

HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Notes

May 15, 2008

Present:

Joy Johnson
Charlie Armstrong
Peter Loach
Kathy Galvin
Natasha Sienitsky
Overton McGehee
Donna Scott
Chris Murray
Karen Waters

Staff

Missy Creasy
Melissa Celii
Jim Tolbert

The Meeting was called to order at 12:00 and began with introductions of the group and all of the guests. Charlie then discussed the subcommittees. It was noted that membership was not set therefore meetings had not occurred. Jim Tolbert noted that he forwarded a memo dated April 30th that outlined Council's new priorities for the group. It appears that many of those recommendations fit with the mission of at least one of the subcommittees. Dave noted that council wanted to look at housing funding more strategically but noted there was value to having housing initiative funds for projects that come up suddenly. There was discussion about who would review those projects and that has not been determined. It is likely the process where HAC provides guidance to Council on criteria and the CDBG Task Force reviews the proposals may stay in place. Natasha noted it would be helpful for the reviewers and the applicants to provide more specific priorities and regulations.

Dave noted that the Council goals are on page 12 of the memo provided by Jim and include the development of SRO and redevelopment of properties. It is possible that funds will be committed for long term projects. Charlie brought the group back together asking for comments on how to move forward. It was noted that the funding criteria and the subcommittee work were both pending. These items are linked together. Jim noted that priorities include setting the affordability definition and establishing the funding criteria.

The group voted to form the following four subcommittees with the following membership

- Define Affordability in the context of mixed income housing. Consider the needs of the extremely low income, the homeless and special needs populations. Reed, Overton, Noah, Joy
- Housing Information Distribution (how do we get the word out?) Cheri, Art, Dave
- How to incentivize/enable the private sector to build affordable? Review newest legislation. Chris, Charlie, Kathy, Jim T.
- Establish priorities and criteria for evaluation of funding proposals. Holly Hatcher, Karen, Natasha, Joy, Missy

*group coordinators have been underlined.

The affordability definition committee and the criteria committee will meet prior to the next meeting and provide a report.

Dave then introduced the representatives from Virginia Supportive Housing and noted that a presentation would take place on May 27th at 4pm at City Space to introduce the SRO concept to the community. Candace Street provided an overview of the program and answered questions.

The next meeting will be on June 19th at noon in the basement conference room.