

HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
DRAFT Minutes
Basement Conference Room City Hall
Wednesday, July 21, 2010
12:00 pm

Present:
Charlie Armstrong
Satyendra Huja
Kathy Galvin
Peter Loach
Dan Rosensweig
Marnie Allen
Edith Good
Paul Beyer

The meeting began at 12:15 PM with sandwiches provided for those in attendance.

Welcome: Charlie Armstrong welcomed everyone and then asked that the HAC members review the minutes and to advise of any necessary changes. With no further comments/discussion, the minutes were approved by unanimous vote of 5-0.

Updates from the Chair: Charlie Armstrong announced that he and Art would be stepping down as chair discussed the need for future chairpersons.

Updates by Staff: Kathy McHugh updated the group on the status of the Sustainable Communities Grant and the Community Planning Challenge Grant. Melissa Celii updated the group on the status of the CDBG. She said that congress has yet to release and approve the CDBG and that they would be going to council in August.

Following are comments recorded for each person as shown.

Charlie Armstrong

In response to the Subcommittee Updates, Charlie said that the incentives group wanted to add an educational component to the incentives report. He said that there is a need to educate all those involved in housing so people know what incentives are out there for the city. In response, Marnie Allen discussed how the purpose of the Coalition for Housing Opportunity is to educate. She says that we can be working together so that this effort is not duplicated.

In response to Kathy Galvin's comment on group consensus, Charlie said that he thought that the purpose of the Subcommittee groups is to reach consensus in each of the groups and then report back to larger group.

Charlie asked Kathy McHugh if she could coordinate the meeting times for each subcommittee group.

Charlie stated that the Housing Fund Survey should be emailed to everyone not in attendance.

In response to scheduling the next meeting, Charlie questioned if we should use the August date to meet in subcommittee groups.

Mentioned that the meeting attendance requirements are spelled out in the by-laws and that reference should be made to these when sending out the attendance information

Peter Loach

Peter wanted to know how the Sustainable Communities Grant fits into public housing redevelopment.

Peter thanked Charlie and Art for their service and leadership over the past 3 years.

Kathy Galvin

Wondered how the Promise Neighborhood Grant would be impacted.

In response to the Subcommittee updates, the best practices group has not been able to meet as a whole group. Susan Pleiss is moving and is no longer on the committee. Kathy wanted to know whether the subcommittees are supposed to come up with a consensus on their topics or whether the larger group is supposed to.

We need to determine an end date to the Subcommittees and also determine what the result should be/end product (a written memo?). What is the end product of the HAC? When do we need to have each of our results finished? (calendar of critical dates)

Maybe we do not need to meet every month.

Satyendra Huja

In response to the minutes from last meeting, Huja stated that the City is not allowed legally by the State to give loans directly. There are ways to get around it but the city cannot do this directly.

In response to the Housing Fund Survey, Huja says that there should be a third choice under number 5.

Commented on the fact that very rarely do people show up and maybe the people who do not show up should be replaced with new members. Requested that an attendance record be developed by staff and distributed to the group.

Dan Rosensweig

Suggested we have a subcommittee group meeting every other month, and then a regular full group meeting every other month. We need to figure out our goals and then maybe we should report to council quarterly, annually, or monthly and maybe that will influence member turnout. We need to figure out what we are doing.

Advised that he has no problem with not meeting in August because many committee meetings skip this month.

Kathy McHugh

Ask the group to complete the housing fund survey and return to her.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:04.