

HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes
October 28, 2006

Present:

Noah Schwartz
Kathleen Glenn
Theresa Tapscott
Reed Banks
Art Lichtenberger
Stu Armstrong
Cheri Lewis
Natasha Sienitsky
Theresa Deese
Charlie Armstrong
Dave Norris
Ron White

Absent:

Joy Johnson
Carol Clarke
Overton McGehee

Guests:

Angela Vanderhoof
Ayuko White
Diane
Tom
Clyde

Staff:

Jim Tolbert
Amy Kilroy

Summary of Meeting Notes:

- Introductions of everyone in the group, we had a number of guests join us from PACEM and IMPACT. Happy to have them join us – want to make sure and get last names added for the meeting notes. Amy will send around a sign-in sheet at the next meeting to make sure everyone is accounted for.
- Presentation and review of *CAHIP* proposal by Dave Norris:
 - *CAHIP* = Charlottesville Affordable Housing Investment Program
 - This is a top priority of Dave's since being elected to City Council
 - Looking for dedicated stream(s) of funding to support the initiative
 - Proposal is still in draft format – open to any suggestions or ideas from the group
 - Recap of meeting with Mary Brooks about setting up the fund: why was the Transfer Tax option not included in the proposal?
 - Questions brought up for further clarification: 1) How and to whom would these funds be distributed? 2) Would they be available directly to individuals? 3) Can we incorporate the promotion of LEED and EnergyStar ratings into the program? 4) There is nothing mentioned in the pie chart about administrative costs...how to handle? 5) What happens to any extra money in the fund at the end of each year?
 - Dave will do some additional research based on the comments received, and will report back on the updates at our next meeting.
- Presentation about the Charlottesville Redevelopment and Housing Authority (CRHA) by Noah Schwartz, Executive Director:
 - Passed out a general information flyer with updated facts and figures to the group. Much of the information Noah presented is represented in this flyer.

- Not a lot of Redevelopment happening with CRHA recently, but there are some projects coming down the pipeline, so we can expect that to increase.
 - Discussion of similarities and differences between the Section 8 Voucher program and the Public Housing program.
 - CRHA is a quasi-governmental agency with a seven member Board (appointed by City Council). Two of the seven members are CRHA tenants.
 - Annual budget is approximately \$5.5 million dollars, currently around 25 staff members
 - Discussion of the Downpayment/Closing Cost Assistance program and Housing Opportunities Partnership (HOP) program – made approximately 20 loans in FY 05-06 to residents using either one or both programs
 - Discussion of partnership with AHIP for Substantial Rehabilitation program – increasing need within the community that could stand to be funded with more support. Work being done now is a drop in the bucket compared to the waiting list that AHIP builds daily
 - Discussion about CRHA arrangement with City about Payment in Lieu of taxes.
 - Discussion about credit history and counseling being issues for residents in the community. Often times people are required to attend sessions or meetings in order to receive assistance or participate in programs – question was raised about how often they actually take advantage of those services being provided?
 - Talk about the creation of an effective Eviction Prevention Program – what options are available to those who have poor credit but are still in need of housing?
 - HIP program at the Salvation Army –
- In the interest of time, Jim's development presentation will be moved to the November agenda. Board members think it would be more helpful for Jim to present during meeting than just review slides on the NDS website.
- Next meeting date is set for: Thursday, November 16th @ 12:00 (location TBD)
 - Future agenda items include: Update on *CAHIP* proposal, Development presentation, Tax proposal from Habitat for Humanity