NEWBERG AFFORDABLE HOUSING ACTION COMMITTEE – FEES/FINANCE SUBCOMMITTEE

Thursday, April 15, 2010
7 p.m. to 9 p.m.
Newberg City Hall
Permit Center Conference Room
414 E. First Street, Newberg, OR

I. OPEN MEETING: The meeting began at 7:05.

II. ROLL CALL:

Present: Dennis Russell, Mike Gougler, Beth Keyser, David Maben,

Charlie Harris

Absent: Ken Austin (excused)

Staff Present: Barton Brierley, Planning & Building Director

III. MINUTES

Minutes of March 10, 2010 meeting were approved.

IV. FEE DEFERRAL:

Barton said the building valuation table is set and can't be changed. Dennis asked if the building permit percentage could be reduced. Barton said yes. Barton will return with a proposal, such as modifying the percent of permit fees. Charlie suggested this could be adjusted based on housing size. Charlie suggested this could be a source of funds for the housing trust fund.

Dennis suggested some cost savings for larger projects with multiple units. The inspections are pretty much the same for each unit. Barton said that could be done.

Charlie questioned whether the fee deferral would be effective. Mike Gougler said that fee deferral would not make a for-profit builder build affordable housing, but it would help a builder intent on building affordable housing be better able to do so.

Beth was concerned about housing bringing down the values of neighboring properties.

The committee accepted the fee deferral policy as proposed.

V. OTHER BUSINESS

The committee suggested a reduced SDC or a break for small units and remodels to encourage small unit additions. Barton will return with a proposal.

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The committee reviewed the draft letter to the School district: Questions were: How many units should be allowed waiver per year? And how will they be guaranteed to be affordable? It was suggested that be by deed restriction, lien, mortgage, or other document.

The committee's consensus was to wait on sending the letter until the City has acted on fee reductions, so they could ask the school district to follow suit.

The committee would like a joint meeting with Housing trust fund committee for the next meeting.

Dennis Russell suggested looking at the repeat plan policy for multi-family units.

VI. OTHER BUSINESS:

The next meeting will be April 28, 2010.

VII. ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Approved by the Affordable Housing Action Committee – Fees/Finance Subcommittee this 26th day May, 2010.

Fees/Finance Subcommittee Secretary