hawes

Others:
Cheri Lewis
Edith Good
Susan Pleiss
Marney Allen
Jon Kinsey

Kathy Galvin Overton McGehee

Meeting began at 12:10.

Introductions/Welcome: Introductions were made.

Updates from the Chair: Mr. Lichtenberger asked for an update on the status on the new housing position. Staff said that the position is being readvertised and no decisions have been made.

Updates from Staff: Staff asked members to look through the new Housing Advisory Committee Member binders and let her know if there are any additional materials that members would like to have. Also staff asked for any corrections or updates to the Member Contact List. Mr. Loach pointed out that he is not Executive Director of PHA.

Approval of Minutes from August 19, 2009: Members wanted to see language added to the minutes to reflect the discussion on how the lack of jobs has an impact on the housing stock; reflect the request to have an entire HAC meeting devoted to going over the housing report; and the addition of a table that shows tax credit properties and tax credit expiration dates. Motion to approve minutes as amended made, seconded, and approved.

Discussion on Housing Report: Staff presented an updated version of the Affordable Housing Report. Members acknowledged staff's hard work in rewriting the report and gathering data. Members decided the best approach to the discussion would be to go through the report line by line. Specific changes to the report will be incorporated into a new version and sent out to members. General report comments are included in the minutes.

There was a discussion about how city residents are not able to attain affordable housing because they have to compete with newcomers to the community. Members wanted to add language to the report stating that while many federal regulations prevent giving priority to City residents, wherever and whenever possible existing City residents should be given priority in attaining affordable housing units.

Members also thought that it would be helpful to include a glossary that defines terms and ideas. It was also suggested that incorporating a bulleted issue list like the one found in the State of Housing Report would be helpful.

Members also discussed the relevancy of including the county of past supported affordable units. It was suggested that it may be less confusing to simply say where we are now and where the City should go in terms of supported affordable housing units. There was also concern about what qualifies as a new supported affordable housing unit. The report needs to strongly emphasis that while a unit may be newly counted as supported affordable, that unit may not be newly constructed or newly affordable.

Because there was still much to discuss at the end of the meeting, members decided to meet again in September to hopefully finish the discussion on the affordable housing report. The next HAC meeting will be September 30, 2009 at 12:00 pm in the Basement Conference Room of City Hall. Once the HAC reaches consensus on the text of the report, a sub-committee will for to work on the formatting and presentation of the report.

Possible Future Action Committees: None.

Other Business: None.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:40.