

**NEWBERG AFFORDABLE HOUSING
ACTION COMMITTEE –EDUCATION/OUTREACH SUBCOMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 10, 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
Stuart Brown
Cathy Stuhr
Doug Bartlett

Absent members: None

Guest: None

City Staff: David Beam, Economic Development Planner

III. Review of Affordable Housing Action Committee meeting on Feb. 10, 2010: No comments.

IV. Program Development: The Subcommittee discussed mission statement wording and finally accepted the following: *To assist Newberg citizens in locating and securing affordable housing by providing easy access to information and educational opportunities. To collaborate with and support existing affordable housing organizations.*

The Subcommittee determined that setting goals and objectives was unnecessary, as the tasks for the Subcommittee laid out by the Affordable Housing Action Plan served that purpose.

Housing maintenance education: The Subcommittee thought we should pursue the creation of a *Homeowner's Maintenance Handbook* like the example shown at the last meeting from the City of Wichita Housing and Community Services Department. Such a book should reflect issues specific to the northwest (e.g. issues related to moisture/water). Mr. Beam will talk to city staff about technical and legal issues. Ms. Stuhr will call Wichita and ask about the pros and cons of the book.

Idea: When a low income City water customer complains of a high water bill, maybe the City could refer them to an organization to help them, like Faith in Action or Habitat's future "Brush with Kindness" program.

Ms. Bacon will do research on tool loan library idea. She will ask about the existence of a spreadsheet of housing programs and their services at the next County homelessness meeting. Mr. Bartlett will ask HAYC about their housing maintenance program. Mr. Brown will talk to Ace Hardware about home improvement workshops.

Home ownership/rental counseling: Ms. Bacon suggested that the Subcommittee develop a survey to be implemented at the June 5 Edwards Community Festival to find out what our target audience needs. Mr. Bartlett will talk to HAYC about bringing their annual housing fair here to Newberg. Also, he will ask them questions like how do we get folks to these fairs and do they have housing maintenance materials.

Employer Assistance: The Subcommittee felt that this option should not be pursued at this time, with the economy in rough shape and employers hurting. Wait till the full AH Committee's work is done. When we start, it would be good to do so with service clubs (Rotary and Kiwanis) as well as others like City Club.

Support/expand transitional and group housing: Two more ideas for those to look at: Thugs on Drugs and Love, Inc. There is currently no transitional housing for homeless families where the dad can be with them.

The Subcommittee would like to invite representatives of transitional/group housing organizations to the May 26 meeting. Prior to the Subcommittee's next meeting, Subcommittee member will email questions they would like to ask these organizations to Mr. Beam regarding how the City can assist them in their respective missions.

Promote development of workforce skills: No discussion.

V. Other business: The outline of such a website was shown, which was developed by associates of Mr. Stuart. He stated that the website is easily modified. The company that created it could get it up and running for about \$1,050, which includes 2 years of hosting it. Valley Mortgage is will to donate 3-5 staff hours to get information loaded onto the site. Mr. Beam will talk to City staff about legal and control questions of such a site. Question: who will keep the site updated?

**VI. Next Meetings: Full Committee: Wednesday, April 28, 2010, at 7:00 pm in City Hall
(Permit Center Conference Room)
Subcommittee: Wednesday, April 14, 2010 at 4:00 pm in City Hall
(Permit Center Conference Room)**

VII. Adjourn: 8:55 pm

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



Education/Outreach Subcommittee Secretary