

CHARLOTTE COUNTY
AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES
August 26, 2009

The meeting convened at the Mid-County Regional Library at 2050 Forrest Nelson Boulevard in Port Charlotte. Committee members present included Mike Mansfield, Melissa Doyle, Kristen Marsella, James Marshall, Jeff Ahrens, Jim Kelly and Wendy Reinhardt. Mike Mansfield and Kristen Marsella submitted their resignations prior to the meeting, effective August 27, 2009. The following people were also present:

Bob Hebert, Charlotte County Housing Division,
Doreen Stoquert, Budget & Administrative Services,
Tricia Duffy, Commission Chair,
Brenda Bala, The Housing Corporation of Charlotte County, and
Ken Quillen, Charlotte County Growth Management.

Mr. Mansfield called the meeting to order at 9:00am. Roll call was taken. A quorum was present. Business proceeded.

The question of approval of minutes from the May meeting was called. Ms. Doyle recommended approval of the minutes as presented. Mr. Kelly seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Hebert spoke briefly of the County's goal of going paperless. All members and other guests, by request, will receive all information relative to future meetings via email. Members can request that hard copies be available at meetings if necessary.

The SHIP and HHR Annual Reports were presented to the committee for approval. Mr. Kelly motioned for approval. Ms. Doyle seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Hebert gave an overview of the new Florida Homebuyer Opportunity Program (FLHOP). The new FLHOP strategy was presented to the committee. Total funding for this program is \$350,000. This program will be handled by The Housing Corporation with applications being accepted as of 9/1/09. The Florida Housing Finance Corporation requires that this new strategy be approved and adopted as part of our Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP). Motion was made by Mr. Kelly to approve the FLHOP strategy. Ms. Reinhardt seconded the motion and the motion was approved unanimously.

Mr. Hebert presented a recap of the Impact Fee Incentive Fund, and its AHAC approved allocation on 4/29/2009. Mr. Hebert suggested that a change be made to allow Habitat to spend part of its allocation to purchase existing properties for rehabilitation. Habitat has identified two blocks of homes which require rehabilitation of varying degrees. One block of (9) homes is located on Kings Highway in Port Charlotte. These homes would be available to Habitat for a total of \$173,000. The other block of homes is located in Englewood. These homes are available for \$65,000 each. Motion was made by Mr. Marshall to approve the change. Motion was seconded by Mr. Kelly and approved unanimously.

Mr. Mansfield presented his report on Habitat. Habitat's goal for this fiscal year is to be able to serve 40+ families. Habitat has recently opened their new Englewood location. The new resale store is expected to generate income to fund (4) Habitat homes for the Englewood area each year.

Ms. Bala, of The Housing Corporation of Charlotte County, presented her report on homeownership activities. The SHIP program remains open for down payment, rehabilitation, and foreclosure assistance. The satellite offices in Englewood and Punta Gorda have been busy assisting foreclosure clients. Ms. Bala is planning a lenders meeting to update attendees on SHIP, FLHOP, and the Impact Fee Incentive funds. Ms. Bala noted that she is ready to open a new branch on the East Coast which will provide HUD counseling services.

The July, 2009 Housing Management Reports were presented to the committee. Mr. Hebert noted that there are currently three open projects which are utilizing Hurricane Housing Recovery funds. These three projects are Marion Manor, Charlotte Crossing and the Stillwater Home (Restoration Roads).

Mr. Hebert advised the committee of the closing of Kelly Hall Safe Haven which was one of the HHR projects. Kelly Hall will be closing its doors at the end of September 2009 due to lack of funding.

The next meeting of the Affordable Housing Advisory Committee will be on December 23, 2009 at 9:00am at the Mid-County Regional Library.

Mr. Mansfield spoke of his resignation from the committee, citing conflict of interest. He noted his intent to stay active with the committee, but as a guest rather than a member. He requested that he remain on the AHAC email listing. Mr. Mansfield recommended that the committee appoint a new Chair. Mr. Jim Kelly volunteered to serve as Chair. Mr. Sweeney motioned to approve Mr. Kelly as Chair. Motion was seconded by Mr. Ahrens and approved unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05am.