

EDINA AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2005

7:30 AM – Community Room

Members Present:

Bob Aderhold, Val Burke, Kandace Ellis, Michael Fischer, Jeff Huggett, Doug Johnson, Sally Krusell, Scott Massie, Doug Mayo, Barb McFarlane, Sharon Ming, Cappy Moore, Carol Mork, Joan Naymark

Staff Present:

Susan Heiberg and Joyce Repya

Actions Taken

- **Member Mork seconded Member Burke's motion to approve the minutes of May 25, 2005; the motion carried. The minutes of May 11, 2005, will be re-written and brought back to the next meeting for approval.**
- **Member Burke seconded Member Aderhold's motion that the City of Edina's contract with Midwest Housing Collaborative be terminated; the motion carried.**

Executive Committee Report

Chair Mayo reported that at the June 1st Executive Committee Meeting, members discussed the strengths and weaknesses of the consultants, and they agreed to recommend that the City of Edina terminate the contract with Midwest Housing Collaborative (MHC). Members of the Task Force then raised the following questions:

- **Who is in charge?**
- **What authority does the Task Force actually have?**
- **Can the Task Force hire another consultant?**
- **How did MHC view the progress of the Task Force?**
- **Can the Task Force move on without the help of a consultant, thus moving in a different direction as outlined in the contract?**

The following comments addressed the concerns:

- **The Task Force does not have the authority to hire.**
- **RPC, as the administrator of the project, did not feel the consultants were being responsive to the mission and the money expended.**
- **In defense of the consultants, their work and the process could be viewed as an art.**

- The research piece and best practices are missing; however, MHC felt that things were going well.
- A small decision-making body is needed to guide the process.
- The Task Force's audience is the City Council.
- The process definitely needs public input and involvement.
- The Task Force may be "biting more than it can chew" in the first phase. It needs to identify the work to be done and seek people to get it done.
- The Task Force must be sure it is on the same page with priorities and a clear vision.
- Perhaps the Task Force can guide itself to a point and pay for pure information.
- Someone has to deliver a written report as the final step.
- A basic outline should be prepared and look at what other cities have done. Then frame it and determine the process.
- The Task Force needs help with facilitation, research, press releases, the work product (report), and community input (surveys, focus groups).
- To be sustainable, the work of the Task Force must be flexible and deliberate.

Possible Selection of New Consultant

Chair Mayo announced that the Executive Committee will make a recommendation at the next Task Force meeting regarding the selection of a new consultant. It was agreed that there is a lot of talent within the Task Force, and that in-house leadership would be a consideration. Member Mork could lead the group in discussing the mission and objectives.

Announcements

- Chair Mayo shared that the Executive Committee representative from RPC will be Member Ming.
- Member Johnson reported that the employee survey was sent out within the Edina School District. He learned that a wonderful candidate from out state Minnesota declined an Edina schools' job offer due in part to the housing issue.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Mayo, Chair
Edina Affordable Housing Task Force

DM/sh