

Orange County Affordable Housing Advisory Board Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2020 at 6:00 PM

Southern Human Services Center

2501 Homestead Road, Chapel Hill, NC 27514

Members Present: Douglas Boemker, Keith Cook (Chair), James Eichel, Tammy Jacobs, Ellie Kinnaird, Allison Mahaley, Mae McLendon, Adejuwon Ojebuoboh, Noah Oswald, Blake Rosser, Arthur Sprinczeles, Jenn Sykes

Members Absent: Jennifer Moore, Cain Twyman (excused)

Invited Speakers Present: Allen Coleman, Management and Budget Analyst and Corey Root, Homeless Programs Coordinator

Staff Present: Emila Sutton, Housing and Community Development Director, Erika Brandt, Community Development Manager and Diane Beecham, Community Development Specialist

- I. **Call to Order/Introductions** – Mr. Cook called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM.
- II. **Approval of Minutes** – On a motion by Ms. Kinnaird, seconded by Ms. Sykes, the AHAB unanimously approved the minutes of the December 10, 2019 AHAB meeting.
- III. **Department of Housing and Community Development Updates** – Ms. Sutton introduced the new Community Development Manager, Erika Brandt, and shared that Alycia Brown has been promoted to Housing Choice Voucher Program Manager. The two remaining open positions to be filled are a Housing Specialist and a Rehab Specialist.

The space at the Southern Human Services building that the DHCD occupies as a satellite office will be moved to the back of the building.
- IV. **Presentation of the Outside Agency Funding Process, Allen Coleman, Management and Budget Analyst** – The presentation on the application and selection process by which outside agencies can apply to the County for funding is attached.
- V. **Presentation on the Orange County Partnership to End Homelessness Funding Gaps and Research on Rapid Rehousing, Corey Root, Homeless Programs Coordinator** – The presentation on establishing a successful Rapid Rehousing program and eliminating gaps in a comprehensive homelessness prevention system is attached. After the presentation, Mr. Cook asked how the AHAB can assist the Partnership to End Homelessness' efforts to eliminate homeless programs'

funding gaps. He also asked DHCD staff to develop talking points to address common myths surrounding homelessness.

VI. Old and New Business

a. **Lunch and Learn with Staff** – The AHAB agrees that this event should be held in June 2020. It was suggested that it be held in the conference room at the Solid Waste Administration Building on Eubanks Road.

b. **Next Community Meeting/Housing Information Event** – Scheduled for Tuesday, February 11, 2020 at Chapel Hill Public Library, Room A, 6:00-8:00 PM. Ms. Mahaley stated that she wants the events to be well-attended, but not an airing of public grievances; instead, it should focus on sharing the AHAB's work and hearing community input on affordable housing issues.

Ms. Mahaley suggested having an overview of the Orange County Housing Authority, its roles and responsibilities, and the role of private landlords in the Housing Choice Voucher program. The event could be used to recruit more landlords into the program. Ms. Kinnaird suggested that the presentation also include the roles, responsibilities and programs of the DHCD as a whole.

The AHAB requested DHCD staff develop a PowerPoint presentation for the meeting and to review it prior to the meeting. The PowerPoint will include orientation information that will also help develop an AHAB orientation packet.

c. **Schedule Invitations/Reports for Housing-Related Agencies Whose Requests for Outside Agency Funding will be Evaluated by the AHAB** – The first meeting is tentatively scheduled for February 25th.

d. **New Member Orientation/County Commissioner Affirmation of AHAB Charge** – Proposed for Q2 or Q3 of 2020. The initial idea was to develop a new AHAB member packet and then schedule an orientation. Ms. Mahaley suggested that a member orientation packet be developed and used in the Staff Lunch and Learn, rather than a separate orientation meeting. It was also decided that staff will request a new charge for the AHAB from the BOCC.

VII. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 PM.

Submitted by Diane Beecham, Community Development Specialist