

Affordable Housing Coalition

Tuesday, May 17, 2011

10:00 to 12:00 PM

Damiano Center

Minutes

- 1. Introductions:** Rick Ball, Pam Benson, Kira Kallberg, Cliff Knettle, Carolyn Chapin, Pam Kramer, Mary Lu Larson, Lynn Snyder, Gwen Updegraff, Jeannie Ward, Tiffany Gunderson, Kaley Nelson, Vrian Marsolek, Megan Bush, Angie Skogstad, Martin Lepak, Erich Lutz, Carol Schultz, Tina Riley, Laura DeRosier, Karen Olesen, Char McLennan, Richard Howell, and Suzanne Kelly

Announcements:

- Pam Kramer announced MHFA/GMHF LISC coordinated application Training Thursday, from 12-3. Applicants will apply for foreclosure, rehabilitation, & home ownership activities.
- Legal Aid/Salvation Army Tenant forum training held today at the Damiano Center at 1:30. This training will cover items such as tenant rights, education, support services, funds, & much more.

2. Approval of Agenda and Minutes from January Meeting

Rick Ball made the motion to approve the minutes/Carol 2nd/the motion passed.

3. Discussion/Presentations:

- Follow-up to April discussion regarding Voting Process for the Affordable Housing Coalition. In summary, anyone present at the AHC monthly meeting has the opportunity to participate in and give feedback to agenda/discussion items. For voting on an action item/funding recommendation, there will be 1 vote per agency (dues paying or exempt status). It will be up to each agency to choose the person that will represent that agency with 1 vote. Motion made to accept the above policy made by Pam, Motion second by Kira.
- Community Development forum: City of Duluth developed community priority input forum for FY 2012 CDBG & HOME funds. All AHC participants ranked outlined list of Housing/Homeless activities. Results will be shared at June or July meeting.
- Laura handed out 2010 HUD New project allocations for Duluth/St. Louis County. All 3 new projects received bonus dollars! Center City received \$200,000 for Duluth Family Supportive Housing project, \$70,331 for operating funds for Memorial Park, and MAC V received \$111,330 for operating funds at the Duluth Veterans Place. Further, with FY2011 HUD funding cuts across many federal programs, McKinney-Vento homeless program funds received a \$40M increase.

This will be the first step in the 6 part roll-out of the federal HEARTH Act taking place over the next few years.

- Update given on At-Home neighborhood plans. Final drafts will be revised by the end of August followed by a community meeting in September. In October the final drafts will be completed with a release of the plans taking place at LISC “Connecting the Dots” event on November 5th. For more information contact Pam Kramer.
- Char went over all Break-Out Committee planning meetings listed on the agenda. Additional recommended committees include: Youth specific committee and an on-going Legislative/Advocacy committee.
- AHC members were encouraged to sign up for committee participation and/or go back to agency/organizations to discuss which committee to attend. All “committees” will have a date/time that they meet & a brief summary of the outcome should be sent to Joyce at the City of Duluth to be included in the minutes. Char will send out a spreadsheet with all “committee” meeting times/locations for interested members.
- July Unsheltered Point in Time Count: Laura discussed a statewide effort to conduct an Unsheltered Point in Time count similar to the HUD January count to take place in St Louis County in July. Unsheltered PIT survey was distributed. Further questions, please contact Laura.
- Rick Ball provided update regarding letter to St. Lukes and Walgreens requesting that these organizations address the loss of affordable housing in their expansion/development. There has been communication regarding willingness to make financial contribution discussion to be continued...
- Gwen Updegraff gave update on Civil legal Services 16% funding cuts & local impacts. If AHC members would like further information contact Gwen.
- Appointment of a Vice Chair position was recommended by AHC members.
- Appointment of an AHC Leadership Council member will take place at the June meeting.
- Appointment of a Treasurer position was recommended by AHC members. Carol has done this historically.

The above positions will further formalize the group process. A brief job description of each position will be sent via e-mail to all AHC members by May 24th. Members were asked to contact potential nominees who may be a good fit for the positions – please feel free to recommend yourself. Nominees names should be sent to Joyce Ellingsen at the City of Duluth - jelling@duluthmn.gov by June 17th in order to prepare for voting at the June 21st AHC meeting. Final selections will be made with the new 1 vote per agency policy.

Treasurers Report: Carol Shultz reported:
\$1,358.66 balance
22 organizations have paid dues in 2011

4. Actions

- Cliff Knettle recommended that the committee re-visit voting policy. In summary, anyone present at the AHC monthly meeting has the opportunity to participate in and give feedback to agenda/discussion items. For voting on an action item/funding recommendation, there will be 1 vote per agency (dues paying or exempt status). It will be up to each agency to choose the person that will represent that agency with 1 vote. Pam Kramer moved to support the policy, it was seconded by Kira Kallberg and approved by all.
- Cliff Knettle inquired whether the AHC name could be added for MN Housing Partnership support. Rick Ball moved to support with AHC name, Martin Lepac seconded and approved by all. Carol Schultz will contact MHP & add name.
- June meeting will be held at new 10:00 time.

July Agenda Items

The next meeting of the Affordable Housing Coalition will be Tuesday June 21, 2011 at the Damiano Center. **Please note:** the meeting will begin at **10:00** am in order to allow for break out meetings to be held after the full committee meeting. The meeting agenda and minutes are located on the City's CD website at: http://www.duluthmn.gov/community_development/

If you have items to be included on the June meeting agenda, contact or send your information to Joyce Ellingsen at 730-5480 (jelling@duluthmn.gov). See calendar for other June items.