

**NEWBERG AFFORDABLE HOUSING
ACTION COMMITTEE –EDUCATION/OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE**

Wednesday, June 23, 2010

4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Newberg City Hall

Permit Center Conference Room

414 E. First Street, Newberg, OR

I. Open meeting. Mr. Beam opened the meeting.

II. Roll Call. Subcommittee Attendees: Denise Bacon
Cathy Stuhr

Absent members: Stuart Brown (unexcused)
Doug Bartlett (unexcused)

Guests: Rick Rogers, Executive Director of
Newberg Habitat for Humanity

City Staff: David Beam, Economic Development Planner

III. Approval of March 10, 2010 meeting summary: No action taken due to lack of quorum.

IV. Discussion with Rick Rogers, Habitat for Humanity regarding “Brush with Kindness” Program. The program is for low-income owner-occupied homes. Steps are to have a targeted home assessed inside and out. With work identified, homeowner pays for material (or gets donations) and then Habitat volunteers do the labor (which is usually about 50% of a project cost). Potential clients ID’d through Habitat network, then screened through Love, Inc. or HAYC.

Program just starting (looking at one in St. Paul). Randy Reddell is heading up the program, which is separate but recognized by Habitat International. Would like to do a couple of projects a year. Since people still live in their homes, need to plan the project carefully to avoid inconveniences. If a Round 2 of the Federal Stabilization Fund occurs, then maybe this program could access those funds. Also, HAYC and YCAP should be contacted to see if their weatherization funds could be used through this program; would make funds stretch much further.

Things the City might do to help program: provide funding; expedite permitting; fee waivers; publicize program; and, city employees volunteer to help with work.

V. Program Development:

Support/expand transitional and group housing: The group debriefed from last meeting’s discussions with Love, Inc., YCAP, CYFS, and Thugs Off Drugs. Having this discussion as a good effort that may open doors. Demonstrated to them that the City is

interested in finding ways to help them accomplish their missions. Maybe they will be more likely to ask for help from the City if they feel its an issue we could deal with. Take aways:

- Keep looking for opportunities to help them;
- Help promote these organizations; and,
- Work with them to ID and secure funding (e.g. CDBG?)

Housing maintenance education: Denise needs to do more research about tool loan libraries as well as the existence of a County list of housing services. Due to the absence of Stuart Brown, he could not report about the proposed home improvement workshops. A couple of ideas were presented. First, maybe the workshops should be held at a store that deals with the subject at hand, e.g. a paint store would hold a workshop about painting. Discounts could be given to participants to purchase items at that store after the workshop. Should the discounts be only for low-income folks?

Home ownership/rental counseling: Denise is still trying to contact Linfield to get copy of their low-income survey. As for the proposed renter certificate program, the group thinks that Doug Bartlett said that there is a program like this in Salem. If the program "certifies" a renter after taking the classes (especially for financial certification), that certification should be for a limited time to limit liability to the issuer.

Housing resources website: The group decided that such a site should probably be a part of the City's website. They didn't see any compelling reason to have it on a separate website.

VI. **Other business:** Elise Hui of HAYC should be invited to the next meeting to discuss bringing their housing fair to Newberg as well as helping establish a physical housing resource center in Newberg.

VII. **Next Meetings:**

**Full Committee: Wednesday, July 14, 2010, at 7:00 pm in City Hall.
(Permit Center Conference Room)**

**Subcommittee: Wednesday, August 11, 2010 at 4:00 pm in City Hall
(Permit Center Conference Room)**

VIII. **Adjourn: 5:20 pm**

Approved by the Affordable Housing Action Committee – Education/Outreach Subcommittee this 14th day of July, 2010.


Education/Outreach Subcommittee Secretary