

MONROE COUNTY AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADVISORY COMMISSION

Nat U Hill, Bloomington, IN
December 20, 2019 / 8:00 a.m.

Meeting Minutes

Members in Attendance: Vauhxx Booker, Lisa Abbott, Chris Cockerham, Cathi Crabtree, Deborah Myerson, Sarah Cahillane, Will Smith

Others Present: Geoff McKim, Mary Morgan

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 8:04 a.m.

Meeting notes from October were approved as amended.

New Business

The Commission noted that the following members will be expiring in 2019 – Cathi, Will, Forrest, Sarah & Doris. A link to the application was sent to the expiring members to request reappointment.

Cathi asked about the two outstanding issues: 1) Housing as a Human Right, and 2) the recommendations from the Inclusive Code Committee. As of today, we have not heard back on either issue. We also have outstanding applicants that we would like to have approved. The committee discussed attending the next Commission meeting to ask for our appointments to be reviewed/approved.

Vauhxx noted that she is going to present a Bill of Tenants' Rights to the City Council in 2020. Deborah would like to see what is presented so we can discuss how we might be able to apply to the County.

Review of 2019 –

1. Good conversations with Vic Kelson and Rick Coppock about sewer expansion.
2. Met with Efrat Feferman, President of the Monroe County RDC, regarding the Residential TIF.
3. Wrote an Op Ed on Housing as a Human Right that was submitted to the Commissioners.
4. Provided suggestions from the ICC subcommittee to the Commissioners on actions to improve housing in Monroe County.
5. Received excellent information/reports from the Planning Department.

Goals for 2020 --

1. Creating opportunity to be more visible as a Commission.
2. Work on better communication/engagement with the Commissioner. Coordinate a schedule to update the Commissioners on housing issues in Monroe County.

3. Getting our appointments made to complete our commission.
4. Attend the County Council meetings to update them on any item that might have a fiscal impact.
5. Look into opportunities to help low-income households to lower their energy costs. Consider a model being developed in Indianapolis.
6. Create a resource guide for housing assistance in the County. Gather resources from HAND and the Housing4Hoosiers.org website.
7. Request a liaison from the Planning Commission to discuss the CDO. The Commissioners will be looking at the contract at the January 8th meeting. There should be significant opportunity for public input. A specific interest is cooperative housing in the County.
8. Request developers to attend to discuss developing in Monroe County.
9. Discuss with Legal the option of encouraging and assisting underrepresented populations with homeownership options focusing on down payment and closing cost assistance.

Subcommittees –

No reports. The Subcommittees will be suspended until a response is received from the Monroe County Commissioners on previously submitted work.

Motion to adjourn.

Action Items

1. Request maps of the county sewer lines, public transportation, map of areas for redevelopment.
2. Attend the County Council meeting and provide a snapshot of our work in 2019 and share the ICC suggestions. Will Smith will provide an overview.

Next meeting:

January 17, 2020 at 8 a.m.