

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sumter County, FL

Meeting: April 10, 2014

Members Present: Richard Cole – Zoning & Adjustment Board; Diana Couillard - Dibarco Building Corporation; PJ Lewis – Lewis Brothers Construction; Sandra Woodard – Early Learning Coalition of Nature Coast; Matt Yoder – T & D Concrete; Samantha Crane – Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union.

Members Absent: Cheryl Barnes – Barnes Realty & Appraisals, Inc.; Gene Barton – Helping Hands Outreach; Leland Greek - Sumter County Fire & EMS; Mary Lou Mills – Habitat for Humanity; Karen Davis – SCARC; Darlene Ford – Southern Comfort Enterprises, Inc.

Public Attendees: Denna Lafferty - Sumter County Housing Coordinator.

Location: 910 North Main Street, Suite 142, Bushnell, FL. 33513.

A copy of the public notice for this meeting is on file.

Hand-outs to members: Agenda, Affordable Housing fund quarterly report, SHIP fund quarterly report, CDBG application ranking sheet, SHIP 14/15 Legislative comparison funding document and informational housing materials.

Call to Order. Mr. Cole called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m.

Public Forum: None

First order of business: *Approval of CATF minutes dated January 9, 2014.*

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mrs. Couillard and seconded by Mr. Yoder. The motion carried unanimously.

Second order of business: *Approval of AHAC minutes dated January 9, 2014.*

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Mrs. Couillard and seconded by Mr. Yoder. The motion carried unanimously.

Third order of business: *Update on Sumter County's CDBG application.* Mrs. Lafferty informed the committee that Sumter County will not receive funding in 2014. Staff provided a preliminary funding list of the 2014 CDBG grant applications that were submitted to Department of Economic Opportunity (DEO). Mrs. Lafferty stated the next funding cycle will either be later this year (Nov/Dec 2014) or early next year (Jan/Feb/March 2015). Mr. Cole asked why Sumter County received such a low score. Mrs. Lafferty explained that each section of a CDBG application is scored and Community Wide Needs (CWN) receives the biggest score. Sumter County's CWN is low due to The Villages bulk of newly constructed homes and the large population number in a condensed area of the county; this decreases the number of low income persons, number of slum or blight and the need for urgent community development. Mrs. Lafferty stated next year before the open application cycle, DEO will be revising the CWN numbers for each county which should help Sumter County rank a lot higher on future applications and increase the chance to receive funding.

No action required.

Fourth order of business: *Affordable Housing Fund and SHIP Quarterly Report.* Mrs. Lafferty gave a detailed accounting of the Affordable Housing fund and explained that staff had not been utilizing the funds to allow the balance to increase from the monthly repayments. Mrs. Lafferty informed the committee that staff did process an emergency repair application for HVAC replacement and will be utilizing some of the money in the account to assist the family. Mrs. Lafferty gave a detailed accounting of the SHIP 12/13 and 13/14 funds. The committee was given the current balance available for utilization. Mrs. Lafferty informed the committee that a large portion of the funding received in July 2013 for SHIP 13/14 fiscal year had been expended and all projects have been completed. The remaining dollar amount in SHIP 12/13 will be utilized on administrative expenses and any payments generated in SHIP 13/14 through June 2014 will be utilized on an emergency repair project. Mr. Cole asked what staff is working on since all projects have been completed. Mrs. Lafferty explained that staff is completing one emergency repair project, SHIP close-out report, SHIP annual report and other housing administrative duties.

Mrs. Lafferty explained the possibility of receiving funding in July 2014, the number of families on the current waiting list and how staff could utilize the new funding. Mrs. Couillard asked how staff advertised for available funding. Mrs. Lafferty explained the advertisement would be placed in The Villages Daily Sun per county policy, however; staff did receive approval from Mr. Arnold to advertise in the Sumter Shopper. Mrs. Couillard stated she agreed with advertising in the local papers that serves the south end of the county because there is a greater need for housing in that area. Mrs. Woodard asked for further clarification on the different housing accounts.

