

**City of Mesa
Housing Advisory Board
Mesa City Council Chambers, Lower Level
57 East 1st Street
September 7, 2007
6:00PM
- Meeting Minutes -**

Members

Ms. Diana Yazzie Devine
Ms. Siri Amrit Kaur Khalsa
Mr. Conrad Morin
Mr. Ron L. Peters
Mr. Marv Turley (absent)
Ms. Deanna Villanueva-Saucedo
Mr. Jon Scott Williams (excused)

Staff

Mr. Scott Clapp
Mr. Chris DeCaluwe
Ms. Carolyn Olson

Welcome and Introductions

Chair Deanna Villanueva-Saucedo convened the meeting at 6:00 PM and a quorum was declared. Each Board member provided a brief introduction of themselves followed by introductions of the newest Board member, Ron L. Peters, and the City's Housing and Revitalization Director, Carolyn Olson.

Mr. Peters has served on numerous Advisory Boards for the City of Mesa, such as Historic Preservation, and has a planning background.

Ms. Olson comes to Mesa from Fort Dodge, Iowa where she served as Director of the local Housing Authority.

Approval of June, 2007 Minutes

Minutes were unanimously approved as written.

Items from Citizens Present

There were no citizens present at this meeting and no items were presented to the Board.

Discussion Items/Action Items

Future HAB Meeting Dates (Action Item)

In a 5-0 vote, the Board unanimously agreed to retain its meeting schedule "as is" and without modification. Staff had brought to the Board's attention that three of its regularly scheduled meetings conflicted with various Jewish holidays. After examining potential alternatives and realizing the difficulty in altering their own personal schedules, the Board decided to maintain the status quo. The Housing Advisory Board will continue to meet on the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM in the lower level of the Mesa Council Chambers (57 East 1st Street).

Introduction to the Definition of Substandard Housing (Action Item)

Members of the Board examined and approved the Introduction to the Definition of Substandard Housing as submitted by Chair Deanna Villanueva-Saucedo. Conrad Morin made a motion to approve the Introduction as written and was seconded by Diana Yazzie Devine. The Board unanimously approved the motion by a vote of 5-0. As directed by the Board, staff will forward both the Introduction and the Definition to the Council sometime in the near future. Ron L Peters expressed the need for the City's Advisory Boards to engage in active communication with each other to avoid duplication of effort and counterproductive outcomes.

Outcome and Recommendations from the Sustainable Communities Event of June 14, 2007

The Board received an overall event summary, a copy of the notes and Action Plan from the Workforce Housing/Sustainability Work Committee (WHSC), and a copy of a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Creating a Sustainable Future for Our Communities: Housing Policies- General Plans & Zoning Ordinances" by the City of Phoenix's Principal Planner, Dean Brennan. These materials were provided by Teresa Brice, LISC Phoenix, who attended/spearheaded the Sustainable Communities Event of June 14. Teresa Brice of LISC Phoenix provided the summary about the event. A diverse cross-section of both public and private entities were represented at the event including 7 different communities, various non-profit agencies, banks, educational institutions, private developers, and others. Staff provided the information as a resource to assist the Board in accomplishing its mission. The Board instructed staff to invite Ms. Brice to speak about this topic/event at a future Board meeting.

Staff Reports/Announcements

Carolyn Olson, Director of Housing and Revitalization for the City of Mesa, reported the following:

Personnel/Staffing Changes

Aileen Murphy, Housing Supervisor, is retiring from Housing Services after serving for over 20 years.

Section 8 Voucher Program

Section 8 waiting list was opened for three days on July 10th through the 12th. Housing Services received 587 applications. Ms. Amrit Kaur Khalsa would like to see Section 8 program and the manufactured housing industry work in greater collaboration in an effort to connect low-income individuals with affordable housing options.

Transition of Residents out of Escobedo Apartments

Out of 101 total units, there are currently 25 vacancies, 9 planned moves, and 32 residents in process for voucher assistance.

Housing Governing Board Meeting

Two resolutions were presented to the Governing Board at a meeting held the morning of September 6, 2007. The first resolution was to adopt the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) policy as part of Housing's Administrative Plan. The second resolution was to adopt a 2008 Fair Market Rent (FMR) Payment Standard Schedule.

**FAIR MARKET RENT / PAYMENT STANDARDS
To Be Effective January 1, 2008**

BEDROOM SIZE	2008 FAIR MARKET RENTS	CURRENT PAYMENT STANDARD	PROPOSED PAYMENT STANDARD	PROPOSED STANDARD - % OF FAIR MARKET RENT
0	\$609	\$544	\$549	90%
1	\$715	\$638	\$644	90%
2	\$862	\$770	\$776	90%
3	\$1,256	\$1,122	\$1,131	90%
4	\$1,498	\$1,338	\$1,349	90%
5	\$1,723	\$1,539	\$1,551	90%

Ms. Olson also pointed out that the proposed standard percentage of Fair Market Rent (FMR) can be set between 90%-110%. Due to the budgetary climate, however, Mesa's proposed standard percentage of Fair Market Rent is set at 90%.

Relocation of Housing and Revitalization Offices

Space has been identified at the City's South Center Campus (200 South Center Street), and it's estimated that this move will occur in early 2008.

Board and Committee Member Orientation

Board and Committee Member Orientation will occur on Monday, September 10 in the City of Mesa Council Chambers from 5:30-6:30 PM

Upscale Urban Housing Projects Presentation

Eric Brown of the Artisan Homes had been scheduled to give a presentation at this evening's meeting on Upscale Urban Housing Projects but had to withdraw at the last minute. He is, however, willing to give the same presentation at the next HAB meeting in October.

ADJOURN

With no other agenda items to be discussed, Chair Villanueva-Saucedo adjourned the meeting at 6:57 PM.

Approved and Respectfully Submitted,

Deanna Villanueva-Saucedo, Chair

November 1, 2007