

AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sumter County, FL

Meeting: July 10, 2014

Members Present: Richard Cole – Zoning & Adjustment Board; Diana Couillard - Dibarco Building Corporation; Cheryl Barnes – Barnes Realty & Appraisals, Inc.; PJ Lewis – Lewis Brothers Construction; Matt Yoder – T & D Concrete; Karen Davis – SCARC; Leland Greek - Sumter County Fire & EMS; Darlene Ford – Southern Comfort Enterprises, Inc.; Donna Brown – Community Housing Partners; Sandra Woodard – Early Learning Coalition of Nature Coast.

Members Absent: Gene Barton – Helping Hands Outreach; Samantha Crane – Suncoast Schools Federal Credit Union.

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, BOCC Executive Summary detailing discussion on excluding mobile homes from program assistance.

Call to Order. Mr. Cole called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

Public Forum: None

First order of business: *Approval of AHAC minutes dated April 10, 2014.*

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

Second order of business: *Approval of AHAC minutes dated June 5, 2014*

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

Third order of business: Update on policy change. Mrs. Lafferty explained to the committee the reason why county staff had requested to eliminate mobile homes from receiving assistance. Mrs. Lafferty further explained that after the June meeting staff was moving forward with the AHAC's recommendation to keep the current policy in place and cap the assistance at ten percent; allowing only ten percent of the total funding to be utilized for families residing in mobile homes. However, staff received notification that the County Administrator had a discussion with some of the committee members and the County Commissioners. After the discussion, staff was directed to place both recommendations on the BOCC agenda, giving the County Commissioners the option of choosing which policy to implement. Mrs. Lafferty informed the committee that the County Commissioners, at their July 8th meeting, chose to eliminate mobile homes from receiving assistance. Staff has moved forward with implementing the policy change. Mrs. Lafferty stated she has been providing families, who reside in mobile homes, contact information for USDA and Mid-Florida. Staff will encourage families to apply for the replacement program during the open application cycle and assist them in finding other organizations within the community that may provide assistance with repairs to their home. Mr. Cole informed the committee of an organization named New Life Church who provides assistance with handicap ramps. Mrs. Lafferty stated the Veterans Administration provides handicap ramps and Mrs. Lewis stated they also assist with handicap bathrooms.

No action required.

Fourth order of business: Affordable Housing Fund and SHIP Quarterly Report. Mrs. Lafferty informed the committee that \$16,283.71 was deposited into the Affordable Housing account from the sale of a code foreclosure property. Mrs. Lafferty continued giving a detailed accounting of the Affordable Housing fund and explained that staff will not be utilizing the funds to allow the balance to increase from the monthly repayments. Mrs. Couillard asked if administrative costs were being paid from the SHIP or Affordable Housing account. Mrs. Lafferty explained that currently administrative expenses are being paid from the SHIP account, however; as of October 1st, 2014, all administrative expenses will be paid from the general fund. This change will allow for all available funding to be utilized on program assistance. 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.

No action required.

Fifth order of business: Update on SHIP 14/15 funding. Mrs. Lafferty explained that Sumter County will be receiving an allocation for SHIP 14/15 in the amount of \$507,285. The funding has been approved by the Governor and should be deposited in the SHIP account by the end of July. Mrs. Lafferty provided the committee with an estimated grand total of \$567,785 available for program assistance.

The figure was based on an estimate of revenue generated from repayments and the amount of allocation Sumter County will be receiving. Mrs. Lafferty gave an overview of the open application cycle and discussed the number of applications received in house during the first few days.

Mrs. Lafferty informed to the committee that the in house application for the elderly family who resides in a mobile home will be processed and the family will be assist with requested repairs to her home. The BOCC's direction on the policy change was to implement the change for all new applications and any applications in house prior to the change will be processed. Mrs. Woodard stated the First Baptist Church of Bushnell has also done home remodeling for citizens of Sumter County and they can be used as a resource for families in need of assistance.

No action required.

Committee Members: None

Items for next agenda: New meeting location: Mrs. Lafferty informed the committee that they will be discussing and voting on a new location to hold the future AHAC meetings at the October 9th, 2014 meeting. Staff will provide several optional meeting areas for consideration by the committee. Mr. Cole asked why staff will no longer be utilizing the current location. Mr. Greek stated the county leases the building at 910 N Main Street and the county is moving towards utilizing other available space.

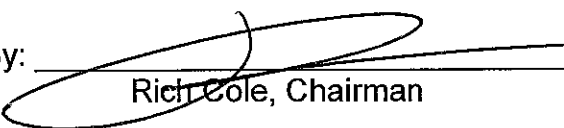
Next Meeting:

- October 9, 2014 @ 10:00 a.m. in Room 142 (as published for public notice)

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

Submitted by: 
Diana Couillard, Secretary

Approved on the 16 day of October, 2014.

By: 
Rich Cole, Chairman