



Minutes

ROCK COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY MEETING WEDNESDAY, September 1, 2021 – 9:00 A.M. Meeting was teleconferenced using ZOOM

The meeting of the Rock County Housing Authority Committee was called to order at 9:01 a.m. on Wednesday, September 1, 2021. Chair Schulz presided. Members present: Michelle Ponkauskas, Chair Kathy Schulz, Jason Heidenreich, and Supervisor Shirley Williams. QUORUM PRESENT.

ABSENT: BillyBob Grahn

Rock County Staff Present: Andrew Baker (Planning Director), Dana Sanwick (Office Coordinator)

1. Call to Order
Roll Call
2. Adoption of Agenda

Moved by Supervisor Williams, **Seconded** by Michelle Ponkauskas
3. **Action Item:** Approval of Minutes of the Housing Authority Meeting held August 4, 2021

Moved by Jason Heidenreich, **Seconded** by Supervisor Williams
4. Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements
5. **Update:** County Board Resolution Authorizing Financial Support to Fund a Study of Potential Options to Expand the Services Offered By the Rock County Housing Authority (To P&D Committee August 26th)

Chair Schulz reported that the Planning & Development Committee voted 3-1 in favor of resolution. Resolution will proceed to County Board.

6. **Update:** County Board Resolution Allocating American Rescue Plan Act Funding to Create a Landlord-Tenant Mediation Program and Provide for Tenant Legal Representation (To P&D Committee August 12th)

Chair Schultz reported that the Planning & Development Committee voted against resolution in a 3no-2yes vote. Revised resolution will be going to Finance Committee with denial vote by Planning & Development Committee. If passed at Finance Committee resolution will go to County Board.

7. **Possible Action Item: Directing P&D Staff to research the recently announced Wisconsin Neighborhood Investment Fund Grants and the possibility of the Housing Authority submitting an application.**

Not enough information to vote on. More research is needed to see if Housing Authority would qualify to apply.

8. Status Update Regarding Goals in Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing Document (2019)

City of Janesville finalized, and sent, letter to Judge Dillon asking for revisions on current eviction actions.

Todd Mandel from Wisconsin Partnership for Housing Development made changes to the HOME/CDBG Policy manual.

Todd Mandel, WPHD, working on ideas for more loan forgiveness options for HOME funds.

9. Status of Outreach Efforts

Todd Mandel, WPHD, sent a press release to area newspapers giving information on HOME/CDBG fund availability to low-income residents outside the cities of Beloit and Janesville. The press release has resulted in an uptick in applications.

Todd Mandel, WPHD, working on a plan to target the local government of towns and villages.

Chair Schulz suggested a possible outreach program to outdated POWTS landowners.

10. Suggestions for Future Meeting Topics

Chair Schulz asked about the possibility of a list of potential resources for building costs. Also, a list of vacant lots that could be developed for low-income housing.

Update on the \$250 million Wisconsin Neighborhood Investment Fund Grant.

Discuss the outcome of the resolutions above going to County Board.

11. Discuss Future Meeting Schedule and Venue

Decision to continue utilizing ZOOM in lieu of meeting in person.

12. Adjournment at 9:50AM.

Future Meeting Dates
September 29, 2021 @ 9:00AM