

MINUTES OF HOUSING COMMISSION MEETING

DATE: 22 October 2013
TIME: 4:00 PM
PLACE: Housing and Community Development Department
350 West 6th Street, Suite 312, Dubuque, IA 52001

Chairperson Holz, following staff assurance of compliance with Iowa Open Meeting Law, called the meeting to order at 4:01 pm.

Commissioners Present: Jim Holz Rick Baumhover Ricardo Woods
Amy Eudaley Anna Fernandes Robert McDonell
Judie Root (phone) Sister Dorothy Schwendinger

Commissioners Excused: Patricia Foster

Staff Present: Teresa Bassler Teresa Drury
Janet Walker Erica Haugen

Public Present: Trisha Federspiel David Wall

Review and Certification of Minutes of 27 August 2013 Commission Meeting

Commissioner Baumhover motioned to approve the minutes. Commissioner Eudaley seconded. All others present in favor. Motion passed.

Correspondence/Public Input

Janet Walker informed the staff and public present of the request for Iowa Legal Aid to work with us on the revision of the Administrative Plan. Iowa Legal Aid accepted and will provide their feedback in writing. Erica Haugen introduced herself as the new Neighborhood Development Specialist taking over Aggie Tauke's position. Teresa Bassler introduced herself and announced her new position as the Assisted Housing Supervisor.

Old Business

None

New Business

Community Development Commission Member Renewal: Ricardo Woods

Housing Trust Fund Committee Member Renewal: Dorothy Schwendinger, OSF

Commissioner Woods read the Oath of Office aloud and signed the document. Vice Chairperson Schwendinger administered her own Oath of office and signed the document.

Review and comment on the New Administrative Plan Draft

The first 7 chapters of the Administrative Plan draft were provided to the Commissioners. The purpose is to have all the regulations coincide with the policies. Staff along with everyone else should be able to read and understand the language better. Janet Walker mentioned the Housing Department recently purchased the Nan McKay Model Plan to help us along with the changes. Before it can be adopted, HUD will receive a copy of the Administrative Plan. The most significant change pertains to doing away local preference points to make it equal by date and time of application.

The Housing Choice Voucher program must ensure to have at least 75% of the new admissions at the very low income level. We have been averaging 80% at the very low income level on the waiting list. Commissioners will receive a summary of all of the changes when complete.

Participants cannot be forced to participate in the Family Self-Sufficiency program but, we may strongly suggest participation. Last year we had 153 families participating in the FSS program. Amy Eudaley requested an FSS presentation at the next Housing Commission meeting to see exactly what we present to participants on the program.

New Affordable Housing Definition

A copy of the New Affordable Housing Definition was provided to the Commissioners at the meeting. Janet Walker stated that the document was a draft to help define what Affordable Housing is and how it is encompassed in the City of Dubuque. Comments and suggestions were requested to be brought back as a group or individually by the next meeting.

Information Sharing

Crime Reports

Commissioners received a summary of Cpl. Koch's crime reports.

Poverty Simulation Invitation

Commissioners were invited to the Poverty Simulation at Prescott School. Erica Haugen briefly explained the Poverty Simulation. The Circles Initiative and Operation New View partnered together to try and simulate what it might be like to live in poverty and make people aware of the barriers that others in poverty face on a daily basis.

Update on Government Shutdown

Many HUD employees are back to work. We are still under sequestration and haven't received any budget information.

Adjournment

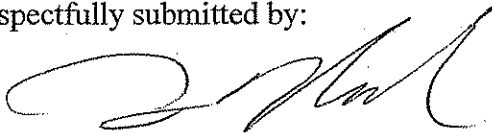
There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting adjourned at 4:40 pm.

Minutes taken by:



Teresa Drury
Recording Secretary

Respectfully submitted by:



Alvin Nash
Department Director