

Welcoming Statement: (9:00 - 9:15)

Good Morning Everyone. Thank you for joining us today for the first meeting to assist in establishing an Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing Task Force. I am Winford Craig, Vice Chair of the Commission on Human Relations for the City of Pittsburgh and Chair of the Commission's Housing Committee.

The Task Force is an initiative that was charged to the Commission under the 2013 Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Choice study, which is completed periodically by the City of Pittsburgh.

The purpose of the Task Force is two fold: First, to establish better working relationships with agencies and organizations that receive CDBG monies and or work in housing. And, second, to establish better governmental cooperation and a targeted approach to delivering programs and services to affirmatively further fair housing.

The City of Pittsburgh Commission on Human Relations is the official civil rights organization for the City of Pittsburgh and enforced laws that all are created equal and have equal access and opportunity in the areas of employment, housing and public accommodations.

A task-force is a short-term body that works on a specific issue - in this case, fair housing. The goal of the Task Force is to identify barriers and create and promote policies that affirmatively further fair housing.

While I represent the City of Pittsburgh's Commission on Human Relations, I recognize, and perhaps all of us in this room recognize, that housing policies require a coordinated approach to ensure that residents truly have equal opportunity to housing. Housing is a cornerstone of life. Housing dictates your access to education, healthcare and neighborhood amenities. That is why it is vitally important that equal choice to housing opportunities is furthered by a concerted effort of our organizations.

Today's meeting has two goals. First is to discuss a series of discussion questions listed on your agenda to get a better sense of AFFH activities and organizational barriers to furthering programs. And Second, to get a general idea of how the task force should proceed.

At this time, I would like to go around the table and allow you to introduce yourself and your organization. I would like to remind you at this time to silence your cell phones for the remainder of the meeting

Introduction of Participants: (9:15 - 9:35)

[Allow participants to introduce themselves]

Thank you all.

Discussion Questions: (9:35 - 10:30)

At this time, I would like to begin our AFFH discussion. Rather than go round the table, let's discuss more openly.

- a. What is your organization currently undertaking to affirmatively further fair housing?
- b. What are your organization's key issues or barriers in implementing affirmatively furthering fair housing projects and programs?
- c. What strategies should the Task Force focus on to support AFFH goals?

Committees: (10:30 - 10:45)

We've heard a lot of good comments and discussions regarding barriers to affirmatively furthering fair housing. In order to move forward in our work, we will need to establish a Task Force steering committee.

The steering committee will also be charged with setting up task-force by-laws for the purpose of managing and regulating the internal affairs of the task force.

The steering committee will have to meet more often than the whole group, and their goal is to take the information that we learned today and provide us with direction for future meetings to accomplish the task force's goals.

If anyone is interested in joining the committee, please sign up on the sheet next to the sign in.

Closing Remarks:

Thank you all for your participation in today's discussion. I think we are off to a good start. Our next meeting will be held in August 2013 on a date to be determined. You will receive an email invitation to the next meeting in the upcoming month from Sarah Kinter. At this time the meeting is adjourned. If you are interested in serving on the Steering Committee, you may sign up near the sign in sheet.

Thank you.