

EDINA AFFORDABLE HOUSING TASK FORCE

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, September 28, 2005

7:30 AM – Community Room

Members Present: Bob Aderhold, Val Burke, Kandace Ellis, Michael Fischer, John Helling, Jeff Huggett, Doug Johnson, Sally Krusell, Scott Massie, Doug Mayo, Barb McFarlane, Sharon Ming, Carol Mork, Joan Naymark, Skip Thomas, Janice Williams

Staff: Susan Heiberg and Joyce Repya

Consultants: Stacy Becker, Kimberly Gartner and Erin Sapp

Chair Mayo called the meeting to order at 7:30 AM.

Actions Taken

- **Member Helling seconded Member Huggett's motion to approve the agenda for this meeting—September 28, 2005; the motion carried.**
- **Member Fischer seconded Member Aderhold's motion to approve the minutes of September 14, 2005, as edited; the motion carried.**

Executive Committee Report

Ms. Becker reported that five strategies were developed at the Executive Committee for the Task Force Members to use for listening and obtaining feedback from Edina residents and employers. It is helpful to frame the strategies and start talking to people now with preliminary ideas. This will be an opportunity to learn, improve and develop the best strategies—and ultimately, action plans.

Lutheran Social Service

Shirley Olson from Lutheran Social Service (LSS) was introduced and welcomed. She shared the following information with the Task Force:

- **All types of housing are needed for seniors.**
- **LSS offers two valuable services for seniors—Assisted Living and Home Management. Home Management is an ancillary service provided in apartment buildings.**
- **LSS believes it is important to support people to be as independent as possible and to keep them vibrant.**
- **Funding is the big question—what works and what does not?**
- **Assisted living is approximately \$1200 monthly. It can be very hard for seniors to even consider doing this let alone how to go about doing this—**

privately, from medical assistance, through elderly waiver or by alternative care.

Ms. Becker remarked that long-term care will break the State budget. How can the State be approached to look at funding options rather than cutting people off of Medicaid? People are not prepared to pay the big expenses.

Member Burke discussed a collaborative partnership entitled “Partners in Care” among Edina Resource Center, Our Lady of Grace Church, Normandale Center for Healing and Wholeness, Neighborhood Partnerships, Hennepin County, Fairview Hospital, Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging and the Red Cross. 80% of the individuals participating in this initiative will be from Edina. The purpose will be to walk with 200 people on their journey of care over one year and to help them remain healthy and viable in the community.

Member Helling shared a concern about the expenses in delivering services and the economic impact.

City of Roseville’s HRA

Cathy Bennett, Roseville HRA Director and Economic Development Specialist, was introduced and welcomed. She shared that Roseville’s demographics are similar to Edina’s, with significant changes over the past five to ten years. Because seniors are a valuable asset, there is a concern about keeping them in the community, and at the same time, attracting and retaining young families. Cathy shared a report submitted by Hamline students which address the planning and responding to the needs of a changing population. It is evident that the increase in the number of senior housing units will impact the costs and types of services provided. The city is considering what kinds of policies or programs to implement in order to complement the demographic makeup of the community. Their Senior Housing Survey reflected the changing neighborhoods and the need to evaluate types of programs beneficial to the entire community. There is a study that shows that there is not much difference in the cost of providing diverse housing options. Cathy shared that Roseville has initiated requirements for senior housing developments with developers pertaining to transportation, marketing and reporting. A Housing Collaborative Institute has been formed, and she is inviting other communities to come and talk about housing issues.

Greater Metropolitan Housing Corporation (GMHC)

Carolyn Olson, GMHC President, was introduced and welcomed. GMHC's mission is to improve the availability and quality of affordable housing in the greater Minneapolis metropolitan area. Through its Housing Resource Centers, 6500 to 7000 people are served free annually. Carolyn shared information about GMHC's Senior Housing Regeneration Program which was designed for older adults and new families. Older adults who are considering selling their single-family homes are helped in selling, moving out and locating a new place to live. GMHC purchases the homes at fair market value and refurbishes them to make them viable for future generations. Through this program, second mortgages and losses due to refurbishing are funded by the MHFA/Met Council/Family Housing Fund.

Announcement

The next meeting of the Executive Committee on October 12th will be telephonic via Bob Aderhold.

Adjournment

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