

COUNCIL ON HOUSING
Public Session
Columbus Inn
Wilmington, Delaware
December 8, 2010

Action Items

- Mr. Jones to email a recap of the 2010 HDF activities to Council members.
- Mr. Heckles to arrange a presentation to Council by the state Office of Budget Development, Planning and Administration.
- Mr. Heckles to arrange Tom McGonigle, Governor Markell's Chief of Staff, update of the state of the state at the February or March meeting.

Motions

- Approval of November 10, 2010 Minutes.

January 2011 Agenda Items

- DSHA Community Relations presentation.

Important Dates

- December 10 – Prospective HDF applicant's meeting, Liberty Court, Dover, 9:00 am.
- December 13 – Governor to review DSHA's budget request.
- December 17 – QAP forum at DNREC, Dover, 9:00 a.m.
- January 2011 – Governor releases the proposed budget.
- February 2011 – Budget mark up.

Norma Zumsteg, Chair, called to order the public session and annual luncheon of the Council on Housing at 11:20 a.m. on December 8, 2010. In addition to Ms. Zumsteg, the following Council members were present:

Anita Auten	Ralph Peters
Pat Batchelor	Ruth Sokolowski
Russ Huxtable	John Walker
Hugh Leahy	Vincent White
Connie Louder	

The following Council member was absent and excused from the meeting:

Donna Mitchell

Also attending from Delaware State Housing Authority (DSHA):

Anas Ben Addi, Director
Timothy L. McLaughlin, Deputy Director

Lynda Blythe, Administrative Specialist III
Calvin Bonniwell, Housing Project/Loan Manager
Cindy Deakyne, Housing Asset Manager
Tina Hardin, Chief of Community Relations
Matt Heckles, Director of Policy and Planning
Jerry Jones, Housing Finance/Development Administrator
Emily Lanter, Building Support Systems Engineer
Jim Loescher, Housing Project/Loan Manager
Lisa McCloskey, Housing Mortgage Finance Officer II

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Walker moved that the Minutes of November 10, 2010 be approved as written. Mr. Huxtable seconded the motion and the Minutes were unanimously approved.

DSHA REPORT

Mr. Ben Addi noted:

- A copy of the DSHA Annual Report was given to each Council Member at this meeting.
- Approximately 400 people attended the November 18th Governor's Conference in Dover. The next conference will be held in two years. Gov. Markell was very complimentary regarding the conference.
- Council members were thanked for their commitment to and involvement in all facets of DSHA.
- DSHA is committed to utilizing the Council as a sounding board for improving DSHA policies and procedures.
- Council should keep up the good work of helping to get more housing funding.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LOAN REVIEW

Mr. Walker thanked the committee members and DSHA staff for their diligence and input which has improved the review process and reports to Council.

OPERATIONS

Ms. Louder stated the committee, during 2010, oversaw the following:

- Creation of the Charge of the Operations Committee.
- Addition of two new Council members.
- Completion of the annual Conflict of Interest forms.
- Election of the Council Chair and Vice Chair.

HOUSING POLICY

Ms. Sokolowski, giving the 2010 report for the committee, noted this was the first year for the committee which:

- Reviewed the Universal Design legislative issue.
- Discussed very low-income housing issues.
- Met with a representative of Sussex County regarding housing issues.
- Recommended full presentations to Council be given regarding Universal Design and low-income housing.
- Plans to have a presentation be given to Council by a representative of the State Office of Budget Development, Planning and Administration in 2011.
- Developed the framework, which Council adopted, for its public policy position on legislative issues. This led to the creation of the new annual report and will be used as a guidepost for accomplishments.

COMMUNICATIONS

Mr. Leahy stated the committee had been very busy preparing:

- An update of the committee charter.
- The annual report which included HDF activity and reference to housing needs.
- Testimony for public hearings.
- The December 13th meeting with the Governor.
- To be a source of information for the public.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Heckles stated, regarding the New Horizon issue in Sussex County, that a request has been sent to Superior Court to overturn the recent ruling by Sussex County. HUD is also involved regarding fair housing and is investigating the matter. This issue may not be resolved quickly per Mr. Heckles but DSHA will keep the Council informed.

SCHEDULING OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held at 2:00 p.m. on January 12, 2011, at Buena Vista Conference Center in New Castle, DE.

ADJOURNMENT

Upon motion made by Mr. Peters, seconded by Mr. Huxtable, and unanimously passed by the Council, the meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m. at which time the Council annual luncheon was held.

Respectfully submitted,



Lynda T. Blythe

Note: Copies of materials referenced as “attached” in these Minutes are available upon request.