

AFFH Steering Committee Meeting

Thursday, August 11, 2016 10am-11:30am

Mission of the AFFH Task Force:

- Inform assessment of impediments
- Professional coordinate/collaborate regarding research, data, and ideas
- Fair Housing Assessment: do our due diligence to obtain public input regarding fair housing
- Respond to public recommendations with information founded in research
- Provide recommendations for how to obtain feedback from specific community groups

Why Subcommittees?

- Professionals can collaborate regarding their specific topic on a more intimate level and present more coherent recommendations to identify impediments and policy recommendations.

Committees: Barriers to Fair Housing

- Chairs need to be held accountable for work product and staying in communication with the rest of the task force
- Chairs are to recruit members from the AFFH Task Force
- Each committee will address overlapping/intertwining issues
- While January 2017 was previously mentioned as a deadline for recommendations, it was determined that varying time frames would be assigned for each matter depending on the complexity and estimated duration of research.

1. Race & Ethnicity
 - a. Chair:
2. Sexual Orientation/Gender/Gender Identity

- a. Chair: La'Tasha Mayes
 3. Disability
 - a. Potential Chair: Paul O'Hanlon
 4. Formerly Incarcerated/Homelessness
 - a. Potential Chair: Sarah Kinter or Peter Harvey
 5. Outreach & Education
 - a. Chair: Cherylie Fuller (Helen Gerhardt agreed to chair should Ms. Fuller become unable to do so)
 - b. Helen Gerhardt agreed with Director Torres that new committee structure would encourage responsibility and support movement among the Task Force. However, she is to send out the list of committee members.
 - c. Goal: to consider affordable housing and its impact on areas already struggling; concentrated pockets of affordable housing
 - d. Helen Gerhardt reminded the Committee members that any entity that receives CDBG funding needs to have a fair housing component. CDBG money needs to be invested into struggling areas, however City Planning is not being held accountable for this obligation
- Director Torres indicated that the City Planning impediment assessment failed to add community feedback into their final report and has indicated that they will do what they can to correct this in the future. In addition, HUD inquired as to whether the AFFH Task Force is working with the Affordable Housing Task Force and we were unable to provide an answer. After discussing this with various people in city planning it was determined that a follow up inquiry to Director Ray Gastil regarding having a member of City Planning attend AFFH meetings is necessary.
- Molly Nichols inquired about the timeline for reports to be presented to the AFFH Task Force, which was discussed at the previous AFFH quarterly meeting. Director Torres indicated that while the timeline was discussed it did not come to fruition. There was an issue of who from the Task Force should be voting, as multiple members of the same organization would attend Task Force meetings. However, we intend to rectify that with the

membership forms that we asked the Task Force members to complete, which identify a primary and alternative contact for each organization. The original timeline was January 2017, however it as determined that each subject would have a different timeline. The proposed amendments to legislation are a top priority, as the public hearing is scheduled for September 21, 2016 and legislation should be passed in October.

- Robert Damewood is to send a copy of the legislation to the Committee via email. He noted that fair housing isn't a noted objective/statement of need in the legislation. The goal of the AFFH Task Force is to get fair housing into the statement of need.
- Molly Nichols indicated that she would obtain a list of the Pittsburgh United talking points and distribute them via email to the Committee for review.
- The Steering Committee will meet again on September 8th to discuss talking points for the public hearing scheduled for September 21st (council chambers, 5:30pm). Prior to this meeting Helen Gerhardt will create a Google Doc of recommendations to send to all the Committee members in order to get feedback.