Mrs. Lafferty explained each fund, how revenue is generated, which agency provides the funding, repayment requirements for program assistance and allowable expenditures. Mrs. Woodard questioned the different between the state and federal

grant funding. Mrs. Couillard and Mrs. Lafferty explained the differences between the SHIP and CDBG programs. Mr. Cole further explained the reason why the committee had two meetings in January.

No action required.

Fifth order of business: *SHIP 14/15 funding.* Mrs. Lafferty reviewed the SHIP 14/15 funding spreadsheet which detailed the proposed dollar amount from the Senate and House of SHIP allocation under consideration. Mrs. Lafferty explained that there is a high probability Sumter County will receive funding because the Legislature has allocated funds for the SHIP program and Florida does not have a deficit budget going into the new fiscal year. Mr. Cole explained to the committee that the House and Senate each have a budget that includes appropriations they want funded which have been passed by each party. A conference committee reconciles the difference between both budgets and creates one passing budget. Mr. Cole stated after both budgets match and become one, it goes to the Governor for approval. The Governor has the ability to line item veto anything he does not want approved and funded by the budget. Mr. Cole gave a brief summary of the approval process conducted by the Governor.

Mr. Cole noted that the Senate allocated more money for SHIP than the House. The problem that the House must consider is if they pass the budget and add more money to meet the Senate's request, some other allocation item must decrease its funding. Mr. Cole continued explaining that ideally a program needs to be appropriated in both budgets with the same dollar amount to assist with guaranteeing funding. Mr. Cole stated there is a strong indication that Sumter County should receive at least \$350,000.00. Mrs. Woodard asked if there were any local representatives on the committee deciding the budgets. Mr. Cole stated Marlene O'Toole is the Sumter County Representative on the conference committee. Mrs. Lafferty gave the committee a brief summary of several advocating organizations who are working to support affordable housing and encouraging continuation of funding for families in need of housing. Mrs. Lafferty gave an overview of the informational housing materials provided to the committee.

No action required.

Sixth order of business: *Request to remove Mary Lou Mills from the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee.* Mrs. Lafferty requested a motion to remove Mary Lou Mills from the committee. Mrs. Lafferty explained Mrs. Mills was appointed to the committee on August 13, 2013 and has never attended one meeting. Mrs. Lafferty stated she has not received any correspondence from Mrs. Mills since her initial request to become a member on the committee.

A motion to recommend the Board of Sumter County Commissioners remove and replace Mary Lou Mills from the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee was made by Mrs. Woodard and seconded by Mrs. Lewis. The motion carried unanimously.

Seventh order of business: *Members with expiring terms on the committee.* Mrs. Lafferty informed each of the seven members that their term on the committee was expiring in July 2014 and asked if the members were interested in continuing serving for another term. Several members requested the application be emailed for completion. Mrs. Woodard asked if the members were required to complete an application tri-annually to continuing serving on the committee. Mrs. Lafferty replied "yes, it is required that County Administration receives an updated application to ensure your position has not changed and you remain eligible to serve for the specific sector of representation".

Committee Members: Mrs. Woodard requested staff provide her agency with brochures and resource information on available housing assistance for her clients. Mrs. Lafferty stated she would send Mrs. Woodard the requested information.

Items for next agenda:

- None at this time.

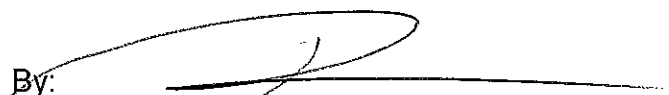
Next Meeting:

- July 10, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m. in Room 142 (as published for public notice)

Mrs. Couillard made a motion to adjourn at 11:00 a.m. and Mrs. Crane seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by: 
Diana Couillard, Secretary

Approved on the 10th day of July, 2014.

By: 
Rich Cole, Chairman