

Affordable Housing Advisory Board
Minutes of Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Members Present: Patsy Barbee, Arthur Sprinczeles, James Stroud, Tammy Jacobs, Diane Beecham, Vanessa Soleil and Nannie Richmond

Members Absent: Jonzella Bailey-Pridham, Britney Walden, Sully Jaffer, and Andrew Shannon

Staff Present: Tara L. Fikes and Crystal Coble

Welcome/Introduction

Board Chair, Patsy Barbee called meeting to order

Approval of Minutes

James Stroud made a motion to approve the minutes of the January 14, 2013 meeting and Arthur Sprinczeles seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

Guest – Carla Banks, Director of Public Affairs for Orange County

At the invitation of board members, Carla Banks was present and provided ideas that could give the Affordable Housing Advisory Board more visibility in order to recruit more volunteers and also to create awareness of the issues facing affordable housing in Orange County. She brought an informational packet that highlighted upcoming outreach opportunities for the board. That information is attached to these minutes. Other ideas discussed included:

- Writing a Letter to the Editor in order to more closely define what the board does and the help that is needed;
- Hosting a social for interested persons to get a better understanding of what the board does and the issues concerning affordable housing in Orange County;
- Need to consider how the board can reach the population that already volunteers or is more likely to volunteer;
- Making sure that the methods that are used to advertise does not reflect a misuse of funds; and
- Continuing to post facts and on the board's Facebook page in order heighten awareness of the board, their accomplishments/activities and the help that is still needed,

All information that is advertised should clearly state that we are looking for persons interested in helping to solving the affordable housing issues in Orange County

Non-Departmental Applications

Tara Fikes explained that it was time to review the non-departmental grant applications. Along with the applications and score cards, Fikes also shared a letter from the finance department that detailed the assignment of applications to each advisory board. The board decided to review each application and have score cards and comment section filled out to be discussed during the March 11, 2014 meeting. Also the members agreed to meet for two hours in order to complete the review of the applications so that the score cards could be given to the BOCC in April.

Department Report

The 2014 department calendar was given to the board members. Tara Fikes also announced her retirement from Orange County effective date of April 1, 2014

Other Business

The next meeting will be in Chapel Hill in Conference Room D in the Southern Human Services Center located at 2501 Homestead Road.

James Stroud moved to adjourn and Vanessa Soleil seconded the motion and the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted:
Crystal B. Coble