

**CITY OF MESA
HOUSING ADVISORY BOARD
Housing Services Office
September 14, 2006
6:00PM
- MEETING MINUTES -**

MEMBERS

Mr. Paul Dugas
Ms. Diana Yazzie Devine
Mr. Bob Hisserich
Ms. Siri Amrit Kaur Khalsa
Ms. Trudy Licano
Mr. Conrad Morin (absent)
Mr. Marv Turley (absent)
Ms. Deanna Villaneuva-Saucedo
Mr. Jon Scott Williams

STAFF

Ms. Jane Albin
Ms. Lisa Hembree
Ms. Kari Kent
Ms. Ruth Anne Norris

GUESTS

Mr. Chris Brady, City Manager
Ms. Susan Brenton/MHCA, Inc.
Ms. Teresa Brice
Mr. Chris DeCaluwe, Housing Supervisor
Ms. Aileen Murphy, Housing Supervisor
Mr. Dave Richins, West Mesa CDC

Prior to calling the meeting to order, attendees were given a tour of the Housing Services offices and Escobedo Housing.

INTRODUCTION OF BOARD MEMBERS AND STAFF

Chair Deanna Villaneuva-Saucedo welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Board members and guests to introduce themselves.

Chris Brady, City Manager, addressed the Board and thanked them for their participation. He said that since staff cannot do it all, volunteers such as this group are an integral part of the City, and their time and effort is appreciated. When asked about Escobedo, Mr. Brady said that all options for its future are being considered. Whatever the decision, it will be made with what's best for those living there in mind. The Board will be kept apprised of and included in discussions as options are considered.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS

Chair Villaneuva-Saucedo asked for comments from citizens present. There were no comments.

APPROVAL OF JULY 6, 2006 MINUTES

With no additions or corrections to the minutes, they were approved as written.

PRESENTATION ON WEST MAIN DESIGN CHARETTE

Mr. Dave Richins of the West Mesa CDC gave an overview of the design workshops that took place earlier this year. They involved community members from all areas. Ideas were shared on

the visions for the area along the north side of Main Street, from Sycamore east. Issues such as density, mix of uses, mix of incomes, parking requirements and open space requirements were discussed. The summary of ideas is to create a true 'Main Street' aesthetic; enhance the pedestrian experience; create site amenities to establish relationships with the surroundings; reduce the impact on surrounding neighbors while promoting *Smart* growth. Mr. Richins assured the Board they will be kept informed as this project progresses.

DISCUSS AND DETERMINE A DEFINITION FOR 'SUBSTANDARD' HOUSING

A subcommittee consisting of Board members Siri Amrit Kaur Khalsa, Conrad Morin and Marv Turley presented a list of standards for functional compliance for residential dwelling units for discussion. The Board agreed that to move forward, it is necessary to determine the intended audience and the purpose of the definition. Because of the complexity of this issue, further discussion is needed, and due to time constraints this evening, Chair Villaneuva-Saucedo requested that this item be the first agenda item for the October meeting. Chair Vallaneuva-Saucedo also requested staff to email the Habitat for Humanity definition of 'dilapidated housing' to the Board. Through email, the Board will continue to comment on the list as presented.

It was suggested that one purpose in establishing a definition for substandard housing is to have a baseline definition in order to accomplish one of the goals of the Housing Master Plan. One of the targeted goals by 2025 is to "Define, determine and reduce by at least 50% the number of housing units in substandard or deteriorated condition." Therefore, it is necessary to have a working definition of 'substandard'.

HEAR AN OVERVIEW OF ESCOBEDO APARTMENTS AND THE REHABILITATION PROGRAM

Mr. Chris DeCaluwe, Housing Supervisor, related the activities to the Board of the continual upkeep and maintenance at Escobedo. Two full time maintenance staff and a property manager do a great job keeping on top of repairs, etc. Due to the summer storms, 30 roof repairs were made. He said that there is a waiting list of approximately 200 people for an apartment.

Ms. Aileen Murphy, Housing Supervisor, spoke briefly on the City's Section 8 program. She told how the voucher funding program works and that a new waiting list for Section 8 will open in November. Ms. Murphy also related that NAHRO is trying to get the existing income ratio changed in order to help more families.

STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ms. Ruth Anne Norris presented the Housing Services Division monthly management report for June and July 2006. She said that 140 rehabilitation projects have been completed. She also told the Board that she will be retiring from the City on November 1. Her expertise and contributions will be greatly missed by everyone.

Chair Villaneuva-Saucedo reported on the successful two-day Governor's Housing Forum in Tucson. A lot of good information was shared and distributed. An attempt will be made to get copies of a brochure regarding the 2006 Arizona Housing Market for all the Board members.

It was suggested that Ms. Susan Brenton give a presentation at a future meeting regarding manufactured housing in the hope that this would help reduce obstacles to more manufactured home communities in the City of Mesa.

Mr. Paul Dugas will attempt to obtain updated statistics on Mesa's executive housing.

ADJOURN

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 5, and will be held in the lower level Council Chambers, 57 E. First Street. With no other agenda items to be discussed, Chair Villaneuva-Saucedo adjourned the meeting at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jane M. Albin, Management Assistant I