

AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION

The regular meeting of the City of Loveland Affordable Housing Commission was held at the Loveland Municipal Building in the Main Floor Conference Room on November 14, 2013

PRESENT AT THE MEETING:

Commissioners: Chris Jessen, Marcy Hoerster, Pamela McCrory, Vendia Berg, Will Gresham, Barb Ireland, and Diann Rice

Staff Liaison: Alison Hade

Guests: Vanessa Fenley, Project Director of Homeward 2020
Glenda Shayne, Executive Director of Alternatives to Violence

ABSENT FROM THE MEETING:

Commissioners: Ted Schlagenhauf and Angie Shafranek

Council Liaison: Ralph Trenary

These minutes are a general summary of the meeting.

HOMeward 2020

Prior to the call to order Vanessa Fenley with Homeward 2020 spoke to the commissioners about the Fort Collins plan to end homelessness. Ms. Fenley stated that Homeward 2020 is a community based initiative to end homelessness as we know it. A committee created a ten year plan with a housing first approach that includes supportive services and connections to the community. Through the community mapping process they created a path that fundamentally changes the way services are provided. The plan prioritizes the most vulnerable individuals, the chronically homeless, those who are homeless for a year or more and most at risk of dying on the streets.

The plan started in 2010 with "Registration Week" using a survey called the vulnerability index; it gave Homeward 2020 a sense of who the actual homeless individuals are. Annually, in late January, they do a Point in Time count and they have the Project Homeless Connect event.

They are now emphasizing permanent supportive housing and working with the Fort Collins Housing Authority's Red Tail Ponds, which is a 60 unit permanent supportive housing program, 40 of the units will house previously homeless individuals.

Homeward 2020 is not a direct service provider they work with agencies that provide services, such as, Neighbor to Neighbor and Catholic Charities. They are looking at how to work together regionally. Ms. Fenley leads the Northern Front Range Continuum of Care, which consists of agencies that work with homeless populations from both Larimer and Weld counties.

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Jessen called the meeting to order at 5:22 pm.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Commissioner Rice made a motion to approve the October 10th meeting minutes. Commissioner Ireland seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON UPDATE

None

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP OFFICE UPDATE

~The Loveland Homeless Connect event on October 25th allowed for 40 services to be available in one place for one day for approximately 150 homeless and at risk of homelessness individuals and families. Staff Liaison Hade stated it was good for the clients and even better for the community members, by providing an understanding of homelessness in Loveland. She thanked several AHC members that attended. The next phase is to determine who the target audience is and how to reach them.

~Staff Liaison Hade is working on the CAPER and will have it finished by mid-December.

~The Point in Time will be January 22nd. The PIT happens annually, a one day count of those who are being sheltered. Every other year the PIT includes those who are unsheltered.

REPAYMENT AND RE-ALLOCATION OF CDBG FUNDING

Alternatives to Violence has \$110,000 of CDBG funding in the land for the Safehouse, which will take a lot longer to build than originally anticipated and will cost over \$1M. ATV would like to be able to use the \$110,000 to purchase a house and rehab it instead. They would like to sell the land to Habitat for Humanity at cost. Since there is a timing issue with using CDBG funding for the purchase, staff suggested they pay back the \$110,000 to the City and the City would then re-allocate it to ATV. The City would lift the deed of trust on the old property and place a new deed on the new property. Discussion ensued regarding other options ATV would have, such as, selling the land publicly and paying back the CDBG. Concern over whether the new location would actually be purchased was raised. Another concern was if the money is going to be used in the way it was intended. There are other factors that are being addressed as well: lead-based paint, asbestos, security, and accessibility. Chair Jessen stated that voting tonight is important to ATV's decision moving forward, it would be a "good faith" vote. Commissioner Rice made the motion - the AHC commits to a reallocation of up to \$110,000 that will be repaid by ATV to the City of Loveland under three conditions: 1) HUD returns the \$110,000 to the City of Loveland, 2) all due diligence is satisfactorily completed on a new project, 3) the purchase of a new location is completed within one year of the re-allocation agreement. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Irelan. There was further discussion and the motion passed with 4 ayes and 3 nays.

Staff Liaison Hade confirmed that she would keep the commission updated since there were several concerns regarding the project.

GRANT PROCESS REVIEW

Staff Liaison Hade stated that the overall goal for grant proposal changes was to match the Consolidated Plan. The first change was the CDBG Goals to reflect financial support to projects instead of services. Her other recommendation was to have the scoring reflect the overall proposal and not a score for each question, because scoring is not the only factor in deciding what projects are funded. Chair Jessen recommends the CPO finish making the changes and the AHC vote on the overall changes instead of each individual change. After discussion it was decided upon consensus that the vote will be held at the December meeting. It was noted that by matching the Consolidated Plan it would validate the scoring even more. There is a disclaimer in the grant guide: The Affordable Housing Commission may consider factors other than score when making funding decisions. There

has never been an issue with unfunded agencies being dissatisfied with the process and making an appeal to the City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Jessen asked the commissioners if they want to continue on with the way they are doing things or does the AHC want to take on a more active role, more like Homeward 2020 and fund those types of projects. He encouraged the commissioners to think about the way they want to see things go and what the AHC mission is. Commissioner Rice would like to see the AHC have a purpose statement. Several commissioners would like to create a plan for homelessness. Chair Jessen asked them to think about it and be ready to discuss at the December meeting. If a plan is agreed upon it would be presented to City Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn was made by Commissioner Rice and seconded by Commissioner Hoerster, passing unanimously. Chair Jessen adjourned the meeting at 6:40 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Beverly Walker